

FARNHAM ROYAL PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FARNHAM ROYAL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER AT 7.30 P.M. IN FARNHAM ROYAL VILLAGE HALL

Present

Mr. Paul Rowley (Chairman) Mr. Bob Milne
Mr. Clive Robinson Mr. Richard Thomas
Mr. Roger Home Mrs. Marilyn Rolfe
Mrs. Judith Hall – Clerk

Ten members of the public including District Councillors Dev Dhillon and David Anthony.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm. The meeting was adjourned for OPEN FORUM noted at the end of these minutes. The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

18/105/PC Apologies for absence

Mr. John Hodges and Mrs. Judy Tipping

18/106/PC To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 30 July 2018

The minutes were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

18/107/PC Matters Arising (not covered on the agenda and for information only)

107.1 The Chairman advised that the members of the Kingsway Green Working Group were Mrs. Rolfe, Mr. Baker, Mr. Whiting, Mr. Clapp and Mrs. Prior and that whilst there was currently no timeline for the project the first meeting is on 28 September 2018 and more would be reported at the next Parish Council meeting.

107.2 The Chairman advised that the Devolution Contract with BCC had been renewed on the same terms as the current contract and that the Clerk had identified the town and parish councils that have agreed to the "Gold" package and would be looking to keep in touch with them.

107.3 The Clerk advised that the developer had agreed to the Parish Council's suggestion of 1-4 Alderley Gardens and as a result SBDC had conducted a consultation with District Councillors and the Royal Mail during which no objections were received and SBDC has confirmed that the suggested name will be used.

107.4 The Chairman confirmed that the locum clerk arrangement had now been confirmed in writing with no restrictions on telephone assistance but should a visit be required this must be agreed in advance by either the Chairman of the Parish Council or the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

107.5 The Chairman advised that the Bank requested two further signatures on the new mandate, which had been done and the mandate had been returned to the Bank for processing.

107.6 The Clerk advised that she had written to the developer of the Dippingwell site regarding the ongoing maintenance of the hedge but as no response had been received a further letter had been issued. Mrs. Rolfe advised that she had attended the planning committee meeting where the development was considered and had objected to the application which was declined but following an appeal the developer's revised application was approved with costs. It had previously been agreed that the Parish Council would write a letter as it is felt that the site is overdeveloped and will have problems with ground water but Mrs. Rolfe was concerned that the Parish Council could have to pay costs and that writing was almost a pointless exercise. The Chairman asked Cllr. Dhillon and Cllr. Anthony whether they knew how much on average the costs might be. Cllr. Anthony advised that the applicants almost never get costs awarded but, in this case, it was found that the planning committee overruled the planning officer on flimsy grounds, which Cllr. Anthony said stressed the importance of applying planning policy when objecting to applications. Cllr. Dhillon advised that he was aware of costs between £3,000 and £35,000 in

such matters. Cllr. Anthony advised that 60% of all planning committee decisions were upheld on appeal.

107.7 The Chairman advised that due to the state of the Guide Hut he was trying to meet with the Girl Guiding leaders to discuss their plans to see what the Parish Council can do to assist the group. The meeting was expected to be held in early October 2018.

107.8 The Chairman advised that the Monitoring Officer had not replied to the Parish Council so there was nothing to report but that Cllr. Anthony was assisting with this.

107.9 Mr. Milne advised that this year's LAF bids had been submitted.

107.10 The Chairman thanked Mr. Frater for removing the fallen tree from the left side of the A355 at Green Man Hill free of charge but advised that further work was required to clear the branches on the right side and the Parish Council was awaiting Mr. Frater's quote.

107.11 Mr. Robinson advised that the Speedwatch team had carried out another afternoon session on the A355 at the junction with The Avenue (Northbound). Last time they issued 12 letters to speeders but this time none. They chose the A355 at the time the infant school children were coming out when there were approximately 600 vehicles an hour. No further sessions are planned until November 2108.

107.12 The Clerk advised that she had complained to McCarthy & Stone regarding the road surface outside their development in Farnham Common but that McCarthy & Stone had replied advising that the works were carried out by a utility company and as such the issue was outside their jurisdiction. They advised that the matter should be reported to TfB. Despite the Clerk advised them that this was not acceptable and that they should work with TfB to resolve the issue they advised that the work was carried out under licence from BCC and was inspected by BCC so if the Parish Council had any issues these needed to be registered directly with BCC. The Clerk advised that she had therefore filed an online report with BCC. Mr. Houdret advised that he would give the Clerk the telephone number for a lady at BCC who would come out and have a look at the surface.

18/108/PC To accept resignation received and consider the next steps for filling councillor vacancies

108.1 The Clerk advised the Mr. Baker had resigned on 6 September 2018 and that the required vacancy notice had been prepared and displayed on the Parish Council noticeboards and website and that SBDC had confirmed that the deadline for electors to request a by-election to fill the vacancy was 27 September 2018. The Parish Council now has three vacancies.

108.2 The Clerk advised that an application to become a councillor had been received from Mrs. Jebson and that a copy had been circulated to all councillors for their consideration. The Chairman proposed that Mrs. Jebson be co-opted onto the Council and **this was agreed**.

108.3 Mrs. Jebson signed her acceptance of office in front of the Clerk and moved to sit with the councillors.

18/109/PC To ratify the updated Christmas lighting provision for 2018

The Chairman explained that following a discussion with Mr. Norvill and the contractor it had was agreed that the number of lights in Farnham Royal would be reduced by one. **It was agreed** to ratify the updated Christmas lighting provision for 2018.

18/110/PC To ratify the proposed WW1 flag display

The Chairman explained that it was proposed that twelve flags of three different designs be purchased and flown from columns in Farnham Common and Farnham Royal to commemorate the end of WW1. Mr. Milne advised that he had seen the flags flying elsewhere and they looked quite impressive. The Chairman added that there was a general feeling that this was the right thing to do. The Clerk confirmed the quote received of £967.87 plus VAT and that the flags would be flown as soon as possible until w/c 12 November 2018 when they would need to be removed to install the Christmas lights. **It was agreed** to approve the proposal as detailed.

18/111/PC To consider recommendations for portable sound systems for purchase

Mrs. Rolfe advised that two quotes had been received, one from a firm in Essex and one from a firm in Taplow. Mrs. Rolfe read through the specifications of the system and advised that the firm in Taplow would also provide support for the system. Mr. Robinson sought confirmation that roaming microphones were included for the public and Mrs. Rolfe confirmed there were two included. **It was agreed** that the system would be purchased from the Taplow firm.

18/112/PC To consider the voting threshold(s) for the car park referendum

112.1 The Chairman stated his belief that the agreement of the voting threshold(s) must be resolved as although the councillors were not aware of how many voting cards had been returned or how the votes had been cast it was now an urgent matter to avoid any possible challenges. The Chairman advised there were two options: 1) simple majority of votes cast or 2) a response rate of at least 60% and then a simple majority of votes cast.

112.2 The Chairman advised that the Parish Council had ordered posters to advertise the referendum, which had now been received and would be distributed to shops, doctors, the library etc. Mrs. Rolfe suggested placing a couple of posters in the car park next to the pay station, which was considered to be an excellent idea. The Chairman also advised that SBDC would provide an up to date cost figure if the referendum result was “yes” as it would not be needed if the vote was “no”.

112.3 A debate followed during which councillors discussed whether there should be a response rate threshold and if there should, what was a realistic response rate to use. Some councillors felt that the vote should be a simple majority of votes cast as all households had the opportunity to vote, this would be the simplest method and it was not normal practice to include a threshold in other elections/votes. Other councillors felt it was necessary to have a minimum response rate so that there was a clear mandate given that every household would be affected by any increase of the precept. Mr. Robinson suggested a 40% response rate based on common practice in Switzerland and Holland. Mrs. Jebson suggested a 50% response rate based on common practice in her profession in connection with engagement and satisfaction surveys. Mrs. Rolfe asked how many voting cards had been received and the Clerk advised that she had received 361. At this point, Mr. Thomas suggested a more realistic response rate might be 20%. Mr. Milne also suggested that the Parish Council could review the position after a year. Mr. Houdret advised that recently in France he had seen a similar vote and he felt 20% would be a fair response rate.

112.4 **It was agreed** that a response rate of 20% would be used and then a simple majority of votes cast would apply.

18/113/PC To reconsider appointments to committees, working groups and outside bodies

The following was agreed:

Committees

Finance Committee – Mr. Hodges, Mr. Milne, Mr. Rowley and Mrs. Rolfe.

Planning – All councillors

Working Groups

Open Spaces - Mr. Milne, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Home, Mr. P Rowley, Mr. Clapp and Mr. Frater

Rights of Way Liaison Group – Mr. Milne and Mr. Home

Play Area - Mr. Rowley, Mr. Home, Mr. Milne and Mr. Robinson

Kingsway Green – Mrs. Rolfe, Mr. Baker, Mr. Clapp, Mr. Whiting and Mrs. Prior.

Outside Bodies

Farnham Royal Charities - Mr. Hodges and Mrs. Rolfe

Local Area Forum – Mr. Milne and Mrs. Rolfe

Farnham Common Sports Club – Mr. Rowley

Farnhams Magazine - Mr. Home and Mr. Rowley

The Burnham Beeches Consultative Committee – Mr. Milne and Mrs. Tipping

South Bucks Association of Local Councils – Mr. Rowley and Mr. Milne

East Burnham Gravel Liaison Group – Mrs. Tipping

Bank Signatories

Mr. Hodges, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Milne

Signage Manager

Vacant

18/114/PC To consider the possible launch of a Parish Council Facebook page

114.1 Mr. Thomas advised that he felt the Parish Council should have a closed Facebook page, which would be informative and provide links with local councils but would not be a two-way debating tool. Anything requiring comment would be taken offline and dealt with using existing communication methods such as email. Mr. Thomas proposed that one councillor and the Clerk would be moderators who would remove offensive material.

114.2 Mr. Milne advised that whilst he was initially unconvinced he had looked at other parishes and some Facebook pages were very informative and he felt it was something the Parish Council should do. He was however concerned about the increase in work for the Clerk. Mr. Thomas suggested that this could be reviewed monthly and the Clerk advised that she was happy to trial it.

114.3 The Chairman ask for a councillor to volunteer to work with the Clerk as moderator and Mrs. Jebson volunteered. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would finalise the new social media policy and the Parish Council would launch a Facebook page.

18/115/PC To consider an emergency plan for dealing with illegal traveller encampments

115.1 The Chairman advised that he wants to give a clear message that this Parish Council does not tolerate illegal traveller encampments. Mr. Thomas advised that he was particularly interest in this item as Chairman of the FCSC and that this and Temple Dell were really the only likely Parish Council owned sites where travellers might set up camp. He advised that if they did the Parish Council would be expected to act quickly.

115.2 Mrs. Rolfe advised that she didn't think the policy document obtained from Church Crookham Parish Council, which had been circulated as a possible policy to model, went far enough. She believed that Harlow and Northampton councils had policies that covered other land not just that owned by the Councils and that they used an ongoing injunction process. Mr. Thomas stated that he felt that was more of a remedy for SBDC or BCC and he was suggesting the Parish Council used common law to evict travellers with the assistance of an enforcement agency.

115.3 Mr. Thomas advised that he had received cost information from Constant & Co, the firm used by Church Crookham Parish Council and if there were six caravans or less the costs would be:

Serving eviction notice	£295
First three hours attendance at eviction	£450
Every two hours thereafter	£150

Constant & Co had advised Mr. Thomas that in nine out of ten cases if the area is not enclosed and there is no violence the travellers are moved on that day and that they dealt with any required welfare report. Mr. Thomas suggested discussing the policy with Church Crookham Parish Council. Mr. Milne advised that the Parish Council should, irrespective of any arrangement with enforcement agents, notify the police in all instances.

115.4 Mrs. Rolfe felt that it was important for the Parish Council to also explore methods of preventing encampments on land not owned by the Parish Council. **It was agreed** that the Parish Council would put together a policy modelled on Church Crookham Parish Council's policy whilst lobbying SBDC and BCC regarding other land.

115.5 Cllr. Anthony advised that the police are limited in their ability to move travellers on if there was nowhere for them to go but he advised that a permanent site was planned north of Farnham Common which would hopefully alleviate this issue in future.

18/116/PC To consider membership of Bucks & Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils (BMKALC)

Mr. Milne advised that he would like the Parish Council to join BMKALC but acknowledged that the subscription of £850.19 was a significant sum. He advised that membership would entitle councillors to obtain legal advice, which he would have welcomed during a recent code of conduct matter. He further advised that the Parish Council already pays for the Clerk to be a member of a national society for clerks but that no similar provision is in place for councillors and that this membership could be reviewed as a means of offsetting some of the cost as BMKALC caters for both councillors and clerks. Mrs. Rolfe asked what the benefits of membership were and Mr. Milne read from the list circulated prior to the meeting. The Chairman advised that he would like to make sure that professional advice in all areas was available to the Parish Council as wiser individuals would make a wiser Parish Council. **It was agreed** that the Parish Council would take up membership of BMKALC and the Clerk would review whether both memberships were required.

18/117/PC Open Spaces

117.1 Mr. Milne advised that the Clerk had received an email from a resident asking whether the Parish Council would support a litter picking initiative. Councillors felt this would be something capable of support but requested clarification on whether the resident meant an ongoing scheme or a series of events. Mrs. Rolfe suggested that the Clerk contact Burnham Parish Council as they often ran litter picking events. Mrs. Rolfe was asked to provide the

contact details for the relevant councillor.

117.2 **It was agreed** that the Parish Council would support the request received from a resident of 18 Kemsley Chase for the lamp post situated on their land to be moved to a different location still on their land. The costs would need to be met by the resident and the resident would be required to use the Parish Council's choice of contractor. The Clerk will now consult with the residents' neighbours to see if they agree and discuss the proposal with SBDC and BCC to see if planning permission is required.

117.3 Mr. Milne explained that he and Mr. Home had carried out a survey of the verges in the Farnhams and that they were keen to re-establish the verges to a depth of 1 metre. **It was agreed** that the work detailed in the Survey of Verges Report September 2018 would be carried out and the Clerk was instructed to seek quotes.

18/118/PC Finance

118.1 The payments and receipts, as per the cashbook, **were approved**.

118.2 The Chairman advised councillors that £120 had been spent from his Chairman's Allowance in respect of three £40 John Lewis gift cards which were purchased as thank you gifts for Trevor Clapp, Vicky Thompson and Hilda Holder. **This expenditure was ratified.**

118.3 The chairman advised that the Parish Council was currently in breach of its Reserves Policy and it was therefore suggested that this be suspended whilst the Finance Committee reviewed potential projects and made efforts to allocate reserves to particular projects. **It was agreed** that the Reserves Policy be suspended.

118.4 The Clerk advised that additional car park expenditure in respect of printing additional voting cards and publicity posters totaling £212.50 plus VAT had been necessary since the last Parish Council meeting. **This expenditure was ratified.**

18/119/PC Planning

119.1 The Planning Comments were **approved** and the Planning decisions were noted. Mr. Milnes asked the Clerk to ensure that the letter containing the planning application details was attached correctly when the notices were emailed to councillors for review.

119.2 Mr. Thomas advised that he struggles to understand why the Parish Council comments on planning applications and that he fears by doing so the Parish Council gives parishioners false hope. He believes that where particular issues are identified the Parish Council should employ a professional advisor to form a proper objection which would carry weight. Mr. Milne felt that it was very important that the Parish Council continued to comment but that currently only three councillors were doing so. In one recent application he had emailed all councillors for their comments but received none. In the end he submitted comments as an individual. Mr. Thomas advised that he felt that the Parish Council currently acted as interested busybodies and enthusiastic amateurs when it had both the funds and contacts to buy professional advice and form a proper argument. It was suggested that forming a planning committee may be the most efficient way of dealing with planning applications going forward and that the Parish Council would need to educate parishioners regarding the role of such a planning committee, the Parish Council and parishioners individually. Mrs. Rolfe stressed that planning had become a crucial issue for the area and that developers know how to argue their position so the Parish Council needs more expertise from professionals and councillors who have been on training courses. **It was agreed** that the Chairman would work with Mr. Thomas to draft a strategy for a planning committee for councillors to consider.

119.3 The Chairman advised that the Parish of Farnham Royal was approved to become a Neighbourhood Area in 2016. The terms of reference for the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group **were approved**. The Chairman advised that the former Clerk had contacted c.80 people who had previously expressed an interest in joining the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and six people had agreed to join. The Clerk confirmed that names of the six volunteers as follows: David Banks, Jerry Houdret, Philip Norvill, Phil Rudd, Alison Simms and Stephen Stagg. The membership of the Steering Group **was approved**. The Chairman advised that the Clerk of the steering group was likely to be the Clerk of the Parish Council, that the first meeting would be held as soon as possible and that the Group would be supported by Peter Edwards of Planning Progress. Mr. Robinson suggested contacting those who had not replied to the email seeking additional volunteers.

18/120/PC Any Other Business (for information only)

120.1 The Clerk advised that the closing date for the public consultation concerning BCC Household Recycling Centres was 22 October 2018. Mrs. Rolfe advised that she attended the Burnham Parish Council meeting as BCC

were presenting there and that BCC had advised that 3,000 replies had been received and that the plan was to close Burnham Recycling Centre for either 2 days each week or all together. Mrs. Rolfe advised that an information session was being held by BCC at Burnham Library on 4 October 2018 but she had asked for a session at Farnham Common library but was advised they couldn't present everywhere. Mr. Milne asked how the sessions were advertised and Mrs. Rolfe expressed concern as only ten people attended the Burnham Parish Council meeting. Mr. Home advised that the information provided by BCC did not explain if Slough Borough Council would carry on subsidising the recycling centres. Mrs. Rolfe agreed and advised that she understood £300,000 was paid by them to subsidise Langley and Burnham Recycling Centres. It was suggested that the Parish Council should do more to publicise the consultation and all councillors were encouraged to respond individually. Mrs. King (a member of the public) asked why nothing was mentioned in the last Farnhams Magazine and Mr. Milne advised that the consultation had not been advised to the Parish Council before the copy deadline. Mrs. King also sought clarification that the Burnham Recycling Centre was the centre in Crow Piece Lane. This was confirmed by councillors. It was agreed that the Clerk would attempt to obtain some publicity material from BCC.

120.2 The Clerk advised that SBDC were currently conducting a public consultation regarding their community governance review and explained that the Parish Council had previously asked SBDC to reconsider the warding arrangements so the Parish of Farnham Royal would become one ward rather than remaining as three individual wards: Farnham Royal North, Farnham Royal Central and Farnham Royal South. The Clerk advised that the initial report prepared by SBDC suggested that due to County Electoral Division boundaries it would not be possible to reduce the number of wards below two as both the North and Central wards are in the Farnham Common and Burnham Beeches County Electoral Division but South is in the Stoke Poges and Wexham County Electoral Division. The Clerk requested that all councillors respond individually by the closing date of 12 October 2018 and sort views from councillors as the Parish Council can also respond as a whole. Mr. Milne advised that there was actually no legal requirement for two wards and as such he felt the Parish Council should still be requesting one ward. Mr. Robinson advised that one ward would present a problem when collecting ballots for elections.

120.3 The Chairman noted that the paving around the War Memorial had been damaged several months ago and despite repeated requests to BCC the work had been added to their schedule of works but no actual date had been provided. Mr. Milne suggested that the Parish Council should pay to repair the damage to ensure it was completed ahead of Remembrance Sunday. Mrs. King stated that the War Memorial had always been the responsibility of the Parish Council.

120.4 The Clerk advised that a decision needed to be taken regarding whether or not the Carols on the Green event would be held this year following reports of health and safety concerns after last year's event. Mrs. Rolfe advised that the Farnham Common Village Hall was planning a Christmas event and would be able to incorporate Carols on the Green into the event albeit in a different format. The Chairman asked Mrs. Rolfe to come back to the Parish Council if assistance was required.

120.5 Mrs. Rolfe asked whether the Parish Council could put pressure on SBDC to remove the rubbish that had been left on Grove Road for between two and three months. Councillors advised that this issue should be reported to Burnham Parish Council.

120.6 Mrs. Rolfe raised the issue that the kerb in front of Broadway Tyres always floods with people struggling to avoid puddles. Mr. Home advised that the problem was not only on The Broadway with Rosewood Avenue also suffering and that Joe Connolly at BCC was aware of the issues. Mr. Home also raised concern over parking on the pavement outside Lloyds Pharmacy and Mrs. Rolfe felt this also applied to the pavement outside the dentist. Mr. Home advised that he had raised the flooding issue with Joe Connolly at BCC to see if the contractor should pay to rectify the issue but BCC was not prepared to do this as they felt it was too late. Mr. Milne advised that he had met a representative from BCC in Langtons Meadow during the Summer and had showed him the issues but he was not able to assist.

120.6 Mr. Milne advised that the new bollards that had been agreed in principle to replace the broken bollards on The Broadway had now been refused with the funds being spent elsewhere. Mr. Milne wondered whether it would be possible to make a late LAF bid in this regard.

120.7 Mr. Milne sought to clarify with Mr. Thomas that the minutes of the Farnham Common Sports Club committee meeting held on 10 September 2018 stated that the Parish Council had agreed to provide £300 towards the cost of an external wall mounted defibrillator but at the Parish Council meeting held on 30 July 2018 the Parish Council had actually agreed to provide at least 50% of the cost and the cost was estimated at £1,500.

18/121/PC To agree under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted under item 18 below that the public be temporarily excluded and be instructed to withdraw

This was agreed.

18/122/PC To consider what action should be taken to resolve a historic contingent liability

It was agreed that professional advice would be sought regarding this historic contingent liability to resolve the issue as soon as possible.

18/123/PC Next meeting

The meeting closed at 10.21pm. The next meeting will be on Monday 22 October 2018 at 7.30pm at Farnham Common Village Hall.

OPEN FORUM

Mrs. Rhodes spoke to raise her concerns regarding the overdevelopment of Blackpond Lane, which she stated is a very rural lane with very large front and back gardens and planning applications seeking to locate new properties in gardens are changing the character of the area and increasing pressure on local services. Mrs. Rhodes asked the Parish Council to be vigilant in this matter. She advised that a planning application had been submitted in July 2018 for Romney, 57 Blackpond Lane which planned to build a property in the rear garden. This application was withdrawn however on 12 September 2018 when the Planning Officer telephoned the applicant to advise that he was minded to decline the application. Mrs. Rhodes advised that 20 objections had been received by the Planning Officer. It is understood that the applicant will revise his plans and put in another application but this has not yet been done. Mr. Milne asked whether Mrs. Rhodes had details of the Planning Officers objections but she advised that nothing was provided in writing. Mr. Thomas asked Mrs. Rhodes what her understanding of the Parish Councils role in planning was. Mrs. Rhodes replied that the Parish Council submits a point of view. Mr. Thomas advised that whilst it can do, any objection(s) submitted does not count as such. Residents carry more weight.

Cllr. Anthony advised that the planning committee listens carefully to the Parish Council as a consultee and that the committee does not lightly go against the views expressed. The Chairman disagreed with this and said that history shows the committee does not and that at a recent SBALC meeting this was a common theme. Cllr. Anthony further advised at least ten objections needed to be registered for an application to be considered at a committee meeting rather than under delegated powers. He advised that 5% of applications are considered at a meeting. Cllr. Anthony stressed that if objecting to an application, the objection must be a valid planning objection and then the issue would be looked at carefully. The Chairman stated that it would be sensible for individuals to seek advice on planning policy to ensure objections were valid rather than based on emotions. Mrs. Rolfe reminded those present that an objection from Burnham Beeches is not counted and neither is a residents' petition.

Cllr. Dhillon started by stating that a member of the public had asked for the Parish Councillors to introduce themselves. Cllr. Dhillon advised that he went and stood in the garden of Romney, 57 Blackpond Lane and then went to the planning officer. He advised that residents can go to District Council meetings and also stressed that objections needed to be on planning policy grounds. He advised that he was hoping to attend the planning committee meeting regarding another planning application which was seeking to knock down one property and build six flats. Finally, Cllr. Dhillon wished to thank the public and councillors who attended his recent curry lunch which raised £2,800 for MacMillan Cancer Support.

Mrs. King raised the damage to the pavement at the War Memorial requesting that this be repaired as soon as possible. Mr. Milne advised that he had photographed the damage following a request from the former clerk, which she then forwarded to BCC with a request for repairs. The Clerk advised that she had followed up on this and BCC had advised that the repairs had been added to their schedule of works but were not urgent as it was not a safety issue. Mrs. King advised that the War Memorial had always been the responsibility of the Parish Council and that it should be repaired. Mr. Milne advised that the issue was already on the meeting agenda and would be discussed

later.

Mr. Houdret advised he was pleased to see that the car park referendum, illegal encampments and the Neighbourhood Plan were all of the agenda and offered his apologies as he would need to leave the meeting early.

Mr. Foulds asked why the District Councillors were sitting on their hands regarding traveller encampments. He complained that whilst travellers were in The Broadway Car Park, his chain link fence was cut twice. He stated that it was not up to the Parish Council to deal with, Central Government need to act. The Chairman advised that he wished to give an impression to travellers that the Parish Council will be tougher but Mr. Thomas confirmed that the Parish Council could only act in respect of land owned by the Parish Council. Cllr. Anthony advised that in the past the Thames Valley had been viewed as a soft touch as police were hesitant to serve the required notices but that this year they have been more effective. Cllr. Anthony advised that SBDC are looking at obtaining rolling injunctions in respect of certain sites, as obtained by other district councils.

Finally, the Parish Councillors introduced themselves as requested, which was appreciated by Mrs. King.