

Minutes of the Meeting of Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 23rd September 2019 at 6.30pm in the Parish Room, Memorial Hall, Farndon

Present: Councillor M Baker, in the Chair
Councillor Mrs Bayne
Councillor A Duckmanton
Councillor Mrs Kingston
Councillor Parker
Councillor Rhodes-Yeomans
Councillor Teixeira-Gomes

Also in attendance: District Cllrs I & K Walker, County Cllr Mrs Saddington (L), Mr J Dodson (FREG) and three members of the public

FPC19-52 Apologies for absence

County Councillor Mrs Saddington had advised that she may be late.

FPC19-53 Declarations of Interest

It was AGREED that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.

FPC19-54 Minutes of the Parish Council held on 5th August 2019

Subject to an amendment to minute FPC19-40 to complete the second paragraph 'Cllr Mrs Bayne asked if a request had been received from the school for support', the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 5th August 2019 were accepted as a true and correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

With Cllr Mrs Saddington not yet present, the Chair brought forward agenda item 6., District Councillor Session.

FPC19-55 **District Councillor Session**

Cllr I Walker referred to the recent refusal of the application on Fosse Road at the Planning Committee on 10th September 2109. The Chair thanked all District Councillors for the support given to the village at Committee.

The NALC AGM would be held on 21st November 2019. Cllr I Walker encouraged Members to attend to support Cllr Baker who was Chairman of the Association.

It had been reported that £25m had been granted to the town. This was not technically correct but there would be money available which the District and Town Councils, together with the Business Club would be reviewing so that it best served the Town.

(a) Review of Open Break Policy

Members noted the response from the District Council regarding the recent review of

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the Open Break policy, which it was proposed to significantly increase.

The Clerk had requested information on what the next step was to adopt the policy.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk enquire if it would be possible to include the gardens of the houses on Fosse Road as part of the Open Break.

(b) CCTV

The Chair suspended the meeting to allow Mr Bailey, Anti-Social Behaviour Officer with Newark & Sherwood District Council to discuss the CCTV camera that had recently been deployed in the village.

After discussion it was noted that the camera had acted as a deterrent against fly tipping while it had been in position, and had also reduced the number of vehicles using the lane at night.

A discussion took place on the benefits of the CCTV, the costs involved in providing the system and possible alternatives. In terms of GDPR there needed to be justification for installing cameras, potentially fly tipping could not be a justified reason.

It was AGREED that the area be monitored over the next six months to see if the incidents of anti-social behaviour and fly tipping increased.

While Mr Bailey was present, reference was made to the recent anti-social behaviour on the playing field around the container and the play area. It was AGREED that the Clerk email details with a view to engaging the Community Protection Officers in the area.

The Chair thanked Mr Bailey for his attendance and report.

(c) Newark & Sherwood Plan Review – Issues Paper Consultation

Members noted the Parish Council's submission to the Newark & Sherwood Plan Review.

(d) Newark & Sherwood Parish and Town Conference – 2nd November 2019

Members noted the details of the conference. The agenda would be circulated to Members for information once it was finalised.

FPC19-56 County Councillor Session

This item to be taken if, and when, Cllr Mrs Saddington was able to attend.

(a) Local Improvement Scheme – Application Update

The Clerk updated Members on the present situation with the village gateway signs.

(b) Winter Service Offer of Assistance to Parish Council

The Sexton had confirmed that there was no requirement for the salt this year.

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(c) Highway Maintenance Schemes

Cllr Mrs Saddington had requested information from the Parish Council on areas in the village that could benefit from maintenance or integrated transport schemes.

Cllr Duckmanton had suggested schemes at The Meadows, Oak Avenue and Sandhill Road which would be forwarded to Cllr Mrs Saddington. Further areas referred to were Chestnut Grove, the pavements on School Lane and Cross Lane (from the Rose & Crown car park to Main Street), which would also be forwarded to Cllr Mrs Saddington.

FPC19-57 Farndon Residents Environment Group

The Chair suspended the meeting to allow Mr Dodson to present his report.

The annual Church yard tidy had been held on Sunday, 8th September. This had gone well but there were still some suckers that needed to be removed from the Limes. .

In October FREG would be extending its bluebell planting, including the Cottage Lane nature reserve.

(a) August & September Minutes

These had been circulated to Members for information.

FPC19-58 Public 10 Minute Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.01pm for questions from the public.

A resident expressed the view that fly tipping was a public health issue and CCTV was a benefit to all that used the facility.

The Chair outlined that significant expenditure would need to be justified to the external auditor and this was private land.

A question was asked regarding the cutting back of the trees on the verge at the East Stoke end of the village where they were obscuring the entry sign. The Chair confirmed that this matter had been reported to Cllr Mrs Saddington. The Clerk would follow it up.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.04pm.

FPC19-59 Parish Council Matters

(a) Best Kept Village Competition

The Chair advised that he was going to ask for a copy of the final report from the judges.

(b) Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk referred to the webinar recently held regarding the process behind formulating a neighbourhood plan. The slides would be reviewed and a further report brought to the October meeting.

(c) Christmas Lights Competition

The Chair advised he would look to promote this on the front page of the Farndon Focus December issue.

(d) Firework Displays in the Village

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from a resident concerned at the noise nuisance from a firework display held on 10th August and the impact on residents and pets when they went off without notice.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk contact local businesses and ask for advance warning of any displays so that the village could be advised. The Clerk to also seek clarification from Environmental Health on what licensing requirements there were for holding displays.

(e) Newark Healthcare Consultative Group – 6th September 2019

Cllr Mrs Bayne had attended the meeting on 6th September. The CCGs in Nottinghamshire are merging, with Bassetlaw moving to another area. The meeting had heard that services at Newark would be protected.

The Clerk confirmed that the minutes would be circulated to Members once they were received.

FPC19-60 Update Reports from Chairs

(a) Chairman's Report

Farndon Relief in Need

The Chair referred to information received from the Clerk & Receiver of the Newark Municipal General Charities following a request made from the Parish Clerk. It had been confirmed that grants were made to three village organisations in December 2018. It was not known if any Christmas gifts had been made to any individuals. That information was only known to the appointed Trustee, Mr Aslin.

It was AGREED that the Clerk ask the Trustee for information on how many residents benefitted from the Christmas gifts in 2018.

Cllr Mrs Bayne referred to correspondence received from St Peter's Cross Keys Academy outlining their application to the Charity for support with Leavers gifts made in 2018 and 2019. This was to be considered by the Trustees.

Cllr Mrs Bayne referred to a request from the school for financial support to assist children who would otherwise not be able to go on the residential trip. A sum of £257.50 was requested.

The Chair recommended the school approach the Farndon Focus who had funding available.

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Bayne, seconded by Cllr Rhodes-Yeomans that if the Farndon Focus could not support, then funding be granted by the Parish Council. This was unanimously AGREED.

(b) Planning

18/02362/FULM – Land opposite 44 to 26 Fosse Road, Farndon

The Chair referred to the decision of the Planning Committee to refuse the development. The applicant had six months in which to appeal. The Chair understood that 2 weeks before the application went to Committee Costas withdrew from the development.

After discussion on the correspondence submitted by Historic England, the Clerk was asked to make an approach to identify if there was any way to protect the land given the importance of the site. An approach to also to be made to FARI.

FPC19-61 County Councillor Session

With the arrival of Cllr Mrs Saddington, the Chair suspended the meeting at 7.31pm to allow her to present her report.

Cllr Mrs Saddington referred to consultation being open on the Nottinghamshire Minerals Plan. There were proposals to extend Cromwell and Barton in Fabis.

Funding was available if there was anything that required support. Cllr Mrs Bayne referred to the request made from the school. It was AGREED that the Clerk email details to Cllr Mrs Saddington who would donate £200.

The Chair thanked Cllr Mrs Saddington for her report and reconvened the meeting at 7.35pm.

FPC19/60 (cont) 19/01493/FUL – Amended Plans – 46 Marsh Lane, Farndon – Proposed new entrance porch and replacement fencing and gates

The Chair referred to the amended application that had been submitted. The original application had been objected to previously.

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.39pm to allow the applicant to speak. The applicant referred to advice received from the Planning Officer that the building was allowed under permitted development, and forms had been submitted to the District Council.

The Clerk advised that clarification had been sought from the Planning Officer regarding a restrictive covenant as the dwelling was on an open plan estate.

The Chair advised that the Parish Council would review the application again when

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information on the permitted development was received.

19/01604/ADV – Rose & Crown, 25 Main Street, Farndon – Addition of external non-illuminated and externally illuminated signage, chalk boards, new up down lights and new lantern

After discussion it was unanimously AGREED the application be supported.

19/0414/FUL – 7 Brockton Avenue, Farndon – Householder application for single storey side extension and re-positioning of boundary wall

Members noted the application without comment.

19/01645/TWCA – Plum Tree House, 2 Grays Court, Farndon – Malus (T1) – 20% crown reduction, 10% thinning Silver Birch (T2) – felling of tree as it is too close (within 5m) of the property

Members received and noted correspondence granting permission for tree works.

19/01513/TWCA – 3 Marsh Lane, Farndon - T1 Robinia - Remove deadwood throughout canopy >20mm diameter T2 Weeping Willow - Re-pollard to original pruning points. T3 Robinia - Crown lift to lower limbs to clear roof by 2 metres and reduce back from solar panels. T4 Sycamore - Croft lift to lower limbs to clear highway by 5.2 metres and clear lamp column by 1 metre. T5 Holly - Crown lift to 4.5 metres above driveway T6 Purple Plum - Crown lift to 4.5 metres above driveway T7 Cherry - Crown lift to 4.5 metres above driveway T8 Conifer - Crown lift to 4.5 metres above driveway T9 Purple Plum - Crown lift to 4.5 metres above driveway and reduce away from house by 2 metres All tree works to be carried out in accordance with BS 3998: 2010

Members received and noted correspondence granting permission for tree works.

19/01362/TWCA – Trent Cottage, 6 West End, Farndon – Fell 1 no Beech tree, fell 1 no Ash tree, crown reduce 1 no Beech tree by 30% volume, cdrown reduce 1 no Ash tree by 30% volume

Members received and noted correspondence granting permission for tree works.

Decision Notice – 19/01407/S73 – 18 Oak Avenue, Farndon – Application to vary conditions 02 and 04 of planning permission 18/01622FUL to allow alternative window design to first floor “wardrobes and ensuite” windows

Members noted the decision notice granting permission for the variations of conditions 02 and 04.

Conference on Affordable Homes – 12th November 2019

Members noted correspondence from the Council for the Protection of Rural England advising of a conference being held on 12th November 2019 regarding affordable homes.

(c) General Purposes

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There was nothing to report in this area.

(d)

Playing Field

Ratification of Purchase of New Goal Posts

The Clerk requested ratification on the spend for new goal posts in the total sum of £955.20 plus VAT as previously circulated to Members.

This was AGREED and ratified.

Cllr Duckmanton had met and discussed with the Sexton how to fit the ball stop netting and measured how much was required. Some of the existing fencing would be used and amended to ensure there was clearance for hedgehogs. The netting would be put up week commencing 7th October.

Farndon Bowls Club

The Clerk updated Members on the request from Farndon Bowls Club and the meeting held with the Chair and Cllr Duckmanton on 2nd September.

The club currently leased the area occupied by them and it was in place until

The Clerk had investigated if the Parish Council could take over the insurance of the property and equipment, which was a big expenditure for the club. However, as the equipment and buildings were not in the ownership of the Parish Council then it could not insure them. The only financial assistance the Parish Council could give the club was a suspension of the annual rent.

An extraordinary meeting was held at the club on the 9th September and the Clerk had been advised that a decision had been made to run as a social club only and not play in the leagues.

Cllr Duckmanton was disappointed in the decision made to run purely as a social club as this precluded any income from playing in the leagues and would not help the club to grow and attract new members.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk seek more information on how many social members they would have and what annual income that would generate. The Council's offer of help was based on the club trying to continue as a thriving club and attract new members. Financial assistance could not be given if it were to be run purely as a social club, if this was the decision taken the annual rent would still need to be paid.

Annual Playground Inspection

The Clerk advised that there had been a delay with the inspection organised through Newark & Sherwood District Council. This would be reviewed in conjunction with the report from Fenland Leisure once it was received.

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Report from Fenland Leisure re the Play Area

See above.

Vandalism at Play Area

The Clerk updated Members on the recent vandalism to the gate at the play area, the damage to a sign on the Cemetery railings and the throwing around of items in the Cemetery itself, and the young people climbing on the container. Police had been made aware and CCTV footage would be made available to them.

Lights – St Peter’s Early Years

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from St Peter’s Early Years seeking permission to turn their lights back on at night time as they too had recently suffered vandalism and damage to their property. A resident had complained previously when they were on.

Cllr Teixeira-Gomes commented that the issue of light nuisance could be dealt with by soft/warm lighting.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk liaise with the Nursery and the Sexton to plan a way forward to tackle the light situation and also CCTV images. It may be necessary for a security company to come and review what was currently in place.

(e) Cemetery

New Cemetery Fees

The Clerk apologies for not circulating the new fee schedule. This would be circulated shortly.

Vandalism at Cemetery

This had been covered above.

New Equipment

The Clerk referred to a quotation received last year for a new Billy Goat Leaf Sucker. The item had not been purchased as the time it would be used had passed. The Sexton had recently located a second hand item and, after discussion with the Chair, it had been purchased at a cost of £125. It would be extremely useful in managing the leaf fall in Autumn.

Cllr Mrs Bayne commended the Sexton for his work in the Cemetery, it was looking very nice at the moment, as was the Church yard.

(f) Ponds & Riverside

Farndon Village Green

The Clerk updated Members on information gleaned from her visit to Nottinghamshire Archives.

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Farndon Bridleway No 1

The Clerk updated Members on correspondence with the Rights of Way team following the report of deep ruts appearing in Bridleway No 1. A site visit by a member of the team had been made and contact details of the land owner had been requested and forwarded.

Quotation for Tree Survey

The Clerk advised that the quotation for the survey of the remaining trees under the Council's responsibility was awaited. It would be circulated to Members for information once received.

FPC19-62 Financial Matters

- (a) To consider accounts for payments in accordance with the circulated schedule
Members received and noted the accounts for payments as outlined in the circulated schedule.
- (b) To note any receipts in accordance with the circulated schedule
Members received and noted the receipts as outlined in the circulated schedule.
- (c) To note the Council's financial position as at 30th August 2019
Members noted the Council's financial position as at 30th August 2019 and as at 22nd September 2019.

The Clerk advised that as 30th September was half year, a detailed report on the Council's financial position would be circulated for information.

- (d) Completion of the External Audit
The external auditor's report had now been received and the notice regarding the completion of the audit would now be posted.

There were a couple of points raised in the report which the Clerk would review for future years.

FPC19-63 Notts Association of Local Councils

- (a) August Newsletter
A copy had been circulated to Members for information.
- (a) Retirement of NALC Chief Executive & Appointment of Admin Assistant
Members noted the retirement of the Chief Executive, details of her replacement and the appointment of a new Admin Assistant.

FPC19-64 Correspondence

- (a) Town Mayor of Newark's Charity Race Night
A Charity Race Night had been organised for Friday, 6th December 2019 from 7pm, with tickets £10 per person to include a hot supper.

- (b) Data Protection Renewal
The Clerk advised that the renewal regarding the data protection registration had been received. The Clerk would process the renewal.

FPC19-65 **Items for Notification**

- (a) Slipway Planter
Cllr Teixeira-Gomes asked if the Sexton could water and dead-head the planter on the slipway. The Clerk confirmed that this would be undertaken.
- (b) Roses on Playing Field
Cllr Teixeira-Gomes asked if the Sexton could take over maintenance of the rose plants near the Fields in Trust plaque on the playing field. The Clerk confirmed this would be undertaken.
- (c) FREG Picnic
Cllr Teixeira-Gomes remarked that FREG had held a very successful picnic on 14th September and had left the area very clean.
- (d) Petition – The Meadows
Cllr Duckmanton reminded the Clerk of the petition from residents on The Meadows regarding the removal of the bollard.
- (e) Village Gateway Sign
Cllr Duckmanton advised that he had been approached by a resident expressing concern at the design of the village gateway sign. He had explained that it had been designed through a competition through the school.
- (f) Dropped Kerbs
Cllr Mrs Kingston asked if planning permission was required for a dropped kerb. The Chair explained that planning permission was sometimes required, but permission was required from County Highways.
- (g) Planter on North End
The Chair asked if bollards should be considered by the planter on North End to prevent vehicles parking.

FPC19-66 Date of Next Meeting
Monday, 28th October 2019

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

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