

FORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on November 18th, 2024

Yapton & Ford Village Hall

Clerk to the Council; Carol Hatton Mrs

Clerk@fordwestsussex-pc.gov.uk

AGENDA.

1. **Welcome & Apologies.** The chairman welcomed the council, and there were no apologies. It was noted that Cllr Stewart has resigned from the Council. The chairman thanked her for her input during her tenure.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** There were no new declarations.
3. **Public Sessions.** No members of the public attended.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting.** These were agreed and signed off by the chairman.
5. **Matters arising from the last minutes.**
 - a. **6 Johnson Way.** Cllr Armstrong received a letter from the residents of this address about a tree they wish removed. The tree is on Stratton's land. The residents have had a quote for over £1k to have the tree removed, which they are unable to afford. Cllr Pendleton suggested that we write to Stratton asking them to remove the tree, but at the same time informing them that they would be liable for any damage or accident caused by the tree as it is leaning badly.
ACTION: Clerk to write to Stratton.
 - b. The subject of Stratton land, which the Council was considering purchasing, was discussed again. It was noted

that there were several issues we should be aware of before deciding. Those being, insurance, responsibility for maintenance, drainage, and trees. Stratton, who own this land, are not interested in maintaining it. More discussion is needed.

- c. Meeting dates. The Council resolved to stay with Mondays for meetings. **ACTION; Clerk to write to both Climping and Yapton to see if there are any clashes with their dates and ours.**
- d. Process Matters suggested that we formulate a delivery plan as we will be entitled to CIL money, when the planned housing is completed. Cllr Worne suggested that we have a 5-year strategic plan with rough costings in place. Ball Park figures for pocket parks, for example, could be put in place, indicating what we might spend on the CIL. A meeting should be set up before the next Parish Council meeting to discuss this. **ACTION; Clerk to arrange a Teams meeting.**
- e. Honours Board. Cllr Smith is to visit Cllr Marner's husband, who is making the board. She will ask his advice on the depth of the writing, and to ask about adding the names of past chairmen on the chain of office.
- f. History of Ford Airfield. Process Matters indicated she has a lot of information on the airfield history. We have one of the last remaining veterans from the 2nd WW. Tommy Simmons, who is 100 years old. He was in the Fleet air arm. Process Matters to send all relevant information to Cllr Marner on Sharepoint. Cllr Marner will compile a spreadsheet to list all the names.

g. Footpath closure. Vistry have been made aware that they cannot close this footpath indefinitely. They have a ten-year plan and closure of this footpath is unacceptable for this length of time. Process Matters suggested that this information should be added to the parish website. Vistry have also been told that they cannot leave their gates open permanently on the Ford site. Cllr Worne is attending the village hall trustee meeting in December, and she will address this issue then. **ACTION; Clerk to remind Cllr Worne to do this.**

6. **Finance.** The Clerk reported that the current account stands at £36646.95.

7. **County Councilor's Report.** Cllr Pendleton reported that County has all the road closures planned, but the dates are very fluid. She will keep an eye on this.

8. **District Councilor's Report.** Cllr Worne reported that she is working closely with Cllr Pendleton on most issues. Village moral is exceptionally low.

9. **Chairman's Report.** Cllr Smith reported that she attended the armed forces meeting where demonstrators were present. Cllr Armstrong asked if it would be possible to make space for the scouts, guides etc. at the memorial service in future, as they swamped the garden and left little space for others. Cllr Worne said we should not deter them from attending as they are our future. Cllr Pendleton suggested that we reserve spaces for specific groups.

10. **Planning.** Process Matters reported that CLT met and put together comments they asked the Parish Council to submit to

ADC. She emphasized that we must make sure we get our comments through to ADC. A vote of thanks to the CLT and Climping Parish Council would be a good idea. **ACTION; Clerk to do.**

11. **Neighbourhood Plan.** This is with the examiner, and he has come back with questions. We have no grant funding and Process Matters has suggested that we hold a Teams meeting to decide whether to apply for a further grant. **ACTION: Clerk to set up a meeting preferably PM. She will send the clerk the questions.**
12. **Allotments.** As Cllr Stewart has resigned, Cllr Smith will take over responsibility until the AGM.
13. **Memorial Garden.** Cllr Smith said she had done more planting.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 20th, 2025.