

SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 27th JULY 2020 VIRTUAL MEETING

Minutes of the virtual meeting of Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 22nd June 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 Councillor Mrs Saddington, Councillor I Walker and one member of the public.

- FPC20-017** Apologies for absence
Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Rhodes-Yeomans
- FPC20-018** Declarations of Interest
It was AGREED that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.
- FPC20-019** Minutes of the Parish Council held on 18th May 2020
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th May 2020 were accepted as a true and correct record.
- FPC20-020** **COVID-19 Update**
(a) Buddy Scheme
The Clerk confirmed that all the buddy scheme volunteers had been contacted to request an update on who was still supporting their allocated buddy. They had also been asked if they could record their memories of lockdown.
- FPC20-021** **County Councillor Session**
The Chair suspended the meeting to allow Councillor Mrs Saddington to present her report.
- Councillor Mrs Saddington extended her congratulations to a member of Farndon Cricket Club, Martyn Hill, on completion of his recent Sunrise to Sunset Batathon on Saturday, 20th June. A donation of £150 had been made to support his fundraising for the Cricket Club.
- Councillor Mrs Saddington referred to correspondence from Via and a resident regarding West End regarding obstructions/structures set in the highway. Copies had been circulated to Members for information. It was noted that the Chair had been in contact with Via and was waiting to see if a site meeting was required.

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If the obstructions/structures had to be removed the consequences for the village could be far reaching.

It was hoped there could be a compromise to resolve the issue and the Chair would keep Members updated.

The Clerk referred to an email received from the Farndon Ferry in response to enquiries sent relating to the tent that had been erected on the car park (copy forwarded to Members). Information was shared with Cllr Mrs Saddington in case any residents made contact regarding the right of way that went across the area. The Clerk had asked for clarification on how many parking spaces would be taken up once the Ferry was open and the covered area used for additional covers. A response was awaited and would be circulated to Members when received.

Councillor Mrs Kingston queried whether the intention was for live music to be played, as this would cause a noise nuisance to adjacent properties. The Clerk had no information on this, but would check if this was covered in the Government guidance.

FPC20-022 Nottinghamshire County Council

(a) Local Improvement Scheme – Application Update

The designer had confirmed that they were waiting to receive the sign back from fabrications. On its return it will be painted and should be finished quite quickly.

Confirmation had been requested on what the Parish Council would like on the Strap Plates. It was AGREED that this be 'Please Drive Carefully'.

(b) Farndon Village Green

The Clerk confirmed that a summary of the letter received from the former Clerk had been sent to the Rights of Way team. A response was awaited on whether further information would be required.

(c) St Peter's Close, Farndon – Footway Resurfacing

Members noted receipt of correspondence confirming that the footways on St Peter's Close would be resurfaced, with a road closure in place from Monday, 6th July to Friday, 24th July 2020 between 8am and 4pm.

FPC20-023 District Councillor Session

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

Councillor Walker referred to the Newark Town Fund Initiative which was currently out for residents to respond. The Chair confirmed he was on the Board and would be attending a virtual meeting later in the week.

While Councillor Walker was still in attendance, the Chair brought forward agenda item 11(b) Land at Hawton Lane for discussion.

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The Clerk confirmed that Planning Enforcement had been contacted and had contacted the land owner to seek clarification as to the proposed use.

It was understood that the land had been leased to a landscape contractor who were planning to store topsoil on the land. Planning Enforcement would investigate whether this use requires planning permission. Further clarification was being sought from Nottinghamshire County Council on whether the land was required for flood attenuation.

The Clerk would keep Members updated on any further correspondence received regarding the land.

FPC20-024 Farndon Residents Environment Group

A written report had been received from FREG confirming that the organisation had just started to open up. No meetings had been held but a socially distanced village litter pick had been held on 10th June.

Himalayan Balsam pulls had been organised for Thursday, 25th June at 6.30pm and Sunday, 28th June at 9.30am, with the July litter pick scheduled for 8th July.

FPC20-025 Public 10 Minute Session

The Chair suspended the meeting for the public session.

No questions were raised and the meeting was re-convened.

FPC20-025 Parish Council Matters

(a) Community Resolution

The Clerk referred to the recent community resolution received in relation to recent damage to Parish Council property.

The Clerk was asked to enquire with the Police if it was possible to share the information publicly. The Clerk would seek advice but considered that may not be appropriate.

(b) Newark Healthcare Group

Councillor Mrs Bayne referred to correspondence received regarding a letter of congratulations the Healthcare Group had recently agreed to send to the Chief Executive of Kings Mill Hospital on its recent 'Outstanding' rating.

(c) Anti-Social Behaviour

Discussion took place on the anti-social behaviour in the village. It appeared to have reduced over the last week, following the attendance of the Police to an incident on Marsh Lane. All incidents still needed to be reported to the Police.

FPC20-026 Update Reports from Chairs

(a) Chairman's Report

There was nothing to report as all issues had been covered elsewhere on the agenda.

(b) Planning

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

20/00908/FUL – Manor House, 2 School Lane, Farndon – Householder application to take down existing boundary wall, where possible clean existing bricks of residual mortar and reuse any with good face

After discussion, it was AGREED that this be supported.

20/00890/TPO – Birch Cottage, 50 Long Lane, Farndon – Works to trees protected by TPO N333 identified as forming part of Group G1; T1 Silver Birch – Fell due to inappropriate placing, shading and growing over house. T2 Silver Birch – Crown reduction to give 2 metres clearance of BT lines

Members noted the tree works as outlined.

Decision Notice - 20/00684/FUL – Orston House, 109 Fosse Road, Farndon - Formation of new vehicular access to serve existing dwelling

Members noted the decision notice granting planning permission.

Decision Notice – 20/00894/TWCA – Mead, Wyke Lane, Farndon – t1 Lawson Cypress – Fell as tree is dead

Members noted the decision notice outlining the tree works.

Statutory Work by Western Power – Ash Trees, Wyke Lane, Farndon

Members noted the work scheduled to be undertaken by Western Power to achieve a compliant safety clearance.

Land at Hawton Lane, Farndon

This had been covered under Minute No FPC20-023

(c) General Purposes

Shelving for Telephone Box

The Clerk referred to the success of the telephone box on Main Street in providing a 'swap shop' for the village. However, it ideally needed proper shelving so items could be organised and easily viewed.

After discussion with the Chair, the Clerk had asked a local contractor to provide a quotation for purpose built shelving. Unfortunately, it had not been received in time for the meeting.

It was AGREED that the Clerk circulate the quotation to Members once received, but agreement was given in principle for it to be undertaken.

Donation of Trees

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from a resident offering to donate a number of Horse Chestnut, Sweet Chestnut and Apple trees for planting in the village.

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They had also suggested areas where they could be planted, some of which were not on land owned by the Parish Council.

Members expressed their thanks to the resident for their kind offer and AGREED that the Clerk liaise with the resident to determine areas for planting. It was suggested that two Horse Chestnut trees could be planted in the picnic area as a replacement for those identified as needing to be felled in the recent tree survey. Consideration could also be given to a community orchard, perhaps in the meadow.

The Clerk would continue to update Members as the project progressed.

(d) Playing Field

Request from Farndon Cricket Club

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from Farndon Cricket Club regarding the Bowls Club area, a copy of which had been forwarded to Members for information.

It was noted that Councillor Duckmanton had a non-pecuniary interest in this matter but was allowed to participate in the debate by the Chair.

The Clerk advised Members that the pavilion was currently used as a rest facility by the Sexton/Handyman and the garage was used for storage. When the club was handed back to the Parish Council it enabled the hired container to be returned. If this storage space was lost there would be a cost implication for the Parish Council.

After discussion it was AGREED that the use of the space by the Farndon Cricket Club was acceptable, in principle, but Farndon Parish Council would want to retain the garage for storage and the pavilion as a rest facility. Further discussion between the two parties would be required.

Planning for Re-Opening of Play Area

The Clerk advised that further guidance was awaited before re-opening of the play area. However, preparation was being made for a deep clean of all surfaces in advance of any re-opening.

Members would be kept updated on any further advice received.

Cancellation of John Clark Fun Run – 9th July 2020

The organiser had confirmed that, with much regret, the John Clark memorial fun run planned for 9th July had been cancelled. England athletics were still forbidding any organised races and fun runs and junior park runs were still cancelled for the foreseeable future.

(e) Cemetery

Work to Trees in Churchyard by Western Power

An application for work to side prune a yew and Horse Chestnut in the St Peter's

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Church Yard had been submitted to Newark & Sherwood District Council by Western Power Distribution.

The work was required for compliant safety clearance for a period of five years.

(f) Ponds & Riverside

Siting of Planters

There were still a number of donated planters that had not been sited. Two had been used when the Council's car park was closed during the COVID-19 lockdown, and remained in the area to prevent vehicles driving through the trees to the Riverside car park.

The Chair proposed that these two planters, plus another one, be sited between the trees at the Riverside, and planted with flowers.

The Clerk advised that permission would need to be sought from the Riverside as the land in question belonged to them.

Councillor Teixeira-Gomes queried the ownership of the trees. After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk circulate the title plans of the Farndon Ferry, the Riverside and the Parish Council land to Members so they were aware of the extent of ownership in the area.

Angling Trust Grant

The Clerk advised that the Angling Trust had a grant scheme the Parish Council may be able to apply to. This was being reviewed with the Sexton/Handyman to establish if an application could be made.

FPC20-027 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 31st May 2020
Members noted the Council's financial position as at 31st May 2020
- (d) To note completion of the Internal Audit & the Internal Auditor's Comments
The Clerk referred to the Internal Auditors report and the internal accounting error that had been identified. The AGAR had been amended following the Internal Auditor's report and both versions circulated to Members.
- (e) To consider the Annual Governance Statement as at 31st March 2020
Members received and approved the Annual Governance Statement as at 31st March 2020 and AGREED that it should be signed by the Chairman.

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- (f) To consider the Accounting Statements as at 31st March 2020
Members received, noted and agreed the Accounting Statement as at 31st March 2020 and AGREED that it should be signed by the Chairman.

FPC20-028 Correspondence

There was nothing to report.

FPC20-029 Items for Notification

(a) Hawthorne Crescent

Councillor Mrs Kingston referred to notices that had been put up on Hawthorne Crescent stating that poison had been put down. The Clerk had reported to Newark & Sherwood District Council as the land fell within their remit.

(b) Land at Village Way

Further to an enquiry received from Councillor Duckmanton, the Clerk was investigating where responsibility for the boundary alongside the alley in Village Way lay as the owners wished to put up a new fence.

FPC20-030 Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 27th July 2020

The meeting closed at 8.25pm