

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BELBROUGHTON AND FAIRFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 6TH JUNE 2022, 7.30PM AT FAIRFIELD FIRST SCHOOL**

PRESENT: Cllr. Allington, Cllr. Clarke, Cllr. Danks, Cllr. Gibbs, Cllr. Mabbett, and Cllr. Wilkes

ALSO PRESENT: Acting Clerk – Ruth Mullett
There were two members of the public in attendance

262/22 – APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr. Baldwin, Cllr. Boswell, Cllr. Hood, Cllr. Morgan, Cllr. Nock and Cllr. Pawley and reasons for absence were accepted by all councillors present.

Chairman adjourned the meeting for an ‘open surgery’ to enable residents to discuss any issues with their councillors and identify matters of concern relating to the agenda, this does not form part of the formal meeting.

The meeting re-opened

263/22 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Gibbs, Cllr. Clarke and Cllr. Wilkes declared an Other Disclosable Interest on agenda item 17.1, Fairfield Villa due to their proximity to Fairfield Recreation Ground.

264/22 – DISPENSATIONS

Cllr. Gibbs, Cllr. Clarke and Cllr. Wilkes requested a dispensation on agenda item 17.1, and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to grant this dispensation.

265/22 – MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2022 as a true record with three amendments: -

248/22 – change Cllr. Baldwin to Cllr. Gibbs

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257/22 – Parking – remove by Cllr. Mabbett and change to “raised by Village Trustees”

265/22 – REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Chairman’s Report

Apologies given and no report.

Planning Committee Meeting – 16th May 2022

Cllr. Danks gave an update of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 16th May 2022 and asked for an addition to the minutes: -

21/000029/CM (E) 395202, (N) 276101 – (Western portion of the former) Sandy Lane Quarry, Wildmoor – No objections provided the underlying water protection zone and its supply to the

Wildmoor aquifer was safeguarded, and that the landscape restoration and planning scheme fully complies with the County Council's requirement.

Finance Committee Meeting – 16th May 2022

Cllr. Mabbett gave an update of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 16th May 2022 and accepted the minutes as an accurate account of the meeting.

266/22 – TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Adoption of The Financial and Investment Strategy – this item was deferred.

267/22 – INTERNAL AUDIT

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the Internal Audit Report produced by John Benner for 2021/22 with no actions to take.

268/22 – ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2021/22

Councillors reviewed S1 AGAR, the Annual Governance Statement which had been issued in advance of the meeting and responded 'YES' to each of the first eight assertions, 'N/A' to the ninth assertion. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Chairman and Clerk sign.

269/22 – ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2021/22

Councillors reviewed S2 AGAR, the Accounting Statements 2021/22 which had been circulated as part of the agenda. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Chairman and Clerk/RFO sign.

270/22 – COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Apologies given and no report.

271/22 – CLERK'S REPORT AND URGENT DECISIONS

- **Clerk's Outstanding Action List** – Clerk circulated copy to all councillors and gave a verbal update on outstanding items.
- **Reports for Parish Magazine** – it was agreed for Clerk to produce an article advertising the Parish Path Warden Vacancy.
- **Local Government Association – Model Code of Conduct** – this item was deferred.
- **Notice of an application for alteration of the register – B141** – an application with regards to land at Hartle Lane, Belbroughton (Bellamy Close) had been received with a deadline for reply of 16th June 2022. Cllr. Mabbett agreed to contact the Land Registry and Solicitors who lodged the application to ask for an extension and further details to bring back to Full Council.

272/22 – HIGHWAYS/MAINTENANCE

- **Christmas Lights** – this item was deferred.
- **Parking in Fairfield Working Party/Speeding Traffic** – The Working Party are due to meet again on 9th June 2022.
- **Smartwater Signage** – this item was deferred.
- **Christmas Tree Belbroughton Village Green** – Cllr. Pawley and Clerk have met with the Tree Officer from Bromsgrove District Council who has confirmed the Christmas Tree is healthy but could do with some tidying up/maintenance.

- **Removal of Pillar Box in Fairfield** – Clerk was instructed to write to Sajid Javid MP to ask for his support.
- **Conifers on Wood House Orchard** – this item was deferred.
- **20'2 Plenty for Worcestershire Campaign** – this item was deferred.

273/22 – REPORT OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

- Cllr. Allington – footpath leading from Belbroughton Recreation Ground to the school still needs strimming – Clerk confirmed this was on the Lengthsman's to do list.
- Cllr. Danks – Timber bus shelter top of Top Road still needs to be removed and replaced with a bus-stop.
- Cllr. Danks – large potholes on the bend of Middle Road and confirmed Cllr. Danks has reported these to Cllr. Webb who has agreed to include in County's Schedule of Works.
- Cllr. Danks – Wildmoor Lane and Mill Lane - dangerous overhanging trees. It was agreed for Clerk to produce a letter to issue to residents to be agreed at the next meeting.
- Cllr. Gibbs – need to relist Fairfield Post Office/Shop as a Community Asset. Clerk to contact Bromsgrove District Council.
- Cllr. Gibbs – path in Fairfield Recreation Centre leading to the Millennium Garden needs weeding.
- Cllr. Wilkes – still in the process of compiling a list of pavements that need to be reported to Cllr. Webb.
- Cllr. Mabbett – hedges on Bournheath Road need cutting back as cars are being forced into the middle the road. Clerk to report on the County website.
- Cllr. Mabbett – foliage around the road signs in Fairfield need cutting back – Clerk to instruct the Lengthsman.

274/22 – RECRUITMENT OF NEW CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

The vacancy is currently being advertised with a deadline of 30th June 2022.

275/22 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 4th July 2022, 7.00pm at Fairfield First School.

276/22 – FAIRFIELD VILLA LEASE NEGOTIATIONS

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to agree that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Press and Public are excluded from the meeting for the duration of the above item on the basis that the information disclosed will be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business transacted.

A request had been received from Fairfield Villa FC to agree to another ten-year lease on the same conditions. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** not to accept this amendment to our existing offer.

We have received indication that the Fairfield Villa will accept a one-year lease extension and are awaiting official confirmation from our Solicitors.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

To be agreed as a true record by Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council

Signed

June 2022