

FIRBECK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 22nd March 2023

Present: Cllr C Jopling (Chair), Cllr J Pittard, Cllr R Potts, Cllr B McManus.

In attendance: 11 members of the public

3568 Apologies – To Receive and Approve Reasons for Absence. Cllr D Pittard – accepted.

3569 Declarations of Interest. Nil.

3570 Public Discussion Period.

- a. King's Coronation. (Incorporating item 3576). All in attendance were asked if the village should stage an event for the coronation and, if so, what the event should be. All were in favour and, after discussion, it was agreed that a 'bring and share' buffet-style Sunday lunch should take place at the Village Hall on Sunday 7th May. The event would also include a cake competition, along with a further competition to design a coronation mug for the village. Volunteers to help with the event were sought and publicity would follow in due course.
- b. CCTV. Members of the public present felt there had been a noticeable increase in crime in the village in recent months, with an inadequate response from the police. Several incidents were highlighted and the Chair promised to raise the matter at the next CAP meeting in April, when the police would be present. It was felt village CCTV may help deter such incidents in future.

3571 To Approve the Parish Council Minutes:

- a. 25th January 2023. The minutes were approved as an accurate record. Note: it had been determined since the meeting that the option of closing New Road for the Christmas Tree Festival was prohibitively expensive.

3572 Ward Update. Nil

3573 Finance:

- a. To Approve the Bank Reconciliation – 28th February 2023. **Resolved:** that the bank reconciliation be approved.
- b. To Approve the Budget Monitoring Report – 28th February 2023. **Resolved:** that the budget monitoring report be approved. Also, following the submission of evidence of an upgrade to the Village Hall lights, it was **resolved** to authorize the payment of the budgeted £1k grant to the Village Hall committee to contribute to the improvements.
- c. To Approve Accounts for Payment. **Resolved:** that the monthly accounts covering the period since the last meeting be approved for payment.
- d. To Discuss Ideas for Possible CIL Spends. Ideas for consideration thus far included a contribution towards a village CCTV system, public works of art, and possible contributions to highway/verge improvements. The council had 5 years from receipt of CIL monies to spend on community infrastructure projects, therefore no decisions were required at this stage.

3574 Updates on Current/Ongoing Issues

- a. Verges/Grass Maintenance and General Street Scene. No significant progress to report.
- b. 'I Love Firbeck' Project – update. Cllr J Pittard reported that efforts towards the entry for this year's Britain-in-Bloom competition would be promoted over the Easter period. She also requested that the old phone box be used as an information point, in addition to its other uses – agreed.
- c. New Siting/Positioning for Wooden Village Sign. Item deferred.
- d. Arrangement for Unveiling of new Painted Village Sign. Item deferred.
- e. Village Road Safety, Including Speed Limits and HGV Traffic. Efforts to reduce the speed limit within the village, and to extend the 30mph limit on Kidd Lane, had so far proved fruitless but would continue to be pursued. RMBC also required evidence of HGV traffic in the village before any consideration would be given to a ban on such vehicles. RMBC could carry out the survey on our behalf and a quote for this work had been requested but not yet received.
- f. Village CCTV – update. It was noted that Woodsetts had recently installed a CCTV system costing c.£11.2k for 9 cameras. This had been funded by a village action group which had raised the funds via grants and crowdfunding, something the village may consider. The Chair stated she had contacted RMBC and was awaiting advice regarding the most suitable locations for cameras before researching options further.

3575 Planning

- a. To Consider the Following Planning Applications:
 - i. RB2023/0249 – Erection of boundary fence 1 Princes Plantation New Road Firbeck.
Comments: Members objected to this application in line with the previous application for this work. It was felt the visual impact of the fence when approaching the village from Lamb Lane was an 'eyesore' and the applicant had not presented correct information in the application.
- b. To Note the Following Planning Applications Processed Since the Last Meeting:
Nil

3576 To Discuss the King's Coronation. See item 3570a above.

3577 To Discuss the Village Neighbourhood Plan. The Planning Advisor had written that, whilst it was highly likely that funding for neighbourhood plans would continue in the next financial year, this had yet to be confirmed by the Government. Until funding could be confirmed, no further action would be taken.

3578 To Agree any Nominations for Executive Positions on the Board of the South Yorkshire Branch of the Yorkshire Local Councils Association. No nominations received.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:25pm.

The next meeting would be held at 7pm on **Wednesday 24th May 2023**.

Signed:.....

Date:.....