

Minutes of the Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 23rd November 2015 at 6.30pm in the Parish Council Room

Present: Councillor M Baker, in the Chair
Councillor Mrs M Bayne
Councillor A Duckmanton
Councillor P Gafney
Councillor M Oldham

Also in attendance: District Councillors I Walker

FPC15-223 Apologies for absence

Received from, District Cllr K Walker, District Cllr N Mison and Mr D Risling (FREG)

FPC15-224 Declarations of interest

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

FPC15-225 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – 23rd October 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 23rd October 2015, were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

FPC15-226 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were none that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

FPC15-227 County Councillor Session – Cllr Mrs Saddington

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.35pm to allow Cllr Mrs Saddington to present her report.

A request had been made by Cllr Mrs Saddington for support from the 2016/17 highways improvements programme to address speeding on Marsh Lane, by means of Interactive signage. The Parish Council would be updated when a response was known.

Cllr Mrs Saddington referred to an e-mail sent by Highways England which provided an update from the meeting held in March 2015 regarding the problems experienced around the A46/A17/A1 network. A range of measures had been proposed, both interim and long term to address the problems. The Chair confirmed that a copy of the e-mail had been received and circulated by the Clerk to all Members of the Council. Cllr Mrs Saddington was thanked for her ongoing efforts to address the traffic problems.

Finally, as this was the last meeting before Christmas, Cllr Mrs Saddington wished everyone present a Happy Christmas and healthy New Year.

The meeting was reconvened at 6.45pm.

FPC15-228 District Councillor Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.46pm to allow Cllr Walker to present his report.

Firstly, as Chairman of the Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils, Cllr Walker referred to the successful Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday, 18th November, with guest speaker Anthony May, Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire County Council. Congratulations were extended to the Chair, Cllr Baker, on his election to the Executive Committee.

Regarding matters related to Newark & Sherwood District Council, Cllr Walker advised that he had recently presented awards under the 'Best Bar None' scheme. In the public vote category for the district, 'The Lion' in Farnsfield had won and the Judges Choice was the 'Grove Inn', Balderton.

The Chair thanked Cllr Walker for his report and reconvened the meeting at 6.55pm.

FPC15-229 Farndon Residents Environment Group

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.56pm to allow Mr Dodson from FREG to present his report.

Mr Dodson introduced Helen Grinley, Vice-Chairman of FREG, to Members. It was the intention that Helen would attend the Parish Council meetings in the future.

The village Christmas tree charity would this year support Newark & District Community First Responders and Beaumont House. The tree would be on display from 5th December.

FREG had been working closely with the landowner, and a number of agencies to address illegal fly grazing at Farndon Park. A notice would be served advising the owner that the horses should not be there. If they were not removed within 4 days the animals could be seized.

At this point the Chair reconvened the meeting and brought forward the item outlined at Agenda Item 10(d) to receive feedback on the Pond site meeting.

Cllr Gafney referred to the quotation provided by the Council's contractor and invited Mr Dodson to explain what the priorities were for the work.

The quotation could be broken down in to three areas:

- completion of fishing pegs (£500)
- clearing of areas to create picnic area and cut hedges (£500)
- general tidying (£500)

It was AGREED that the Clerk should investigate any spend on the conservation budget and liaise with all parties to identify a programme for completion of the works, with a view to confirming works to the contractor as soon as possible.

With the agreement of Members, the Chair changed the order of the agenda and brought forward agenda item 10, 'Update Reports from Chairs'.

FPC15-230 Update Reports from Chairs

(a) **Planning & General Purposes**

Neglected Open Spaces

Cllr Oldham reported that there were a number of areas in the village that were looking neglected:

- Staveley Court
- land adjacent to the garages at the Willows
- land owned by the Parish Council behind the garages at The Meadows
- derelict garages at Village Way
- land at junction of Main Street and Fosse Road

It was AGREED that the Clerk should seek to identify the owners of the land, where ownership was unknown, to attempt to have the land maintained.

14/01598/FULM – Land at the Junction of Kelham Road and Great North Road, Newark – Planning permission for the demolition of existing buildings and for the erection of a Class A1 retail foodstore and petrol filling station along with associated parking, servicing, landscaping, public realm, access works and other associated works

It was AGREED that the Parish Council would continue to object to this application and comments previously submitted should be reiterated.

15/01784/FUL- 22-24 Sandhill Road, Farndon - Householder Application for Single storey front extensions to both dwellings and first floor side extension to no. 24

Prior to consideration of this application, Cllr Gafney declared a personal interest and withdrew himself from the discussion.

Cllr Oldham explained that he had spoken to the Planning Officer regarding the building line and been assured that this did not apply as the applicant had followed the line of the existing porch.

In light of this it was AGREED that no objection be raised to the application and it be supported.

15/01753/FUL – 21 North End, Farndon – Householder application for proposed two storey rear/side extension

Cllr Oldham reported that a decision notice had been received confirming that planning permission had been granted for the above extension.

Site for WI Seat

At the October meeting Members had been asked to consider suitable locations for a commemorative seat the WI wanted to donate for the 100th Anniversary of the organisation.

After consideration it was AGREED that

- the WI be advised that the seat could be placed on the Millennium Green
- the Clerk would with the WI to identify the location for the seat on the Green

(b) **Playing Field**

Grass Condition

Cllr Duckmanton advised that the grass was holding water well and the pitch was in good condition.

Goal Post

Despite efforts to have the second goal post re-installed as part of the work to the Early Years, this would not be forthcoming. It was AGREED that the Clerk seek a quotation for the work to be done by a local contractor.

Play Area

The Clerk advised that information was awaited from Wicksteed for the works outlined in the annual play area inspection.

(c) **Cemetery**

Cllr Mrs Bayne advised that a tree had been blown over in the recent winds but no damage had occurred to any property or graves. Works had been ordered immediately to remove it.

(d) **Ponds and Riverside**

Litter Pick

Cllr Gafney enquired of the FREG representatives when the next litter pick. Mr Dodson confirmed that the litter pick along the riverside would be held in March 2016.

Fly Tipping Signage

Cllr Gafney had asked the Clerk to investigate obtaining signage to warn of the fines for fly tipping. The Clerk had been advised that responsibility lay with Newark & Sherwood District Council and a call had been logged with the Environmental Health Department. A reply was awaited. Depending on the response the Parish Council may seek to install its own signage.

Definitive Map

The Clerk was asked to obtain a copy of the definitive map to establish if Bridleway 20 had been added.

FPC15-231 Public 10 Minute Session

There were no members of the public present.

(a) **To receive feedback from the meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner held on Monday, 16th November 2015**

The Clerk reported on the meeting held with Paddy Tipping, Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Inspector Rooke.

It had been confirmed that the Beat Manager for Farndon remained PC Stannard. PCSO Munro had retained his post and the Commissioner was confident that he would remain in his current area.

The Police Contact Point was valued and there were no current plans to close the facility.

The Clerk would circulate notes of the meeting to fully update Members.

(b) **To receive an update on legal matters currently being considered by the Council's solicitors:**

▪ **Lease to Early Years**

The lease was still being prepared and it was hoped that a draft would be received shortly.

▪ **Fields in Trust Transfer**

The signed Non-Charitable Deed of Dedication had been returned to Fields in Trust.

▪ **Reconstruction of Title to Old Cemetery**

The Council's solicitor had confirmed that a draft would be sent through for residents to sign confirming the usage of the site. The historic information had been passed across.

(c) **Confirmation of renewal of the Parish Council's Data protection registration**

The Clerk advised that renewal had been confirmed.

In response to a question posed by the Chair, the Clerk confirmed that the registration was in the name of Farndon Parish Council and not the Clerk.

(d) **To receive details on the Carols on the Green event, including confirmation of the road closure notice**

Members were advised that the road closure notice had been received for the Carols on the Green event that would take place on Wednesday, 16th December.

In response to a query from the Clerk it was confirmed that signage was held in the Parish Council's garage and that marshalling was provided by FREG members in hi-vis jackets.

FPC15-233 Nottinghamshire County Council

(a) **Electoral Review of Nottinghamshire – Final Recommendations**

The Local Boundary Government Commission had published its final recommendations on the future electoral arrangements for Nottinghamshire County Council.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should circulate an electronic copy to all Members for information.

(b) **Community Benefit Society – ‘Inspire – Culture, Learning and Libraries’, delivering cultural, learning and library services across Nottinghamshire**

Information had been received from Nottinghamshire County Council regarding the creation of a new Community Benefit Society established to deliver cultural learning and library services across Nottinghamshire.

The new system would come into operation from Spring 2016 and, as an exempt charitable status, Inspire would be able to benefit from some business rate relief and have access to alternative funding sources not available to local government services.

FPC15-234 Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils

(a) **Annual General Meeting – Wednesday, 18th November**

The Clerk reported that the AGM had been well attended and useful information had been obtained from company’s exhibiting at the event. An alternative quotation would be sought from Came & Company for the Council’s insurance, as a comparison to current provider, Zurich.

Information had also been obtained from a company that could assist in putting together a Neighbourhood Plan. An offer had been made by the representative to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council to discuss in greater detail.

The guest speaker was Anthony May, Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire County Council, who spoke about the devolution of services from Central Government and the application that was currently being put together which involved Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire County Council, and all 19 District and Borough authorities, working in partnership.

The Clerk was pleased to advised that Councillor Baker had been elected on to the Executive Committee of the Nottinghamshire Association.

(b) **To note receipt of the Opportunities Bulletin detailing various grant sources**

This document provided information on a number of sources available to apply for funding. One which could be of interest to the Parish Council was to assist in the costs for putting together a Neighbourhood Plan.

It was AGREED that the Clerk circulate an electronic copy to all Members.

- (c) **To consider whether to op-in to NALC's audit procurement arrangements.**
Information had been received regarding the future of audit procurement and the establishment of a Sector Led Body.

NALC and partners had formed a Sector Led Body to procure audit services as the procurement process changes from the start of the 2017/18 financial year.

The Parish Council needed to take no action, unless it wished to opt out of the Sector Led Body Audit procurement. It was recommended by the Clerk that it would be prudent not to exercise this opt out and this was AGREED by Members.

- (d) **To receive details of a conference organised and funded by DIWEM and the national Flood forum about the Defra Flood Resilience Community pathfinder scheme**
Details had been received of a conference which would be held in London on . It was AGREED that no attendance was required but the Clerk should seek to obtain a paper copy of the scheme.

FPC15-235 Financial Matters

- (a) **To consider accounts for payment in accordance with the circulated schedule:**
Members AGREED payments in accordance with the circulated schedule outlined below.

To	Amount	Description
J R Mowers	96.54	Repairs to ride on
County Supplies	28.80	Whiteboard for Jason
Wages	1822.93	Various
S Pashley	93.60	Payment for open spaces support
Screwfix	32.42	PPE - N Ward
HMRC	1527.66	Period 05/08/15 to 04/10/15
Dacrylate	184.70	Paint for railings
Mayor of Newark's Earl Haigh	32.00	1 x E wreath @ £15
Poppy Appeal		1 x B wreath @ £17
D Lyne	180.00	Playing Field Mow
DWP	31.98	Attachment to Earnings
Yorkshire Bank	10000.00	Transfer to Savings Account
D Lyne	198.00	Playing Field Mow - 03/07, 16/07 & 30/07
D Lyne	66.00	Playing Field Mow - 20/08
Severn Trent Water	63.99	Final Invoice - Riverside P/Cs
Total:	14358.62	

- (b) **To note any receipts in accordance with the circulated schedule:**
Members NOTED payments in accordance with the circulated schedule below.

From	Amount	Description
E Gill & Sons (Memorials) Ltd	£35.00	
E Gill & Sons (Memorials) Ltd	£125.00	A Foster
Early years	£333.33	November Rent
English Rose Memorials	£45	Utton
E Gill & Sons (Memorials) Ltd	£70	
E Gill & Sons Ltd	£160.00	Mrs Liley
E Gill & Sons (Memorials) Ltd	£80.00	Janice Jackson & Elaine North
	£848.33	

(c) **To consider the Parish Council's budget for the 2016/17 financial year**

Members considered papers circulated by the Clerk relating to proposals for the Council's budget heads for the 2016/17 financial year.

The Clerk explained that, following a review of the current split of cost centres, it was proposed to amalgamate the Open Spaces & Amenities and General Purposes budgets to establish an over-arching budget for the work that was undertaken in green spaces.

Consideration had been given to the introduction of a mandatory National Living Wage of £7.20 an hour for the over 25's from April 2017, and built in to the costings. A rise in the National Minimum Wage had been applied from 1st October for affected employees.

It was AGREED that a 50p per hour increase be applied to the Village Handyman, backdated to 1st October 2015, and that the Clerk bring forward proposals to Council for gradually moving hourly rates closer to the £9 an hour National Living Wage by 2020 to lessen any impact on the Precept.

The Clerk advised Members that the Council was in a healthy position financially. A transfer back in to the savings account of £10,000 had recently been made and a request had been made for remaining Section 106 monies (anticipated to be in the region of £14,700) to be returned to the Parish from the District Council. Wage costs had been reduced due to the new regime for the Clerk and income increased with the rent now being paid by the St Peter's Early Years.

Members were requested to consider retaining the precept at the current level of £51,000.

After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Baker, seconded by Councillor Duckmanton, that the Precept be set at £51,000 for the 2016/17 financial year. This was AGREED unanimously.

(d) **Appointment of Internal Auditor**

There was a requirement to appoint the Internal Auditor to review the

FPC15-236 To receive any correspondence

There was none.

FPC15-237 To receive items for notification

Laptop for Clerk

Councillor Duckmanton to send the link through to the Clerk to enable the purchase of a laptop in the sum of £369.

Condition of Pavements

Councillor Mrs Bayne referred to the poor state of the pavements, particularly in the School Lane area. A list to be forwarded to the Clerk so they can be logged on the County Council's portal.

FPC15-238 Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 25th January 2016 commencing at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.50pm