

**Minutes of the Meeting of Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 22nd November 2021
at 6.30pm in the Parish Room, Memorial Hall, Marsh Lane, Farndon**

Present: **Councillor M Baker, in the Chair**
 Councillor Duckmanton
 Councillor Mrs Kingston
 Councillor Parker
 Councillor Teixeira-Gomes

Also present: County Councillor Mrs Saddington, District Cllr I Walker and Stephen
 Swanwick (FREG)

FPC21-81 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Mrs Bayne and John Dodson (FREG).

FPC21-82 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Duckmanton declared a personal interest in agenda item no 9(b) and the planning application for the Farndon Cricket Club. Any other declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.

FPC21-83 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – 25th October 2021

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25th October 2021 were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

Councillor Parker referred to minute number FPC21-71(b) relating to a dropped kerb on Marsh Lane. Via had confirmed that no formal request had been submitted to install, and there was no licence in place to do work in the highway. The Clerk would keep Members updated when information was fed back from Via, and seek clarification on what the next steps would be.

It was noted that there was another dropped kerb that had been installed further along Marsh Lane, presumably without permission, which the Clerk was asked to report to Via.

PC21-84 **Public 10 Minute Session**

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.37pm to allow questions from the public. None were raised so the meeting was immediately reconvened.

FPC21-85 **County Councillor Session**

This would be taken if and when Councillor Mrs Saddington arrived.

FPC21-86 District Councillor Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.38pm to allow Councillor I Walker to present his report.

Councillor Walker advised Members that the rates of COVID infections remained high in the district, with 19 deaths in the last week.

An Extraordinary Council Meeting would be held on Wednesday, 24th November to discuss the trees at London Road Car Park, following an offer made by the owners of the land.

The Chair thanked Councillor Walker for his report and reconvened the meeting at 6.40pm.

(a) Impact of New Builds on Car Parking Review

The Clerk confirmed that a meeting with Newark & Sherwood District Council had been arranged for Tuesday, 23rd November at 3pm to discuss the current position with the review. Councillor Walker would be in attendance, as would the Chair and Clerk.

(b) Street Naming & Numbering Policy

Members noted that the policy had been adopted by Newark & Sherwood District Council, effective from 8th November 2021. It was not considered necessary to compile a list of names for development at this time.

FPC21-85 County Councillor Session

(cont)

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.44pm to allow Councillor Mrs Saddington to present her report.

It was confirmed that the traffic lights at Hawton Bridge had now been removed, as Farndon Road was scheduled to re-open. Councillor Mrs Saddington had asked that they be put back until the works on Farndon Road had been completed.

The Chair considered that the lights should remain in place until the Southern Relief Road was built as they had made the flow of traffic much safer on the bridge. It was AGREED that the Clerk write to Via with this request.

Councillor Mrs Saddington continued to lobby Network Rail for improvements along the railway line between Newark and Nottingham, as failures of the barriers continued to occur. In terms of uneven surface at the Castle Level crossing, Councillor Mrs Saddington had been advised that remedial works would be undertaken in the New Year. Network Rail had been asked to ensure that no other main arterial roads were closed at the same time.

Network Rail has been asked to look at the signal box, which is of historic value to the town and is currently falling into disrepair, which reflects badly on one of the main entrances to the town.

The Chair thanked Councillor Mrs Saddington for her report and reconvened the meeting at 6.50pm.

FPC21-87 Farndon Residents Environment Group.

During the last month FREG have still been involved in clearance work at Farndon Park ready for upgrading in line with Notts Wildlife Trust guidelines.

The usual monthly litter pick had also taken place.

The lights would be installed on the green on Wednesday, 1st December.

The Clerk confirmed that the road closure had been applied for Carols on the Green on Wednesday, 22nd December.

The hedge that runs alongside the pylon, connecting Long Lane to the ponds, has been cut back by a contractor retained by the owner. It had made the path much easier to use.

FREG members had been making bird and bat boxes to use around the village. The Clerk confirmed that these would be welcomed in the ponds, with locations to be determined.

(a) November Meetings

Members noted the minutes of the November Meeting.

FPC21-88 Parish Council Matters

(b) Carols on the Green

This had been covered under agenda item FPC21-87

FPC21-89 Update Reports from Chairs

(a) Chairman's Report

No report was presented as there were no issues to raise or convey to Members.

(b) Planning

Links to the applications on the District Council's planning portal had been forwarded to Members prior to the meeting.

21/02347/FUL – Farndon Cricket Club Marsh Lane Farndon - Proposed new cricket pavilion and groundsman's store to replace existing pavilion to be demolished. Work to include new car park with access onto Fosse Road together with new public footpath from Fosse Road.

Members would wish the views and concerns of adjacent and impacted residents to be taken into consideration as part of the process.

As landowners, the Parish Council has been in dialogue with the applicant and has agreed to the removal of the trees on the understanding that those lost will be replaced with substantial trees, not whips, to lessen the impact.

The application is supported.

Decision Notices:

21/01913/FUL – Land to the rear of 74 and 76 Fosse Road, Farndon - Construction of Residential Development Comprising Two Detached Dwellings

Members noted that permission had been refused for the development as outlined, mainly down to the site being located within Flood Zone 2.

21/02143/LDC - 11 Brockton Avenue, Farndon - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed single storey extension to rear of detached house

Members noted the decision notice granting a Lawful Development Certificate as outlined.

(c) General Purposes

After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk purchase four replacement dog bins and five litter bins to replace those that were no longer fit for purpose, as identified in the litter and dog bin review.

(d) Playing Field

Update on Lease to Country Kids Nursery

The Clerk updated Members on the present position. An amended draft lease had been received and had been forwarded to the Nursery.

CCTV Progress & Update

A meeting of the CCTV Sub-Committee had been held on 6th November 2021 at 11am on site.

An updated quotation had now been received due to the rise in cost of some materials. The cost was now at £13,100 from £12,860 previously quoted. A grant of up to 50% of the cost would be provided through the Parish and Town Council Initiative Fund.

After discussion, the Clerk was asked to obtain an additional camera to go on the far end of the new pavilion (if permission granted) so that all areas of the field were covered.

It was acknowledged that adjacent properties may have a concern at their privacy being compromised once the cameras were in place. Residents would be invited to come and view the system once installed so that they could be reassured. The Clerk would write to all adjacent properties to advise them of the plans.

Junior Team

Councillor Duckmanton advised that the approach made by an U15 youth team had not yet progressed, and may not do until January 2022.

(e) Cemetery

Cemetery Railings

The Clerk advised that a site meeting had been arranged with the Community Payback Nottinghamshire Placement Co-ordinator to discuss the Cemetery Railings and also completion of the Play Area railings. Members would be kept updated on progress.

PC7-21 Environmental Permitting Regulations

The Clerk referred to the consultation recently launched by DEFRA into amending the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) 2016 Regulations. The consultation affects local councils which are burial authorities, and has specific regard to amending the regulations around activities which affect groundwater. If the current proposals were implemented it could reduce the remaining burial capacity of cemeteries and burial grounds by almost 50%.

There was an exemption from the permitting scheme for small cemeteries (those with fewer than 100 burials per year). However, to qualify as an 'exempt facility' a cemetery would have to comply with the General Binding Rules, one of which is that the minimum size of a grave plot would be no smaller than 5 square metres. This could significantly impact on the remaining available space in the cemetery.

It was AGREED that delegated authority be given to the Chair and Clerk to respond to the consultation by the deadline of 22nd December 2021.

(f) Ponds & Riverside

Picnic Area Flood Bank – Update from meeting with Environment Agency

Councillor Parker referred to the site meeting held on Monday, 15th November with the Environment Agency and Farndon Marina.

The modelling works had been discussed and reviewed on the ground, with the Officer listening to the concerns raised and seeking to understand how the River worked when in flood.

A way forward was not yet clear, with the Environment Agency to undertake some further investigative work to try and establish why the flood bank was installed in the first place.

A dialogue would be maintained between all parties and the Clerk would update Members as information came through.

FPC21-90 Financial Matters

- (a) To consider accounts for payments in accordance with the circulated scheduled
Members noted the circulated schedule detailing accounts for payment.

- (b) To note any receipts in accordance with the circulated schedule
Members noted the circulated schedule detailing receipts.
- (c) To note the Council's financial position as at 31st October 2021
Members noted the Council's financial position as at 31st October 2021
- (d) To consider priorities for the 2022-23 budget
Discussion took place around the priorities for the 2022-23 budget which would need to be agreed at the January meeting.

The Clerk was asked to investigate a PWLB Loan for a number of capital projects, including the resurfacing of the Riverside car park and installation of a fence at the play area.

A full budget report would be presented at the January meeting.

FPC21-91 Notts Association of Local Councils

Members were reminded of the online training, details of which had been previously circulated.

Councillor Mrs Kingston to be booked on the Chairman's training course.

FPC21-92 Correspondence

(a) Councillor Hate Crime Conference – 30th November 2021

Members noted information circulated regarding the conference at the Holocaust Centre on 30th November 2021.

FPC21-93 Items for Notification

Councillor Mrs Kingston asked that the potential for opening up the area between Almond Grove and The Willows be raised at the meeting with Newark & Sherwood District Council on the car parking review.

FPC21-94 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 13th January 2022

The meeting closed at 9pm.