FAIR OAK & HORTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL
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A

Minutes of the Council Meeting of the Council held on Monday 17 June 2024 at 6.00 pm at the Parish Office, 2 Knowle Park Lane, Fair Oak

Present: Cllrs Douglas (Chair), Barrett, Bird, Broomfield, Chivuchi, Couldrey, Higby, Marsh, Meech & Smith

Absent: Cllr Anderson

Officers in attendance: Mel Stephens, Clerk, Jo Cahill, Finance Officer, Carly Giles, Communications Officer and Martin Johnson, Operations Manager

Also in attendance: The Director of Goldwater Electrical Ltd was in attendance for Minute No 7.

Apologies were received from: Cllrs Forfar, Scott, Stupple and Tennent.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made in connection with any agenda item.

2 MINUTES (PAPER A)

RESOLVED:

a) That the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 20 May 2024, be signed by the Chair as a correct record; and

b) That the delegated planning decisions for week ending 26 April and 25 May 2024 be noted.

3 UPPER BARN COPSE PLAY AREA (REPORT B)

The Council considered the outcome of the community engagement work and the proposal to fully decommission the site on safety grounds.

In reviewing the options for the decommissioning works, Councillors requested that this be undertaken by the Operations team to save on costs, given that considerable sums had already been spent on safety fencing, which was necessary and unavoidable. Whilst this would impact the seasonal work of the team, members instructed officers to carry out the work as soon as possible. The Operations Manager advised that staff working schedules had been reorganised to enable works to take place week commencing 24 June 2024.

In relation to what, if any, provision would be reinstalled on site, would be discussed by the Public Open Space, Community Infrastructure and Play Area Task & Finish Group aided by two volunteer members of the Community. The Group would consider the wider

strategic options of play provision in the parish, as well as the appropriate type and level of provision at Upper Barn Copse. A report, giving recommendations, would be submitted to Full Council in November.

RESOLVED:

a) That the outcome of the community consultation(s) as set out in paragraph 4 of the Report B be noted;

b) That the Operations Team be instructed to carry out the final decommissioning of the remaining play equipment;

c) That decommissioning works take place during the week commencing 24 June 2024;

d) That the Public Open Space, Community Infrastructure and Play Area Task and Finish Group be instructed to review options regarding future play provision at Upper Barn Copse with final recommendations being submitted to Full Council in November and;

e) That the Clerk be instructed to publish a 'call to action' for two members of the local community to serve on the Task & Finish Group on a first come, first served basis.

Action: Mel Stephens/Martin Johnson

4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reminded members to complete and sign their declarations of interest forms, if they had not already done so.

5 CLERK'S UPDATE

The Clerk gave a presentation, attached at Appendix 1 to these minutes.

6 FINANCE REPORT (REPORT C)

The Council considered the finance report which highlighted the Council's latest budgetary position.

The Finance Officer informed members that following confirmation with South East Employers, the pay award for 2024/25 had yet to be agreed. Once agreement had been made, this would be reported to the relevant Council meeting.

Following discussion, it was:

RESOLVED:

(a) That the contents of the report be noted; and

(b) That the BACs payments be approved.

Action: J Cahill

7 COMMUNITY CAFÉ SOLAR PROPOSAL (REPORT D)

The Council considered a proposal for a solar retrofit system at the Foutain Café.

It was noted that solar panels at the café had been a priority outcome for the Council in bolstering the sites green credentials as well as providing security of tenure for the current and future tenant in reducing energy costs.

In relation to the technicalities of the retrofit system, members asked a number of questions to which answers were given, including whether batteries were needed and could be excluded from the project to keep costs to a minimum. It was explained that all surplus energy would be sent to the batteries for use of an evening when the solar panels were not producing energy. In addition, it was explained that the new system could be programmed to charge the batteries during set times when the cost of electricity was cheaper.

Members expressed the view that the inclusion of batteries in the project were of greater financial in the longer term. As such, it was:

RESOLVED:

a) That the proposal for south facing retrofit solar installation at the Fountain Cafe be agreed in principle:

b) That the Clerk, in consultation with the Deputy Clerk and Chair, be given delegated authority to pursue grant funding for this project;

c) That approaches be made to the Fountain Café for funding assistance for the project via crowdfunding; and

d) That the Deputy Clerk seek quotations for the work needed to complete this installation to complete a grant application.

Action: Michelle Leadbitter-Allen

8 WORK PROGRAMME (REPORT E)

RESOLVED:

That the work programme be agreed.

9 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

RESOLVED:

“That, under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, the public and the Press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information which would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of its confidential nature (staffing matters)”

PART II – PRIVATE SESSION

10 CEMETERY PATH TENDERS (REPORT F)

Members considered the tenders for cemetery path resurfacing project and based on the outcome of the tender scoring, agreed to award the contract to STC Southern Ltd at a cost of £28,847, with a total project cost being agreed at £33,957.

Members requested that sufficient communication with the public and local funeral directors is made in advance of the works.

RESOLVED

That be awarded the contract for resurfacing the cemetery path be awarded to STC Southern Ltd at a total cost of £28,847.

Action: Martin Johnson

Signed …… Chair

This was all the business and the meeting closed at 6.55pm.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications to w/e 31 May 2024

Application No: F/24/97412
Address: 5-7 Allington Lane, Fair Oak, Eastleigh, SO50 7DA
Description: Erection of 2.no 2-bedroom bungalows with associated parking following the demolition of existing garages and severing of land.
Comments: No objection. Concerns raised over tight access.
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: rachael.morris@eastleigh.gov.uk

Application No: H/24/97427
Address: 5 Mears Road, Fair Oak, SO50 7NB
Description: Single storey front extension, render to front elevation and partial garage conversion. (Retrospective Application)
Comments: No objection
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: claire.campbell-best@eastleigh.gov.uk

Application No: H/24/97492
Address: 16 Eastleigh Road, Fair Oak, SO50 7JB
Description: Form a vehicular access and dropped kerb
Comments: No objection
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: alexandra.stone@eastleigh.gov.uk

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications to w/e 21 June 2024

Application No: H/24/97560
Address: 11 York Close, Horton Heath, SO50 7PX
Description: Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory
Comments: No Objection
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: claire.campbell-best@eastleigh.gov.uk

Application No: H/24/97547
Address: 27 Mortimers Lane, Fair Oak, SO50 7BH
Description: Alterations to dormer windows to rear of property.
Comments: No Objection
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: claire.campbell-best@eastleigh.gov.uk

Application No: H/24/97605
Address: 12 Goater Way, Fair Oak, SO50 7HT
Description: Erection of front porch with two bay windows, and alterations to fenestration.
Comments: No Objection
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: alexandra.stone@eastleigh.gov.uk

Application No: H/24/97633
Address: 7 Scotland Close, Fair Oak, SO50 7BQ
Description: Single storey infill rear extension and two storey side extension
Comments: No Objection
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: claire.campbell-best@eastleigh.gov.uk

Application No: H/24/97599
Address: The Mazels, Knowle Lane, Horton Heath, SO50 7DZ
Description: Single storey side extension, two storey rear extension, separate single storey rear extension including veranda, erection of front porch and alterations to fenestration.
Comments: No Objection
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: claire.campbell-best@eastleigh.gov.uk

Application No: H/24/97632
Address: 411 Fair Oak Road, Fair Oak, SO50 7AB
Description: Single storey rear and side extension following demolition of existing conservatory.
Comments: No Objection
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: alexandra.stone@eastleigh.gov.uk

Application No: F/24/97634
Address: 54 Sandy Lane, Fair Oak, SO50 8GB
Description: Retention of external security shutter
Comments: No Objection
Planning Specialist Contact Details
Email: rebecca.altman@eastleigh.gov.uk