

Fernwood Residents' Association (FRA)

Minutes of the FRA Residents' Meeting
held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 01 March 2016
Chuter Ede School, Fernwood Site

Present:

Meeting Chairman - David Heath (DH)
Secretary - Sue Taylor (ST)
+ 4 Committee Members and 40 Residents

Apologies: Notts. County Councillor Mrs Sue Saddington

1. WELCOME

David Heath (DH) welcomed the residents, introduced the agenda for the evening and gave Councillor Saddington's apologies.

DH explained the procedure in case of a fire alarm.

Resident Jeff Hobson (JH) wanted to ask a question of FRA which concerned the recent resignation of 3 committee members. DH explained that we would follow the agenda and there would be time at the end for JH to ask his questions. This was not agreeable to JH but finally the situation was accepted. DH introduced the first speaker.

2. FERNWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - Speaker Fernwood Parish Councillor Jim Gould (JG)

Cllr Gould gave a comprehensive overview of the Neighbourhood Plan:

The Localism Act of 2007 gives people within their community a say on how their community looks and functions through a registered legally binding plan. The Fernwood Parish Council (FPC) decided about 14 months ago that this would be ideal for the Fernwood Parish which encompasses not only the current houses but also those being planned for the north and south of Fernwood and the business park. To create the plan, a 'Build for Life 12 Criteria' is considered in order that it includes items such as; house design, transport links, parking, maintenance, conservation, local facilities and amenities etc. Input to the plan is not by a few people as the FPC must consult with as many people and businesses within the current community as possible. Once created, the registered plan will last for 15 years before review. Any changes to the Fernwood Parish during that time will have to take into account details contained within the plan. It is hoped that the plan will be ready for registration by September this year. It will cost approximately £20,000 but £18,000 is being sort by way of government grants and therefore the cost to the current community is approximately £2,000 being paid for from the Fernwood Council Tax precept. The benefit to the community is not only in having an environment designed by them but also monetary. A Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is given by the government to Newark & Sherwood District Council (NSDC) for every new house built and those communities which have a Neighbourhood Plan registered receives a maximum 25% of the CIL. JG estimates that the CIL revenue could be valued at £350,000 at least for FPC to help with further development within the community because of the number of houses being built around Fernwood due to the Newark Growth Point. The plan will have an impact on the current Fernwood village and the Parish Council are hopeful that in future they will become owners of the open spaces which they would like to also maintain.

Questions were then received from the floor:

Q. Where can we view the plan and comment?

A. The Plan is not yet readily available but residents are being asked to go along to Fernwood Village Hall on Saturday 12th March between 1pm - 5pm to have their say and mark the map with ideas to add to the plan. Information is also available via links on the FRA website under Neighbourhood Plan (www.fernwood-ra.uk). Comments may also be made at anytime via FPC - Parish Clerk or through FRA.

Q. Has a Post Office been suggested?

A. Not yet. Do come along on 12th March and show where you feel it would be best suited.

Q. Would the plan have an effect on the proposals for a lorry park in the business park area?

A. District Cllr N. Mison answered this question - A council decision has already been made that the lorry park for Newark will not be moved to Fernwood.

DH thanked JG for the information provided.

