

# FIRBECK PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Present: Cllr C Jopling (Chair), Cllr B McManus, Cllr R Potts.

In attendance: 5 members of the public

**3706** Apologies – To Receive and Approve Reasons for Absence. Cllrs D Pittard and J Pittard - accepted.

**3707** Declarations of Interest. Nil

**3708** Public Discussion Period.

- a. Salt Hill. Bridleway repairs had been carried out at Salt Hill on 30<sup>th</sup> January but they had not resolved the drainage issues experienced in the area. Clerk to follow up with RMBC.
- b. Defibrillator. The defibrillator had recently been used and pads replaced. With no spare set of pads, the defibrillator was out of action for a few days until new pads arrived. It was requested that a spare set with a long shelf life be purchased to avoid possible periods of unserviceability. This was agreed by members.

The possible second defibrillator was also discussed at this point. Members were informed that the church authorities had yet to agree to the defibrillator being installed in the church porch. Other options had been investigated including other locations, with the telephone box preferred. Cllr Potts was to conduct further research.

- c. VE Day. The council was asked if it had any plans to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day. The Chair responded by saying such events had to be community-led but so far only 2 individuals had expressed any interest. Nothing had been planned either by the Village Hall and therefore, as there seemed little enthusiasm, nothing has or would be planned. Social media may be used, however, to encourage residents to display flags etc. on the day.

**3709** To Approve the Parish Council Minutes:

- a. 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025. The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

**3710** Ward Update. The Dinnington regeneration project will go to a public inquiry. If there are any business owners in Firbeck who could provide a statement of support for the project, it would be greatly appreciated. The final day for the submission of statements is April 10<sup>th</sup> so a few days before then would be ideal (submissions to Cllr Clarke). Cllr Clarke met with the community funding team of the Common Farm solar farm project. This was passed by planning two years ago and is going close to Thornberry Animal Sanctuary, the project is due to start in August. The community funding is up to £50k per year ongoing, between Dinnington, Anston and Thurstoft.

**3711** Finance:

- a. To Approve the Bank Reconciliation – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025. **Resolved:** that the bank reconciliation be approved.

- b. To Approve the Budget Monitoring Report – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025. **Resolved:** that the budget monitoring report be approved.
- c. To Approve Accounts for Payment. **Resolved:** that the monthly accounts covering the period since the last meeting be approved for payment.

**3712** Updates on Current/Ongoing Issues

- a. Verges/Grass Maintenance and General Street Scene.
  - i. New Road/Kidd Lane Junction. RMBC had recently re-graded the verge at this junction.
  - ii. The Haha. The field entrance was now collapsing; this had been reported to RMBC but no reply so far. In addition, permission was to be requested from RMBC to undertake voluntary maintenance of the upper part of the HaHa (ditch clearance, grass cutting on the verge) but, again, no response had been received. Both items to be followed up.
- b. 'I Love Firbeck' Project – update. Firbeck has been registered for this year's Britain in Bloom contest, and a flyer with key dates for the annual plant exchange, village tidy up and litter pick, and seed bank reminder, will be circulated.
- c. Village Road Safety, Including Parking, Speed Limits and HGV Traffic. Nothing significant to report.
- d. Second Defibrillator – update. See item 3708b earlier.

**3713** Planning

- a. To Consider the Following Planning Applications: Nil
- b. To Note the Following Planning Determinations. Nil.

**3714** Report from Neighbourhood Plan Working Group. At the meeting on 18th February 2025 information gathered by the committee about the notable flora and fauna in the Firbeck area was reviewed. Details were provided by various residents and records donated by the local bird group SK58 which have been collated to be included in the final plan. The committee will be discussing issues concerning roads and transport at the next meeting which is scheduled for 7.30pm on Tuesday 8th April in the Village Hall.

**3715** To Discuss Village Broadband. Members were informed that Firbeck was on the list for delivery of fibre broadband to properties by the end of 2026.

**3716** To Discuss VE Day 2025. See item 3708c earlier.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:10pm.

The next meeting would be held at 7pm on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025 (Annual Parish Meeting)** and **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025 (Annual Council Meeting).**

Signed:.....

Date:.....