

**WEST FARLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017**  
**AT THE GOOD INTENT PUBLIC HOUSE**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Scott in the Chair, Cllr Martin, Cllr Merritt, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Stockwell, Cllr Swan, County Cllr Stockell, Borough Cllrs Webb and Mortimer, Community Warden Adam McKinley and Mrs Amanda Broadhurst

**IN ATTENDANCE:** 9 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:** Borough Cllr Fermor and PSCO Jasmine Day

**1. INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Scott welcomed all present. He went on to explain that a booklet was available which contained the Parish Council and Village Organisation's reports.

**2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016**

These were proposed as accurate by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Swan; will all in favour. The Chairman signed the official copy of the Minutes.

**3. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT – *Borough Cllrs Richard Webb & Brian Mortimer***

Borough Cllr Webb reported that the Borough Council is quite quiet at present. Borough Cllr Mortimer thanked West Farleigh for making the Borough Councillor's lives easier, as the Parish tends to sort out issues on their own. Borough Cllr Mortimer reported that litter signs for Ewell Lane are being progressed and also reported that The Hollows planning application had recently been refused. He added that this may go to appeal but thanked Councillors for all of their support with the application.

Cllr Martin thanked the Borough Councillors for supporting residents and the Parish Council on planning application in the village.

Cllr Scott queried if there was any further information regarding the issues at Teston Bridge and Cllr Mortimer confirmed that there was not. He added that East Farleigh Parish Council had had a survey completed, which had only highlighted the issues that the Parish were already aware of. East Farleigh is not progressing any further. It was noted that enforcement needed to be actioned and Cllr Mortimer offered to chase the new Police Commissioner, who he had previously discussed this issue with. **ACTION: Borough Cllr Mortimer**

Cllr Merritt queried whether Yalding Parish Council should be included in this issue, as most of the vehicles are heading their way and they have Lorry Watch in place. Borough Cllr Mortimer responded that, whilst they do have Lorry Watch in place, it is not being enforced. Cllr Martin added that lorry drivers are happy to pay the (occasional) £30 fine, as it is less than the cost of diesel going through Maidstone.

**4. COMMUNITY WARDEN – *Adam McKinley***

The Community Warden reported that West Farleigh has been quite quiet and added that there had been a few events that he had not been able to get to. He wants to hold a surgery at the coffee mornings and the Lambing Days. He would like to also take part in the litterpicks and Speedwatch; when it is up and running. Adam spoke about the area he covers and the referrals that he received from the NHS and Social Services.

**5. VILLAGE ORGANISATION'S REPORTS**

Cllr Scott reminded all present that a booklet had been produced with reports from the village organisations for residents to take away with them to read.

***The Evergreens:*** Terry Ayears thanked the Parish Council for their continuing financial support. He has spoken with County Cllr Stockell, who has confirmed that the Member's Grant can only be used for new projects, this is very difficult for a charity such as The Evergreens and it is disappointing to see the huge sums of money awarded to other groups. He added that, in County Cllr Stockell's report, it appeared that some of the donations are not for parish based groups, which doesn't seem right. Cllr Swan added that The Evergreens are increasing their meetings to two a month and so this is classed as a new project and the group will be looking to County Cllr Stockell for funding in the near future. Mr Ayears also reported that this is the first year that The evergreens have not met the budget and so the group needs to look for additional funding. Cllr Scott stated that The Evergreens is a good service that is provided in the village. Cllr Swan informed all present that extra helpers have also been recruited.

***Village Litterpick:*** Brian Cushing reported that the group now has quite a few volunteers. He stated that, instead of completing a monthly litter pick, the group were trying to encourage residents to adopt a stretch of road to

completed. However, it was noted that there had not been a huge response – approximately 2% of the village had responded. Brian also reported that the group needs some additional litterpicking equipment, such as thicker gloves and asked whether the Parish Council would be able to assist. After brief discussion, it was agreed that this should be added to the July meeting agenda for further discussion. **ACTION: Clerk**

Brian also reported that the jumbo bag of salt near the 'White House' needs to be replaced with a proper salt bin. Borough Cllr Mortimer stated that he will try to progress this. **ACTION: Borough Cllr Mortimer**

**Sports Club:** Terry Baines reported that the club is ticking over and have had two cup final wins.

**Life-line:** Cllr Swan hoped that everyone is enjoying the new format of Life-Line. She added that the Editors would like contributions from villagers to add to future editions; these could be reports, cartoons or poems.

**Residents:** A resident asked for an update on the Community Centre fund and stated that the use of the money should have the full support of the village. Cllrs Merritt & Scott gave a brief update, with the Clerk reported that there is approximately £15,500 in the account. The resident asked if something could be attached to the Sports Club or given to the WI for their hall in East Farleigh? Cllr Scott stated that all comments would be taken on board, adding that the Parish Council have been looking into several options but that each required large sums of money that the Parish Council cannot afford at present.

It was also reported that the 40mph sign near The Thatched House needs to be removed as it is straight after a 20mph sign. It was noted that the 20mph sign is advisory, due to the bend being so dangerous. Community Warden Adam McKinley stated that he would discuss this with County Cllr Stockell.

**ACTION: Community Warden**

The formal part of the meeting concluded at 20.47pm followed by refreshments.