

Furzehill Residents Association

Minutes of the FRA Committee Meeting 21st June, 2021 Commenced at 7:30 pm

Venue: Virtual Zoom, NA Hosting

Committee Attendees:-

Nigel Allman (NA) (secretary), Stan Bielecki (SB), John Cardwell (JC), Geoff Chopping (GC) Andy Hine (AH) , Anne Wilson-Croome (AWC), Jonathan Wilson-Croome (JWC)(treasurer)

Apologies:-

Stefan Morawiec

1. AH elected chair for the meeting.
2. Minutes of the FRA committee 1st September,2020 – **Agreed**
- 3 The committee welcomed Stan Bielecki as a new member.
- 4 Stan now administers the Furzehill Residents Facebook and supports JWC with the Furzehill Residents Association Website.

5. Matters arising:

5.1 New Committee Members

AWC is awaiting feedback from two residents who may be interested in joining the committee to help organise social events. **Action AWC**

Gauge the interest of potential committee members. **Action GC, JWC**

5.2 Stocks PH defibrillator

JWC stated that FRA had offered to make some contribution toward a defibrillator however this was declined. The Stocks have now recently installed a unit located at the outside rear of the Pub. A picture of the defibrillator in-situ is to be added to the FRA website and Furzehill Facebook. **Actions AH, JWC, SB**

5.3 Speed Limit Changes

DC has changed the speed limits to 40mph in Smugglers Lane and Long Lane South with 30mph in Deans Grove. AWC and JWC are to be congratulated on achieving this success. AWC and JWC feel that the drop in average vehicle speed in Smugglers Lane is noticeable but only modest. A large number of motorists are exceeding significantly the new lower limits.

(This success does beg the question of the anomalies of national speed limits in Dogdean and Long Lane. - NA)

5.5 Woodleaze Hedge Cutting –Responsibility

This is no longer a problem as the whole hedge was remove by DC because of drainage issues in that part of road adjacent to Woodleaze.

6.0 Speed Watch

JWC reported that currently the existing available equipment is out of date and the option to buy our own unit would be about £500. There would also be the need to join Dorset Speedwatch, user training, cost of ancillary equipment e.g. Hi-vis vests etc. and user commitment.

Selecting the appropriate speed checking site would also be an issue as there are restraints on the selection of a valid checking position. JWC requested we deferred the discussion to our next meeting.

7.0 High Speed Broadband

Whilst fibre high speed Broadband is now available in the main part of Furzehill it is still not available at the far end of Smugglers lane and the Grange.

This unsatisfactory state continues to hamper the work and internet needs of those that live there. At the moment there appears to be no plans to extend the high speed network in those areas.

8.0 Communications to Residents

The Furzehill Facebook continues to attract new members, however in order to ensure good communications, SB has requested to join the local WhatsApp group so that any pertinent news can be conveyed either way and thus obtain good coverage. **Action SB**

Police notifications appear not to be occurring. AH to check with the two local Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators to establish the current status. **Action AH**

9.0 Council and Planning Matters

JC continues to monitor any developments affecting the old EDDC council offices and will advise of any formal changes. GC receives regular planning application updates and alerts us to any significant plans being made in our area affecting our community.

10.0 Social Update

It was suggested by AWC and **agreed** by the committee that we should have an open garden event in June 2022 followed by a cream tea. **Action AWC**

11.0 Boundary Commission Proposals

See FRA website for details

GC reported that the latest proposals were in our favour, effectively moving the current Parliamentary Constituency boundary along Smugglers Lane to include an area north of Holt. This would mean that Colehill and Holt Parishes would then be in the same Constituency. GC believes that despite the rejection in 2017 to move Furzehill from Colehill Parish to Holt Parish the proposed new changes could possibly enable that move. Such a move may need a mutual understanding/agreement being established between both parish Councils. GC has requested to attend the next Holt Parish Council meeting to be held on the 30th June, and ask for a formal request from the Holt PC to the FRA inviting residents to request via email a move from Colehill PC to Holt PC. **Action GC**

(Information:- A list of questions that GC has asked to be considered by Holt PC:-

1.0 Provided that the Holt and Colehill Parishes are in the same Parliamentary Constituencies, as recently proposed by the Boundary Commission for England, that members would confirm that: *they (Holt PC) would not object to the part of Furzehill (not already within Holt Parish) joining Holt Parish?*

2.0 That Holt Parish Council requests the Boundary Commission for England, via the consultation and before 2 August, that the current Holt and Colehill Parishes are in the same Parliamentary Constituencies, in order to simplify the adjustment of the Parish Boundaries?

3.0 Will Holt Parish Council liaise with Colehill Parish Council and Dorset Council on this matter?)

12.0 Furzehill Telephone Box

Currently the Telephone Box resides in Holt Parish and is in need of restoration if it is to be utilised for another function. FRA does not have funds to achieve this. There may be a third party that would be interested in said restoration. GC to investigate. **Action GC**

13.0 Treasurers Report

The 2020 accounts were discussed and can now be found on the FRA website. Current funds stand at £914

14.0 Website and FaceBook update

FRA website is up to date; Furzehill Facebook group is ok with additional welcome admin support from Mary Steele. In addition to administering the Furzehill Facebook Group SB shall also be supporting JWC with the FRA website.

JWC requested that the committee consider the purchase of an SSL certificate to protect the FRA Website at an annual cost of £42. There was agreement by the committee to go ahead with the implementation of SSL

(Information: - When a visitor enters an SSL-protected website, your SSL certificate automatically creates a secure, encrypted connection with their browser. Your site is most secure when SSL is deployed on all pages and subdomains.)

15.0 AOB

NA and SB raised the issue of increased heavy goods traffic in the area. Noticeable vibrations can be felt in their homes when large vehicles at speed pass by. Other residents have raised similar concerns. Smugglers Lane also suffers badly from vibration from HGV's that exceed the speed both 40mph and the 7.5 ton limit. Whilst some large vehicles need access to our area many are cutting through e.g. aggregate carrying lorries. SB and NA are to investigate means of minimising the effects and what restrictions can be put in place. **Action SB and NA**

Next AGM, SB requested to give a short talk on how to set up and use the Furzehill Facebook. **Action SB**

Next Meeting

August 23rd, 2021 (Provisional)

Venue: Anne and Jonathan's, Iona, Smugglers Lane.

After three Zoom sessions the Meeting ended at 9:40 pm despite the need for more discussion time.