

FARLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on **7 July 2022** in Farlow and Oretton Village Hall commencing at 6.30 pm

Present	Parish Councillors	Neil Sutton- Chairman Ann Broomhall John Derricutt Jim Workman Ian Elwell Vice Chairman Laura Burrows. Absent due to Ill health
	Clerk to the Council Unitary Councillor(s) Lengthsman Parishioners	Gwilym Butler Not in Attendance None in attendance

1 **Apologies**

Apologies were received Helena Hale and Derick Bromley

2 **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest**

Councillors were reminded of their obligation to declare any pecuniary interest they may have regarding **any** item on the agenda.

3 **Public Open Session**

No Parishioners attended the Meeting.

4 **Approve Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last Meeting (AGM) held on 26 May 2022 were approved and sanctioned to be posted to our website.

5 **Report by Unitary Councillor**

Gwilym Butler reported as follows

- Shropshire has many offers of placements for Ukrainian Refugees
- County is struggling finding foster carers for children in the care system which is under immense financial pressure. For example one child alone who requires 24 hour care costs £800k pa. Now over 600 children in care across the County many from parents having addiction problems themselves.
- The County was largely on budget for last year and hopefully will be this year however going forward some £25m will need to be cut. More jobs being cut and services outsourced.
- There is a concern schools will not be able to meet the escalating energy costs.
- County are limited to 1.99% (PLUS 1% for Care) increases in Council Tax but are facing 6% claims for increased salaries/wages.
- The 2021 Census revealed Shropshire has an increasingly high percentage of residents over 65 (25% of the County population)

6 **Beacons for Queens Platinum Jubilee Jun 2022**

The cheque has been sent for the Commemorative mugs and hopefully we shall receive them soon.

7 **Batteries for Defibrillator**

Batteries supplied and fitted. Payment due

8 **Lengthsman/Highways**

Anthony Harman had tendered his apologies.

9 **Planning**

The following applications were discussed:

Erection of Extensions 2 Hill Houses 22/02300/FUL

The Meeting Supported this Application

Conversion of Former Dog Breeding Kennels 5 Cramer Gutter 22/02599/FUL

Change of Use of Land from Agricultural 5 Cramer Gutter 22/02599/ FUL

This application was debated at length and can be summarised as follows

- Council is not aware there was ever a permission to build Kennels
- The design is very Unitary and industrial in appearance not in keeping with the rural setting
- Do not feel it is an 'annex' if it is a large, detached bungalow in its own right.
- If approved, we request it is tied to the main dwelling and not become a separate dwelling.
- Consensus not really against there being a bungalow but the design is not favoured.

Enforcement proceedings Moors Lane-Still no action. This was first raised over 4 years ago. We are unsure any enforcement procedures were ever activated. After a discussion the matter should be discussed at the next Meeting with a full complement of Councillors present. The question is whether if such an application were submitted now would we support it?

10 **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence received this month

11 **Donations**

There were no donation requests this month.

12 **Finance**

- 1 Bank Statements –
Not provided Clerk absent due to illness.
- 2 Clerks Salary/ disbursements carry forward to next month
- 3 **Village Hall Funding** There was a lengthy discussion on this request and the prime comments can be summarised as follows;
 - Many neighbouring councils do not routinely support their Village Halls. Some PC's support on a need too basis

12 **Finance (continued)**

- The local precepts figures quoted at us do not reveal the full picture
- We are conscious of the current funds available to the Village Hall. No indication has been made as to the plans for these funds.
- We are prepared to pay the commercial rate to hire the Hall but any grant we make will factor in that payment
- Parts of the Hall do need investment, but we do not see any immediate need for large expenditure.
- We are Trustees to the Village Hall, and we have a duty of to ensure it is maintained but that must be tempered by need and the financial position of the Village Hall accounts. We should be responsible for any insurance costs for policy conditions covering the Trustees Liability.

.13 **Meetings attended.**

No Meetings were attended during past month.

14 **Items to be put on Agenda for next Meeting.**

- Village Hall
- Moors Lane.

15 **Date of Next Meetings**

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 28 July 2022 in Farlow and Oretton Village Hall commencing at 8 00pm.

The Meeting closed