Minutes of the Fittleton cum Haxton Annual General Meeting 1930hrs Tuesday 9th May 2023 @ Fittleton Church

Present:

Cllr Mrs Dorothea Georgeson (DG) – Chair

Cllr Paul Cranch (PC) – Vice Chair

Cllr Mrs Corinne Gowman (CG)
Cllr Mrs Victoria Jago (VJ)
Cllr Mrs Sheila Symes (SS)
Cllr Greg Morgan (GM)

In Attendance:

Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling (IBP) – Wiltshire Councillor Stephen O'Grady (SOG) – Clerk to the Council

4 members of the public

23/01 Election of Fittleton cum Haxton (FcH) Parish Chairman

Motion to re-elect Cllr DG as Chair.

Proposed by Cllr SS; seconded by Cllr CG.

Cllr DG re-elected as Chair; signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

23/02 Election of FcH Parish Vice Chair

Motion to elect Cllr PC as Vice Chair. Proposed by Cllr DG; seconded by Cllr GM.

Cllr PC elected as Vice Chair.

23/03 Acceptance of Apologies

No apologies received.

23/04 Declaration of Interests

No declarations made.

23/05 Agree Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of FcH Parish Council Meeting held on Tue 7th March 2023 agreed and accepted. *Copy of previous Minutes signed by Chair.*

23/06 Election of Sub-Committees & Representatives on other Groups.

- Phoenix Hall representative on the Management Committee Cllr SS re-elected
- Planning Sub-committee (2 members)
 Cllrs CG and VJ re-elected
- Footpaths & Rights of Way Cllr PC elected
- Transport & Highways

Cllr GM re-elected

- Allotments
 - Cllr SS re-elected
- Stonehenge Area Board
 Responsibility to be shared between Cllrs DG and PC

23/07 Update on Council vacancy

Confirmation was received from Electoral Services that there were no requests made for an election, and the Council is therefore free to co-opt a councillor. The vacancy will be advertised on noticeboards, in the newsletter, and by word-of-mouth.

23/08 Accounts

Balances at year end:

Balance carried forward £6997.15

Summary accounts provided to the Council and all relevant year-end balances confirmed.

23/09 Approval to an Exemption of External Audit

Chair confirmed that as the FcH Parish Council annual budget is below the £25,000 threshold, the Council is exempt from the requirement to have the accounts externally audited on an annual basis. Certificate of Exemption form signed by the Chair.

23/10 Approval of Annual Governance Statement

The statement was provided to the Council, and signed by the Chair.

23/11 Approval of Accounting Statement

Annual accounting statement, along with the report of the Internal Auditor, Mrs Linscer, were provided to the Council and approved.

The clerk will submit necessary end-of-year paperwork to PKF Littlejohn LLP, and display the statutory notices etc informing the public of their rights.

23/12 Agree subscriptions to local bodies

The Council agreed the subscriptions as listed on last year's accounts **will continue to be paid**, namely:

Netheravon School: £100 Netheravon Day Centre: £150

PCC: £200

Per minute reference of the APM, the Art Group does not require further start-up funds, however the Council agreed a £25 donation for supplies to decorate the Community Larder.

23/12 Additional payments approved

WALC: £99,94

Insurance for the Council will be renewed on a 3-year basis: £157.18

Auditor's fee: £30

23/13 Review Standing Orders

The issues raised in last year's minutes were addressed and Standing Orders amended accordingly, along with a number of other minor adjustments. The Clerk will arrange for the revised versions to be posted on the website.

23/14 Additional Parish Business

- There has been a growing problem in the Warren with waste piling up behind a house near one of the entrances. The Clerk will engage with Landmarc, as the body responsible for management, on this issue.
- A problem was reported with a hedge encroaching on a village footway. Cllr GM agreed to have a word with the owner and ask for this to be cut back.
- A question was raised as to continuity with the defibrillators, as ownership of the houses to which they are attached changes hands. As a contingency, Cllr CG agreed to host the device if needed. In addition, Cllr DG will speak to the owner to see what arrangements may be made.
- The fingerpost at the crossroads at the Everleigh Road is in very poor condition and in need of replacement. The Clerk offered to construct a replacement, to be reimbursed for cost of materials (traditional construction of locally-sourced English oak, with carved lettering and weatherproof paint). Additional work will be needed to ensure it is properly installed.

