

Farmborough Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Location: Farmborough Memorial Hall

Date: 11/03/2025

Councillors Present:

Chair: Sam Ross (SR)

Mark Goodchild (MG)

Nick Barnett (NB)

David Howard (DH)

Phil Gray (PG)

Rob Breckon (RB)

Martin Carter (MC)

1 Apologies for Absence

Daniel Pidcock (DP)

2 Declarations of Interest

None

Public Participation (3 minutes per person)

Tonya Fray signalled her interest in applying for the vacant Parish Clerk position. Her interest was welcomed, and she was asked to email the clerk address to receive the application pack.

Tonya Fray and Anna Wilson presented their ideas to hold a VE 80th anniversary event at the Memorial Hall and sought FPC support. Councillors agreed to cover the cost of the hall hire and to pay for a commemorative bench in the Memorial Hall Garden, subject to agreement by the Memorial Hall Committee (see further info under items 8.a.i. and 9.c.ii.)

Radstock Police Beat Manager Report

None

Action/Vote

3 Minutes

a To approve the minutes held on the 11 February 2025

7 approved

b To receive reports on any further matters arising the decision of the last meeting
- None

4 Planning

a To agree/report responses to the following applications:

- None

b To report on B&NES decisions for the following applications:

- None

c To report on other planning matters (referrals, enforcement, appeals etc.)

- None

d Local Plan Update

- None

5 Finance and HR

a To approve the monthly finance report for March

7 approved

To receive the balance of accounts:

b (i) Current Account: £14,358.14

(ii) Savings Account: £20,686.52

c To consider candidates for co-option onto the Parish Council

- None

Update on appointment of Clerk

- d - Vacancy has been advertised locally and applications remain open until 31 March. Advert to be uploaded to National Association of Local Councils (NALC) for wider distribution. Action: SR
- e To consider candidates for co-option onto the Parish Council
 - None

6 Highways, Rights of Way, Infrastructure

Updates

- a - Notice of making: speed limit changes - Various roads A368 and A37 - Chelwood, Stowey, Bishop Sutton, Compton Martin, Ubley: 20 mph, 30mph, 40mph – this was noted

7 Playground and Recreation Ground

Playground matters

- a - Sweeper is currently cleaning rubber playground matting and climbing frame equipment
- Awaiting to hear back from solicitors regarding a number of points of clarification on the lease agreement.
- FPC agreed to sign the lease in between meetings once clarifications are provided by the Diocese's solicitors. This will be ratified at the following meeting. 7 agreed

Recreation ground matters

- FPC are awaiting to hear back from Pakistani Express Cricket Club (PECC) to collect their remaining cricket equipment. A final reminder will be given to collect before the end of March. Action: SR
- FPC agreed to go down small claims court route for recouping owed monies from Handy Compliance. DH to follow up. 7 agreed Action: DH

Pavilion repair update

- Pavilion repairs continuing to progress well with work expected to be completed by start of the cricket season (end of April).
- Additional storage container approved to be added, arriving Friday 14 March. Soft launch planned in early April.

8 Representative Body and Working Groups

- a To receive a report and agree any actions from the members of:
 - i. Memorial Hall Committee
 - FPC to let the Memorial Hall Committee know that FPC is happy to fund a bench as part of the VE Day Commemorations. Action: PG
 - Damage to heating system has been identified that needs repairing.
 - ii. Farmborough Sports & Social (FSS)
 - Charity Commission (CC) have now confirmed that the charity status of the Recreation Ground Committee is still active. PG to send minutes of FSS January meeting to CC to gain access to the account. A new governance document will need to be discussed and agreed at the next FSS meeting and uploaded to the account once complete. Action: PG
 - iii. Allotment Working Group
 - SR recently visited and noted allotments in generally good upkeep. Growing pile of mixed waste that needs removing. Allotment holders to be contacted by SR. DH to take a look and determine a solution for collating and removing the waste. Action: SR/DH
 - iv. Farmborough Climate and Nature Emergency Working Group (FCNEW)
 - SR and DP still to meet and discuss renewal of group and aims Action: SR/DP

9 Correspondence and AOB

To receive a report from ward councillor

- Farmborough-Timsbury footpath feasibility study is in the budget.
- Speed limit reduction on Timsbury Road – follow-up conversation with BANES Officers needed, including repositioning of Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) in interim.
- a - SR to contact Youth Connect SW to notify of parish funding and ask them to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in April.
- Avon Needs Trees – local project on doorstep (Compton Dando/Hunstrete - to be invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in April to inform parishioners.
- Ward Councillor Empowerment Fund – pavilion defibrillator and bleed kits at Recreation Ground to be purchased as part of this fund.

To receive any other reports from councillors

- b - Annual Parish Meeting – Thurs 24 April. Advert to be included in next issue of Farmborough Flyer. Action: SR
- Annual Village Day to mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Pavilion – 31 May 2026. New ‘Annual Village Day 2026’ section to be included in Farmborough Sports and Social working group update in future meetings.

Correspondence

- i. WERN Community Survey
 - West of England Rural Network community survey has been received. Martin to complete survey on behalf of FPC. Action: MC
- ii. VE Day Commemoration – to be organised and run by villagers (see Public Participation section)
 - Mon 5 May Farmborough Memorial Hall booked for 4 hours for event
 - Event will be educationally - focussed. Idea is to have a cinema to show some footage from the war
 - Brownies, Guides and Rainbows involved doing a display
 - Choir to sing WWII classics
 - c - Guides cooking from ration books
 - FPC approved spend of £650 towards VE Day Commemoration event which will include cost of hiring hall (£40) and purchase of a commemorative bench & plaque (subject to Memorial Hall Committee agreement). 7 approved
- iii. Chelwood Bridge Rotary Club Community Award 2025 – nominations open until 31 March 2025. MG to make a nomination. Action: MG
- iv. Mobile Library service from 1 April – Hobbs Wall, 9.30 to 10.15am
- v. Parish Liaison Meeting – Wed 19 March, 6.30pm Keynsham Pixash Recycling Centre. Tour of recycling hub and World Café discussions. Two from FPC can attend. SR attending as ward cllr. NB will attend if available. Action: SR/NB

Meeting ended: 8.54pm

Signed by

Chair to the Parish Council, as an accurate representation of the meeting as agreed on