

# Firsdown Parish Council

Chairman: Mr Peter James, Lothlorien, 18 Ilynton Avenue, Firsdown, SP5 1SH

Clerk: Melanie Thomas, Windrush, Kings Paddock, Winterslow, SP5 1RZ

Email: [clerk@firsdown.org.uk](mailto:clerk@firsdown.org.uk)

## *Précis of May Meeting of Firsdown Parish Council:*

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish Council took place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May in the Committee Room of Winterslow Village Hall. The Chairman welcomed residents along with District Councillors Bill Moss and Chris Devine and PC Amanda Warren. The Chairman then presented his Annual Report and the Clerk the Financial Report which has been agreed by the internal auditor and is subject to an external audit. There then followed the monthly Parish meeting.

Councillor Peter James was re-elected as Chairman and Councillor David Green was re-elected as Vice-Chair in his absence.

Following the District and Parish Council elections of 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2007, Firsdown Parish Council consisted of five Councillors with two vacancies however the co-option took place of Mr Paul Hewitt and Mrs Melanie Bishop and the Parish Council has now been completed with the full quota of seven Councillors. A warm welcome was given to the new Councillors and whose contact details will be added to the notice boards within the Parish.

PC Amanda Warren joined the meeting and gave a brief update on policing matters in the area and reported that in the last 6 months no incident had been reported in the Parish and there had been only a handful of logs from the public. An issue of concern was the parking of vehicles on the pavement and which would be addressed in the Neighbourhood Watch Bulletin. In addition the Council was made aware of recent thefts of domestic oil in the area of Shrewton and PC Warren advised Parishioners to be vigilant of this potential crime within their Parish. Finally PC Warren emphasised that Parishioners should liaise with the local police should they have any policing concerns.

### **Planning**

S/2008/557 – Full application – first floor extension to front elevation – 112 Firs Road – the Parish Council had no objections to this application

S/2008/583 – Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Section 191 – Use of Land and buildings for the storage of building materials and equipment – Cottles Stud, Firsdown – the Council supported this application subject to conditions

S/2007/740 – Full application – 61 Firs Road, Firsdown - extension to bungalow and roof conversion – notification of SDC decision of refusal

### **Core Strategy – Preferred Options – Salisbury District Council**

An update and discussion took place regarding this item with input from District Councillor Chris Devine. It was confirmed that this document had been overturned by SDC. A preliminary consultation with Parishes will take place in July and there will be a formal eight week period in August and September with a full District Council submission in December. Thanks were given to the Parish Council, residents and District Councillor Devine in raising the awareness of this Strategy amongst the Parish and with particular reference to the public rally which was held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2008 and organised by Councillor Devine.

The Clerk was asked to write to neighbouring Parish Councils stating that it is worthwhile to keep in contact over this issue and to share resources if necessary when the next consultation takes place.

### **Emergency planning exercise**

An emergency planning exercise in collaboration with WCC has been organised for 20<sup>th</sup> October 2008. The Parish Exercise which takes place every two years consists of a telephone and paper exercise to assess how the Parish Council would react in the case of a real life emergency.

### **Parish Council information on the web**

The Parish Council would like to remind Parishioners that information on the Parish Council such as Council minutes and précis and meeting dates can be found on the web page [firsdown.org.uk](http://firsdown.org.uk)

### **SDC – Environmental Services – Compactor vehicle**

The Clerk confirmed that she had organised for a compactor vehicle to be located within the Parish on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2008 from 7.30-10.45am and to be located at 6 Firs Road. The Clerk confirmed she would display a poster regarding the date and with information as to which items could be compacted – in addition the information will be sited on the Parish web page.

### **Grass cutting**

Grass cutting has been carried out in recent weeks: the grass in the two play areas has been cut together with the path leading to the play areas. The Council has organised for this to be done on a regular basis over the coming months when vegetation is actively growing.

### **Wiltshire County Council Boundary Review**

It was reported that after perusal of these documents there was to be no changes in boundaries affecting the Parish. The next consultation is due early in July 2008 when the Boundary Committee publishes a draft recommendations report and invites representations – there then begins an eight week consultation process. In light of this it was agreed to place this item on the June agenda for further discussion.

### **Delegation to Town and Parish Councils**

Following the One Council for All, Richard Munro has been appointed as manager of the Delegation to Town and Parish Councils. Mr Munro has agreed to visit the July meeting of the Parish Council to talk about the implications of this issue to Parish Councils and all members of the public are invited to attend should they wish to do so.

**Next Meeting:** The next full meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday June 12<sup>th</sup> 2008 in the Committee Room, Winterslow Village Hall at 7.15pm.



