

Furzehill Residents Association

Minutes of the FRA Committee Meeting 1st September, Commenced at 6.00 pm
Venue: Appleton House, rear garden with appropriate social distancing

Committee Attendees:-

Nigel Allman (NA) (secretary), John Cardwell (JC), Andy Hine (AH) ,Stefan Morawiec (SM), Anne Wilson-Croome (AWC), Jonathan Wilson-Croome (JWC)(treasurer)

Apologies:-

Geoff Chopping (GC) (subject to 14 day quarantine)

1. AH elected chair for the meeting
2. Minutes of the FRA committee 13th January, 2020 – **Agreed**
3. Minutes of the FRA AGM meeting 8th February ,2020 - **Agreed**

Correction – Woodleaze Copse that Lesley Haskins manages is for the Erica Trust, not the Woodland trust as previously reported in the minutes.

4. Matters arising – None
5. AGM outcomes

Neighbourhood Planning (NP)

It was generally accepted that the NP questionnaire returned after the last AGM gave a not unexpected result of those contributing, that they wished the current status in the area to remain as it is with some in-filling. With the recent government proposed changes in the planning regulation it is imperative that the Furzehill residents became part of a NP in order to have an input in their destiny. On its own the FRA would be not be able, under current regulations, to undertake such a task. Hence, it would be necessary to get actively involved with Colehill PC in the formulation of its NP influencing outcomes that would affect our area. Since our area is controlled by two parishes, Holt and Colehill, there is a clear need for collaboration if we are not to end up with conflicting NPs. Volunteers are needed to help in this challenging task .If interested they should contact SM on the Colehill PC.

Social

Whilst social gatherings due to Covid 19 are not possible at the moment, there is a need to involve new members to the committee for when we do get back to normal. Two FRA residents to be approached – **Action** AWC in conjunction with Celia B.

New year 2021 walk is to be planned with suitable social distancing in place. **Action-** SM

BLS (Basic Life Support)

There has been little response to the idea of BLS training sessions

Website Content

Current content appears to meet the needs of most of the residents

Speed Limit Bin Stickers

A number of stickers were purchased by residents; however demand was disappointing when considering the interest there is in keeping down vehicle speeds. JWC still has a number of A4 (£1.25) and A3 (£2.25) bin stickers available.

6. FRA response to Covid-19 lockdown and potential second wave of the pandemic

JWC reported that the FRA Support Group did a good job of contacting almost every resident directly with the offer of support if required, as well as distributing the FRA Coronavirus Support leaflet to every house and the Colehill leaflet to several roads too. Most residents appeared grateful for the offer but only a few subsequently needed assistance.

On behalf of the FRA, the committee would like to record its thanks to those residents, including those in their teens and twenties, who gave up their time so willingly for the Support Group.

The website continues to carry the Support page and it is hoped the volunteers will remain available through a possible further wave of Covid-19 and beyond.

6.1 Colehill Parish Council's preparedness for a second wave of the pandemic

Parish Councillor SM reported that there was now a robust system in place to deal with those needing help in the parish. In the event of a second wave of the pandemic two hot lines would become available again.

Full PPE is available for those needing it and should contact SM. See Colehill PC website for details of Colehill Resilience Group (currently suspended)

None the less, it would be useful to have additional younger and less vulnerable members of the FRA community to volunteer as contacts / help -out since the current contacts are of a more vulnerable age group.

7. Stocks PH defibrillator (AED) funding

The committee supports in principle a contribution, at a fixed upper limit, to the funding of an AED as part of a community involvement project. FRA shall contact the manager of the Stocks inviting him to apply to the FRA and the two Parish Councils so that the exact nature of the funding required can be established and this project moved forward – **Action** JWC

8. Council Matters and Planning

JC reported a summary of the government's latest proposals on changes to the planning regulations. In short the new regulations will eliminate some delaying processes, allowing a smoother progression to planning consent. It will change thresholds on affordable homes and make it easier for some landowners with little outlay to pursue planning applications. The emphasis will be on increasing the housing stock subject to new metrics and formulae for each area. For our area we need to be vigilant as the likelihood of renewed applications are possible. – Another reason to be part of an agreed NP.

JC reported that Penny Farthing are still in the process of acquiring and developing the old East Dorset Council site. Currently still on track, but delayed though legal and technical reasons. PF are currently doing an ecology survey as part of their planning

information pack. This demonstrates further their commitment and may alleviate some people's concerns as to why there appears to be traps in the trees. Expect another year before starting.

9. FRA Alert Systems

Recent events such as the travellers in the field next to the old council offices highlighted the possible need to be able to alert residents of any causes for concern. There haven't been any requests from residents for an alert system. The committee feels that the Furzehill Residents Facebook now exceeding 50 members, the FRA website and email systems were adequate.

10. Treasurers Report.

Current funds now stand at £909

11. Website and Facebook update

Website notices up to date, Furzehill Residents Facebook now being mainly administered by Stan Bielecki as SM's workload as a Parish councillor increases.

12. Changes to Speed limits in the area.

FRA committee welcomes and supports the announced speed limit reductions for our area. Once in place FRA is interested in pursuing further restrictions e.g in Dogdean and north Long Lane consistent with the latest changes.

The committee recognised the significant work by JWC and AWC who were instrumental in the achievement of the speed restrictions.

A formal response supporting the plan will be made to Dorset Council on behalf of the FRA -**Action** JWC

SM stated that it was now possible to initiate a Community Speed Watch group to monitor the speed of vehicles on our local roads e.g. Smugglers' Lane. The Parish now owns the equipment to enable this operation.

AOB

Some residents had recently experienced flooding during an a tremendous downpour and had received confusing responses from Dorset Council when making a complaint.

Those wishing to have an aerial picture of their property can contact SM who has a license to fly a drone.

Woodleaze hedge cutting – Colehill PC responsibility? Who actions this? –**Action** - SM

Next Meeting

Dec 7th, 2:00 pm,

Venue: Stefan's open Garage at Chapel Cottage. (Subject to Covid-19 social gathering restrictions applicable at that time)

Meeting ended 8:30 pm