

# FIRBECK PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

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

In attendance: 0 members of the public

- 3579** Appointment of a Chair of the Council for the Year 2023-24. Cllr C Jopling was proposed and seconded by Cllrs D Pittard and J Pittard. Vote: unanimous.
- 3580** Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Jopling signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office to become the Chair for 2023-24.
- 3581** Appointment of a Vice-Chair. Cllr J Pittard was proposed by Cllrs Jopling and D Pittard. Vote: unanimous.
- 3582** To Agree any Nominations to Represent the Council with the South Yorkshire Branch of the YLCA. No nominations received.
- 3583** Apologies – To Receive and Approve Reasons for Absence. Cllr R Potts – accepted.
- 3584** Declarations of Interest. Cllrs D Pittard and J Pittard – item 3590a.
- 3585** Public Discussion Period. Nil
- 3586** To Approve the Parish Council Minutes:
- a. 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023. The minutes were approved as an accurate record.
- 3587** Ward Update. Nil
- 3588** Finance:
- a. To Approve the Bank Reconciliation – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023. **Resolved:** that the bank reconciliation be approved.
- b. To Approve the Budget Monitoring Report – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023. **Resolved:** that the budget monitoring report be approved.
- c. To Approve Accounts for Payment. **Resolved:** that the monthly accounts covering the period since the last meeting be approved for payment.
- d. To Approve the Annual Accounts for 2022-23 and Annual Return Sections 1 & 2. **Resolved:** that the annual accounts be approved.  
**Resolved:** that Section 1 of the annual return, the Annual Governance Statement be approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk.  
**Resolved:** that Section 2 of the annual return, the Annual Accounting Statements, be approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk.
- e. To Receive a Report from the Internal Auditor. Members received the report from the Internal Auditor – no issues were raised.
- f. To Agree Exemption from External Audit. **Resolved:** that the council, due to the level of turnover, qualified to be exempt from external audit.
- g. To Discuss Ideas for Possible CIL Spends. No definite ideas were presented but items in support of the 'I Love Firbeck' initiative may emerge in time.

### 3589 Updates on Current/Ongoing Issues

- a. Verges/Grass Maintenance and General Street Scene. Cllr Jopling met with RMBC Highways to discuss options for the verge opposite the church on the 'sign' side of the junction. It was recommended to consider installing a drop kerb with a cobbled over-run strip, at an estimate of c.£10k. Alternative options were not considered cost effective. Designs, a risk assessment and traffic management would all be required, and it was possible RMBC could design later in the year.

The opposite verge had numerous utilities in the area which should be better maintained by the utility companies.

The installation of a planter around the sign was also discussed and was thought possible, with RMBC permission. In the meantime, members authorized a temporary planter to be purchased at up to £300 cost.

The RMBC rep could foresee no issues with the plan to install horse sculptures on the Kidd Lane verge, providing a licence from RMBC was obtained. Costs for the sculptures were being sought.

Finally, an amount of £200 for spring plants was authorized, plus the cost of compost.

- b. 'I Love Firbeck' Project – update. Cllr J Pittard reported that flyers for this year's efforts had been issued and a 'plant exchange' had proved very successful. An application to the RHS was to be submitted to cover several village initiatives. The village had recently completed its first litter pick of the year, and a second pick was planned for the end of June. Costs were being obtained to install noticeboards inside the old telephone box.
- c. New Siting/Positioning for Wooden Village Sign. No significant progress.
- d. Arrangement for Unveiling of new Painted Village Sign. It was provisionally planned to unveil the new sign on the weekend of 19/20 Aug 23, but this had yet to be confirmed.
- e. Village Road Safety, Including Speed Limits and HGV Traffic. RMBC had recently completed a traffic survey, but no results had yet been received.
- f. Village CCTV – update. No significant progress.

### 3590 Planning

- a. To Consider the Following Planning Applications:
- i. RB2022/1863 – Outline application for the erection of 5 No. dwelling houses with garages including details of access and layout Three Acres Lamb Lane Firbeck – see below.
- NOT ON AGENDA
- ii. RB2023/0717 - Discharge of condition 3 imposed by RB2022/0705 Honeysuckle Cottage New Road Firbeck – for info only.

- b. To Note the Following Planning Applications Processed Since the Last Meeting:
- i. RB2022/0705 – Internal & external remodelling of property, including front extension over single storey, raising of roof and dormer windows to front, new windows/Juliet balcony to rear, timber porch to side at Honeysuckle cottage, 77 New Road, Firbeck – GRANTED CONDITIONALLY
  - ii. RB2022/1863 – Outline application for the erection of 5 No. dwelling houses with garages including details of access and layout Three Acres Lamb Lane Firbeck – REFUSED (NOT ON AGENDA)
  - iii. RB2023/0023 – Application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) imposed by RB2021/1801 at Firbeck Hall, New Road, Firbeck – GRANTED CONDITIONALLY
  - iv. RB2023/0249 – Erection of boundary fence at 1 Princes Plantation New Road Firbeck - REFUSED

**3591** To Review the King's Coronation. The village celebration was a huge success, with an excellent attendance and atmosphere.

**3592** To Discuss the Village Neighbourhood Plan. No progress to report.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:00pm.

The next meeting would be held at 7pm on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**

Signed:.....

Date:.....