

FITTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday, 12th March, 2019
held in Phoenix Hall, Netheravon at 8.00 p.m.

PRESENT	Cllr. Alan Wood Cllr. Mrs .Corrine Gowman Cllr. Mrs. Victoria Jago Cllr. Mrs. Sheila Symes Cllr. S. Vaughan-Edwards Cllr. E. Binsted Cllr. G. Morgan	Chairman
In Attendance	Mrs. Mary Towle Cllr. Ian Blair-Pilling	Clerk to the Council Wiltshire Councillor

REPORT BY WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, IAN BLAIR-PILLING

The biggest item on the Council’s agenda in the past few weeks has been the budget. We continue to balance the budget and meet the increasing volume of demand and increasing costs of delivery, while entering the first year with our Government grant reduced to zero by efficiency savings of £25M and raising Council tax by 2.99%.. It is notable that the independent scrutiny started earlier and was historically the most open exercise ever. As a result not a single £1 was challenged at Council. As additional good news has also received additional and targeted funding for specific service areas from central government and has put aside its own local funding to invest in these and other critical services.

The Council will be investing £21m in the highways resurfacing programme across the county in 2019/20. In addition, it has the £8m Pothole Fund which is being used to deliver improvements to local highways maintenance, including the repair of potholes, minor patching, white lining, weed removal, sign replacement and numerous other activities to improve the general appearance of our highways and pavements.

It is also investing £12m over the next 2 years to replace the old sodium streetlights with LED lights which will help save over £1m a year in electricity costs and also reduce our CO2 emissions by 1,770 tCO2 p.a. The LED lighting has a dimming capability and lights will be dimmed after 11pm.

We have good news in other service areas. This is particularly important in children's services. 98% of our children are being allocated a place at their first choice of secondary school. The Council is also continuing to invest in the health of our children and is one of very few Councils in the Country to provide free swimming for the under 16s during the school holidays. Not only that but we still have the same number of swimming pools that we had in 2009 (when Wiltshire Council was created) for our residents and our children to swim in. Add to all of this that several of these swimming pools are newly built or totally refurbished – notably that which was opened recently in Pewsey.

Tidworth Area Rights of Way Improvement Community Project

Introduction. Following a request from the Clerk of Netheravon and Fittleton Parish Councils, Nick Cowen (Rights of Way Officer for South Wiltshire) gave a briefing at the Nov 18 meeting of the Tidworth Area Board. In this he outlined the experience of a successful

community project in SW Wiltshire and following a brief discussion there was clear enthusiasm for a similar project in the Tidworth Area. Following the meeting the 3 Board Members agreed that Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling would sponsor a Councillor led project within the Tidworth Area, and two further separate meetings have been held with Rights of Way officers and Men's Shed leaders in which there was clear enthusiasm for the envisaged project.

18/63 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received

18/64 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest

18/65 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meetings held on 18th January, 2019 be accepted as a true record.

18/66 PARISH MATTERS BROUGHT UP AT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

1. It was reported that there is sludge and straw in the surface water drains in Haxton. Clerk to report this as an issue.
2. It has been suggested by a member of the public that more salt bins are needed through the villages. This suggestion was rejected by the Parish Council.
3. Community led housing projects. Cllr. Morgan will find out more information about the project in Abbots Ann.
4. Parking on the Pound, Haxton. The problem of parking on the Pound was raised, especially in light of the problems which were experienced during the recent fire. The Clerk was asked to write to the police asking for action.

18/67 REPORT BY THE CLERK

Kissing gates

The Clerk reported that she has contacted the Senior Land Agent asking advice about Health and Safety implications for the stiles at each end of Long Ground.

Speed Watch

There are not enough volunteers to start a group as yet. Cllr. Binsted will knock on doors asking for volunteers to join the group.

Parish Steward

Potholes: Livery entrance
 Outside Jade House
 Outside Old Tearooms

Website and Emergency Plan

It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate the possibility of Fittleton publishing their minutes and agendas on the Netheravon website, or having their own domain.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would consider having an Emergency Plan as an addendum to the Netheravon Emergency Plan. Councillors would like sight of the draft Netheravon Emergency Plan before a decision is made.

18/68 ACCOUNTS

a. There is a balance of £4214.82 as at 12th March, 2019.

b. Cheques authorised since last meeting:

Pole for Christmas lights	£21.95
SSE – Christmas Lights	£144.36
Nigel Way – Clearing of trees on PROW	£50.00
Phoenix Hall	£10.00
Savills – allotment field	£260.00
Water2Business – allotments	£91.07

18/69 CORRESPONDENCE

1. email from resident complaining about the scruffy nature of the Haxton sign by the Netheravon bridge and the footpath sign at Church Walk. Clerk to report to Wiltshire Council.

2. Thank you letter from Mr. Nigel Way for the cheque received.

18/70 TIDY DAY

It was agreed that the Tidy Day would be on Sunday, 28th April, meeting at 10am for bacon butties at Orchard House.

18/71 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 14th May, 2019 in the Phoenix Hall

Future Meetings:

9th July, 2019

10th September, 2019

12th November, 2019

7th January, 2020

10th March, 2020

Signed-----Date-----

Chairman