

**SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021 VIRTUAL MEETING**

**Minutes of the virtual meeting of Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 at 6.30pm**

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

**Also in attendance County Councillor Mrs S Saddington (Joined 8pm)**

**FPC20-079** Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor I Walker.

It was not expected that Councillor Mrs Saddington would be able to attend due to a pending hospital admission.

**FPC20-080** Declarations of Interest

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

**FPC20-081** Minutes of the Parish Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were accepted as a true and correct record.

**FPC20-082** **COVID-19 Update**

**(a)** Buddy Scheme in run up to Christmas

The Clerk referred to the second flyer distributed throughout the village to try and ascertain what the current position was within the community during the second lockdown and in the run up to Christmas.

That flyer had generated some additional contact with people wanting support.

An approach had also been made to the school, as financial support had been provided for families previously. The Headteacher had confirmed that need had increased, with 17 Farndon based families who would appreciate assistance of some kind. There may also be a need to support families through the St Peter's Early Years nursery.

The Clerk confirmed that funds were available from the grant received from Nottinghamshire County Council, and an application had been submitted to Western Power Distribution to a fund specifically established to provide community support in

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the run up to Christmas. An approach had been made to the landlord of the Rose & Crown, who had provided meals during the October half-term, who had confirmed they were happy to provide meals if there was an identified need.

Members AGREED that the Clerk should liaise with the school on the best support to be provided. Members would also be advised if the application to Western Power Distribution was successful.

(b) Help My Street Initiative

The Clerk referred to an initiative established by an organisation called HelpMyStreet and a webinar recently attended by the Chair and Clerk.

Prior to the pandemic the County Council had sought to introduce pilot schemes, working with Age UK, to engage communities and volunteering, along a 'good neighbours' scheme.

The scheme had successfully launched in Ruddington, run by a group of residents with support from the Parish Council. There had also been a number of schemes successfully introduced around the country.

After discussion, it was AGREED that this not be pursued at the moment but reviewed in the New Year. Members had a concern regarding how the identify checking system worked, specifically with regard to safeguarding.

Members were asked to review the presentation which had been sent across following the webinar, especially with regard to the identity checking via YOTI.

**FPC20-083 County Councillor Session**

This report was taken when County Councillor Mrs Saddington joined the meeting at 8pm.

Councillor Mrs Saddington confirmed that she had recently attended a meeting with Network Rail regarding the problems with barriers along the Nottingham to Lincoln line, particularly at Newark Castle. They had been given a deadline of the New Year to resolve the issues.

The Clerk had forwarded Councillor Mrs Baynes concerns regarding roads and pavement in the village. The officer had been contacted and advised that the highway trees at the bottom of School Lane would be inspected. The owner of the private land would also be contacted.

An order had been made for Wyke Lane and Cross Lane to be inspected. Councillor Mrs Saddington would keep the Clerk informed of any findings.

Best wishes were sent to everyone for a Happy and Pleasant Christmas.

**FPC20-084 Nottinghamshire County Council**

(a) Recovery Action Plan

The Clerk referred to a 25 page document received from Nottinghamshire County Council setting out what the Council were going to do between 2020 and 2022. Due to the format it was in it could not be circulated to Members, neither could it be scanned easily and circulated. It was disappointing to note that it had not been circulated as a pdf for ease of distribution.

Councillor Mrs Saddington had been asked to raise the concerns with Councillor Knight, Chairman of the COVID-19 Resilience, Renewal and Recovery Committee, whose department had sent the document.

(b) Condition of Roads and Footpaths

Councillor Mrs Bayne had raised a number of issues which had been circulated to Councillor Mrs Saddington.

These were:

- The far end of School Lane
- Cross Lane, from the pub car park to Main Street
- Wyke Lane

(c) Consultation on Admission Arrangements – Newark Academy

It was agreed at the last meeting that the Clerk review the documentation and advise Members on whether any comments were needed.

The only query was that if there was an extension to the catchment area, what would that mean if there was an over-subscription and a child who didn't attend a feeder school (as Farndon is) lived closer to Newark Academy than a child from Farndon school. That query had been raised with Newark Academy who had confirmed that it would be based on the distance from the door for children living in the catchment area.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should respond to the consultation and raise that as a concern.

(d) Farndon FP 3

Members noted advice received from the Rights of Way team regarding the proposal to put a gate across the lane behind Walters Close.

The Clerk was asked to seek further clarification as it was the Council's intention to retain the access for the footpath, just to seek to restrict vehicles.

**FPC20-085 District Councillor Session**

No report was presented as Councillor I Walker had given his apologies.

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(a) Outcome of Bid to Parish and Town Council Initiative Fund

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had been successful with the bid for grant funding from Newark & Sherwood District Council. The sum of £8,000 had been awarded for the project at the ponds and for the wildlife pond.

It was not clear whether the grant was paid as one lump sum following proof of expenditure or whether it would be released as payments were made. The Clerk would make enquiries.

(b) Parish Council Conference Presentations

Members received and noted the presentation document which outlined the topics covered during the Parish Council Conference held on 14<sup>th</sup> October. Members noted that the Clerk had attended and found it useful.

(c) Impact of New builds on Car Parking Review

The Clerk advised that, while an update had been requested, none had been received prior to the meeting. An apology had been sent and a date of the next meeting requested.

(d) Thorpe Lane CCTV

The Chair expressed his concern at discussions it was understood had taken place between East Stoke and Thorpe Council with Newark & Sherwood District Council, and Robert Jenrick MP, regarding CCTV surveillance on Thorpe Lane, which had not included Farndon Parish Council.

The Clerk was asked to take the matter up directly with Newark & Sherwood District Council.

**FPC20-086 Farndon Residents Environment Group**

(a) FREG Minutes – 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

A copy had been circulated to Members for information.

With the lockdown in place FREG members had been undertaking individual litter picking.

(b) Carols on the Green & Christmas Lights

Members noted that FREG would like to put the Christmas Lights up on 5<sup>th</sup> December. Due to current restrictions there would not be any Carols on the Green event. An online platform had been established so that donations could still be made for the Christmas tree as collection stations could not be held as usual.

**FPC20-087 Public 10 Minute Session**

There were no members of the public present.

**FPC20-088 Parish Council Matters**

(a) Recycling Bins

A discussion took place on the issue raised on the Farndon Residents page regarding the provision of recycling bins in the village.

Members noted that this had been raised previously, with a number of sites considered, all of which were not suitable for a variety of reasons.

Councillor Duckmanton queried whether there was space in the Council's car park at the Riverside, on the run down to the slipway.

After discussion, it was AGREED that a site meeting be arranged with the village based contractor who was offering to provide the service to review the area in more detail.

(a) Parish Council/Village Website

The Clerk advised that the Hugo Fox site would be made live as it had not been possible to resolve the DNS settings as yet to point it to [www.farndonpcnotts.co.uk](http://www.farndonpcnotts.co.uk).

The test regarding email forwarding had worked so those can now be used by Members. The Clerk would use them for correspondence going forward.

(b) Speedwatch Training

The Clerk advised that the District Council had currently suspended any training on Speedwatch due to the current COVID-19 restrictions. The Parish Council would be contacted when training was able to restart.

(c) Changes to Farndon Focus Format

The Focus were seeking to move from an A4 to A5 format. A sample had been sent round to Members for information.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Focus be advised that the Parish Council were concerned that, if the format were changed, the font size would be too small for people to read. There was also a concern that the magazine could lose revenue if advertisers were not happy with the change of format. It was not viewed as a positive change.

(d) Land at Junction of Main Street and Fosse Road

The Clerk confirmed that, following the October meeting, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust had been approached regarding undertaking a survey of the area. The advice received was that the best time to complete a survey was early/mid/late Summer.

It was AGREED that this matter be left until a detailed survey could be undertaken by the Wildlife Trust.

## **FPC20-089 Update Reports from Chairs**

### **(a) Chairman's Report**

The Chair had nothing to report.

### **(b) Planning**

The link to applications on the District Council's website had been forwarded to Members for consideration in advance of the meeting.

## **Applications**

### **20/02138/HOUSE – 6 St Peter's Close, Farndon - Replacement of existing conservatory to rear of property**

It was unanimously AGREED that the application be supported.

20/02155/HOUSE – 14 Sandhill Road, Farndon - Single storey rear, single storey side garage and two storey side/rear extensions incorporating first floor over existing side extension. Internal alterations, rear patio, new access drive and front boundary wall. Members considered that this was a very large extension. However, given the size of the plot and the distance between the neighbouring property it was considered that the application should be supported.

It was noted that there were no comments from neighbours.

### **20/02198/HOUSE – 15 Linton Close, Farndon - Proposed flat roof single storey rear extension**

It was unanimously AGREED that the application be supported.

### **20/02149/HOUSE – Mill House, Crees Lane, Farndon - Proposed boundary fencing and access gates (Retrospective)**

Members noted that this was a retrospective and the reasons for it as detailed within the Planning Statement.

It was unanimously AGREED that the application be supported.

### **20/02203/FUL – 98 Fosse Road, Farndon - Formation of new vehicular access to serve existing dwelling**

It was unanimously AGREED that the application be supported.

## **Decision Notices**

### **20/01821/TWCA – 4 School Lane, Farndon – T1 Silver Birch – Fell dying tree; T2 Lime – Re-pollard to 4 metres; T3 Magnolia – Remove north east limb to fence line; T4 Laurels – Crown lift to achieve 2.5m clearance over path and 5.2m clearance over road; T5 Ash – Fell poor specimen to give growth space to adjacent smaller trees. (PERMITTED)**

Members noted the decision notice permitting the tree works as outlined.

20/01855/TPO – 3 Birchenall Court, Farndon – Fell 1 no Yew tree protected by TPO N45 identified as being within G1 of the Order (REFUSED)

Members noted the decision notice refusing permission for the work as outlined.

(c) General Purposes

There was nothing to report.

(d) Playing Field

**Play Area Inspection Report**

The 2020 inspection report had been received and circulated to Members. The Clerk would review the report with the Sexton on site.

**Play Area Perimeter Fence**

Following the October meeting a quotation had been received to install a 1.8m perimeter fence to the rear and side of the play area. To supply and install an anti-climb V-Mex fence was £3,861 plus VAT.

In addition, Councillor Duckmanton had asked the Clerk to obtain an alternative quotation for 1.8m Bow Top fencing. A quotation in the sum of £7,304.76 (supply only) had been received.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk circulate the link to the fence provider to Members so they could see the variety of fencing available. Further, the Clerk would seek advice from the company direct on what they would recommend and contact the Parish Council's insurance for their views.

**Tree Works**

A quotation had been received in the sum of £2,960 for the work required to the trees on the playing field, as outlined in the survey undertaken earlier in the year.

33 trees had been identified as needing some work; 9 to fell; 4 to pollard and 22 to crown clean and deadwood. Timber would be left on site and stacked for habitat.

After discussion, the Clerk was asked to circulate details on the spend on tree works to date and the amount available in the budget.

**Bowls Club**

Councillor Mrs Kingston asked if an enquiry had been received from Flowserve regarding use of the bowls club. The Clerk advised that an enquiry had been received some time ago, around the same time as the enquiry had been received from the cricket club.

(e) Cemetery

**Boundary Tree**

Further to discussions at the October meeting, the Clerk had been in discussion with the Council's tree surgeon regarding the Norway Maple.

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It was a healthy, thriving tree and the work recommended to be undertaken by the Arboriculturist after inspection had been undertaken.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk refer back to the Arboriculturist who had undertaken the survey for his recommendations. Members were of the opinion that, if the tree had been inspected, was healthy, and had all work done then there had to be a time to draw the line, but were sympathetic to the concerns of the residents.

(f) Ponds & Riverside

**Implementation of Parish and Town Council Initiative Bid Work**

Members noted that a large part of the bid included work within the ponds. The Clerk would be formulating a schedule of works with the Sexton as a lot of the work would need to be done before Spring.

The bid also included for a wildlife pond on the verge at the junction of Main Street and Fosse Road. The Clerk had been in contact with Via and a meeting would be held with a contractor shortly.

**FPC20-090 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 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020

The Clerk reported that the balance on the cash book as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 was £79,940.46. When the reconciliation was completed after 30<sup>th</sup> November, a revised summary would be circulated to Members as there will have been significant spend.

Members noted that there were a number of assets that could now be disposed of following the purchase of two new pieces of capital equipment. These were the Z Series John Deere Mower and accessories, and the Cub Cadet Mower. The Clerk and Sexton were currently investigating the best place to sell these to generate a return.

The Chair asked when the Precept would need to be determined. The Clerk confirmed the Precept needed to be confirmed in February.



**FPC20-091 Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils**

(a) Campaign to Promote Local Elections

County Council and Police & Crime Commissioner elections were scheduled to be held in May 2021. The National Association had launched a campaign to promote them.

(b) 75<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020

The Chair referred to the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held virtually by Zoom on 19<sup>th</sup> November. It had been a successful meeting, which Robert Jenrick MP had joined towards the end, as President of the Association.

**FPC20-092 Correspondence**

20/02033/TWCA – Manor Barns, Main Street Farndon – Removal of Leylandii hedge (approx. 15mts)

Notification that the removal of approximately 15mts of Leylandii doesn't require the District Council's permission as they form a hedge.

St Peter's Cross Keys Academy

A letter of thanks had been received from the school regarding the financial support agreed at the previous meeting.

**FPC20-093 Items for Notification**

Consultation on A46 Dualling

Councillor Mrs Bayne referred to a post on social media from Robert Jenrick MP regarding a consultation on the A46 dualling.

The Chair confirmed that nothing had been received officially as yet.

Day of Meetings

The Chair asked if Members were happy with meetings being held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday or if they needed to be changed. Members confirmed they should remain as they are.

**FPC20-094 Date of Next Meeting**

After discussion the date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

As the Chair closed the meeting he wished all Members a Merry Christmas.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm