

Minutes of the Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 25th January 2016 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 J Teixeira-Gomes
Councillor M Oldham

Also in attendance: County Councillor Mrs S Saddington, Mr J Dodson (FREG), Mr M King (Midlands Rural Housing), Ms G Sanderson (Newark & Sherwood District Council) and 2 members of the public

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Chair extended his condolences, on behalf of the Parish Council, to Councillor K Walker on the sad loss of his wife, Inga.

FPC15-239 Apologies for absence
Received from, District Cllrs I and K Walker

FPC15-240 Declarations of interest
It was AGREED that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.

With the agreement of Members, the Chair changed the order of the agenda and brought forward agenda items 8, 'Farndon Residents Environment Group' and 11 (d) 'Update Reports from Chairs – Ponds & Riverside'

FPC15-241 Farndon Residents Environment Group
The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.35pm to allow Mr Dodson from FREG to present his report.

Mr Dodson reported that the group had undertaken a litter pick in the village in November, with another one scheduled for 10th February.

The Carols on the Green event, held on 16th December, had been successful, raising £424 to be shared between the Salvation Army and Newark Community First Responders. The Christmas Tree based at Hardys Farm Shop had raised £2,210 which would be split between Beaumont House Hospice and Newark Community First Responders.

The Clerk confirmed that no date had yet been given by the contractor for the commencement of work at the Farndon Ponds. When a date was known the Village Handyman would be seconded to work with him on site.

The Chair thanked Mr Dodson for his report and reconvened the meeting at 6.40pm.

FPC15-242 Update Report from Chairs

(a) **Ponds & Riverside**

Application & Decision Notice – Cracked Willow Tree, Picnic Area, Riverside

The Clerk reported that the tree scheduled to have work done on the picnic area had been felled by 'persons unknown'. The tree had protected status as it was within the conservation area.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should report the matter to Newark & Sherwood District Council and also to the Police.

Mr Dodson advised that he would also make enquiries within FREG to see if any one had any information.

If no-one could be identified then the Chair would place an article in the next edition of the Farndon Focus.

Bench in Picnic Area

The Village Handyman was asked to investigate whether the bench situated in the far corner of the picnic area could be moved in to a more prominent position.

Valve/Float – Dyke adjacent to the Willow Holt

Following a report from Councillor Gomes that the valve/float at the dyke was not working the Clerk had sought to identify who was responsible for its maintenance.

Investigations had revealed that the Internal Drainage Board had responsibility. A site visit had been made but because of the level of the water they would need to return when levels had reduced. Damage had been caused to the verge during their visit and this would be addressed when the weather was drier.

Picnic Area Signage

Councillor Gomes reported that there was no 'Dogs on Leads' sign at the picnic area. The Clerk was asked to investigate.

FPC15-243 Update of the Housing Needs Survey for Farndon

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.00pm and welcomed Mr King, Midlands Rural Housing, and Ms Sanderson, Newark & Sherwood District Council to the meeting.

Mr King presented background on the Trent Valley partnership, advising that its purpose was to identify rural villages where there might be a need for affordable housing. Occupiers would need to have a connection to the village.

A decision regarding affordable housing would be fed by a housing needs survey to Identify need. Mr King reported that the last survey for Farndon had been undertaken in 2007 and had identified a need for 18 properties. However, since that time no

site had been found within the village to allow development. Sites were either in the flood zone or in the green buffer zone of the A46. The 2009 SHLAA did not allow for development in the green buffer zone.

Within the last 12 months a site had been offered on the south side of the village, close to School Lane, but because the survey was out of date another survey needed to be completed. Mr King asked whether the Parish Council would support another survey being undertaken to identify any need for affordable housing and, if so whether it would support development if a site was settled upon.

Members were concerned that the site outlined housed a protected species, had historic significance, was in the flood zone and was located within the Conservation Area.

A discussion took place on whether the village would support development, especially as villagers had not supported developments outlined at two pre-application public meetings. Further, Members were only aware of three areas available for development and it was believed these had all been developed.

Members were concerned with what would be achieved by repeating the survey, if there was no chance of actually building any affordable housing within the village.

Mr King advised that it would identify need and, in a situation where no land was available, the search for land would be extended to adjacent parishes.

In response to a question about the meaning of 'affordable', Mr King advised that the housing would be affordable to both rent and buy. Rent was generally 80% of market rent and houses could be purchased on a shared ownership basis, on a 50/50 basis, with purchasers being able to staircase up in 10% stages to 80%. The Housing Association would always own 20% and the properties would be kept in perpetuity as affordable housing. Recent Government changes may affect the regulations but further information was awaited.

Members AGREED that it would be useful to know whether there was a need for affordable housing with the village and were in support of the survey being updated.

Mr King was advised that the village had a quarterly magazine, the Farndon Focus, which could be used to highlight the survey was being undertaken.

The Chair thanked Mr King and Ms Sanderson for attending. Mr King would liaise with the Clerk regarding the survey which would be arranged for later in the year.

FPC15-244 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – 23rd November 2015

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

FPC15-245 Matters Arising from the Minutes

The Clerk updated Members on the following items:

20mph Speed Limit – Farndon School

The County Council had advised that the school speed limit was advisory only and therefore not policed. However, the Highways Manager would be advised of the Council's concern of speeding traffic on Marsh Lane.

Speedwatch

PCSO Munro had confirmed that the speedwatch scheme was still in existence in the village.

The Clerk was asked to liaise with PCSO Munro about organising volunteers to monitor speeding in the village. Members to be kept informed so that they could join in with the monitoring if available.

Police Support

Inspector Clarke had confirmed that PC Stannard was the Beat Manager for Farndon and had been so for some considerable time.

The Clerk was asked to invite PC Stannard to the February meeting of the Parish Council.

Red Telephone Kiosk – Main Street

The Clerk advised that the condition of the kiosk on Main Street had been reported to BT. The kiosk had been added to the list of repaints for 2016 and would be painted some time between April and October.

Members were aware of a scheme whereby kiosks could be adopted by local councils. The Clerk to investigate and report back to a future meeting of the Council.

Fly-Tipping Poster

The Clerk advised that Newark & Sherwood District Council had forwarded a poster that warned of the consequences of fly-tipping.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should liaise with the District Council to progress the project further.

Farndon St Peter's C of E School

The Clerk advised that the School's newsletter was posted on the school website on a Friday and a Monday weekly.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should circulate the link to the website so that Members could update themselves on what was happening in the school community.

Pavement Survey

The Clerk was asked to contact Nottinghamshire County Council to establish whether a pavement condition survey was scheduled to take place in the village.

FPC15-246 County Councillor Session – Cllr Mrs Saddington

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.25pm to allow Cllr Mrs Saddington to present her report.

Barns at East Stoke

Councillor Mrs Saddington advised that the application had been deferred for the moment.

Brockton Avenue

A request had been made for funding to resurface Brockton Avenue.

Carols on the Green

Thanks were extended to all those involved in the Carols on the Green event. Councillor Mrs Saddington had enjoyed attending the event and was pleased to see how well attended it was.

St Peter's C of E School

Robert Jenrick MP had run a competition in schools which was jointly won by St Peter's. Their entry described that they wanted to attract bees in to the school Grounds, for which they needed bushes and plants. Councillor Mrs Saddington had donated £200 for the plants to be bought which will be planted in Spring. The children were congratulated for their efforts.

Highways England

Councillor Mrs Saddington advised that she would be attending a further meeting with Highways England and other agencies in the middle of February to discuss the traffic situation around Newark.

Members were asked whether the A46 roundabout was better now or required improvement. Councillor Mrs Saddington was asked to establish when the roundabout would be finished as the junction near the Lord Ted had an area that was delineated by cones. Further, the promised rail to protect cyclists using the cycle path had never materialised. Members also held the view that motorists continued to approach the roundabout at too high a speed.

HM The Queen's 90th Birthday

Councillor Mrs Saddington was happy to contribute to any event that was organised in the village to commemorate the Queen's birthday. The Clerk to keep her informed of any event and to ensure that an invitation was extended to Councillor Mrs Saddington to attend.

The Chair thanked Councillor Mrs Saddington and reconvened the meeting at 7.45pm.

FPC15-247 District Councillor Session

There was no report as no District Councillors were present.

FPC15-248 Public 10 Minute Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.46pm for questions from the public.

None were raised and the meeting was reconvened.

FPC15-249 Parish Council Matters

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

▪ **Lease to Early Years**

A question had been raised whether Members wanted the Lease to include a designated number of car parking spaces. While Members were aware that staff members parked outside of the unit, this should not be included in the lease.

▪ **Fields in Trust Transfer**

Information had been received that the office dealing with the transfer had now left the organisation. The Clerk had contacted the new officer and a reply was awaited.

▪ **Reconstruction of Title to Old Cemetery**

No draft had yet been received.

(b) **To consider celebrations for HM The Queen's 90th Birthday**

An article to be placed in the next issue of the Farndon Focus to seek the views of the Community on how to celebrate the occasion.

Councillor Gafney proposed that the oak sapling he had nurtured from an acorn collected at Sandringham be planted in a prominent position, with a commemorative plaque and railings. This was AGREED unanimously.

Further ideas to be considered at the February meeting.

(c) **Reporting of Highways Matters**

The link to the County Council's website that allowed direct reporting of potholes and problems with street lighting to be circulated to Members.

(d) **Public Conveniences – Riverside**

The Chair reported that the Landlord at the Riverside was unaware that the public conveniences had closed.

Correspondence had been received from the Chartered Surveyor's retained by Punch Tavern advising that no further instructions had yet been received regarding the future plans for the conveniences.

The Clerk advised that the only contact received regarding the closure had been from the St Johns Ambulance Crusader, and that was regarding access to water rather than the facilities.

The Chair advised that an offer had been made by both the Riverside and the Boathouse to make water available to the Crusader. The Clerk to ensure this message was passed on to the appropriate person.

(e) **Newark & Sherwood Open Space Provision and Needs Assessment**

The Needs Assessment sought to update information that was last reviewed in 2002.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should complete the assessment and return to Newark & Sherwood District Council.

(f) **Newark Healthcare Consultative Group minutes and consideration of resolution**

Members received the minutes of the 11th December meeting and considered the resolution contained as part of that document.

Following a detailed discussion it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Bayne, seconded by Councillor Oldham that the Parish Council resolved toL

1. state its strong and ongoing support for Newark hospital and all the staff who work there
2. support the aim of separating Newark hospital from the Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

It was further resolved that the request to support the aim of integrating Newark Hospital in with Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust could not be supported as Members needed more information before being able to support that request.

(g) **To consider a recognition policy for prominent village members**

It was AGREED that this item should be deferred for consideration at the February meeting.

FPC15-250 Update Reports from Chairs

(a) **Planning & General Purposes**

15/02278/HRN – Hedgerow, Thorpe Lane, Farndon – Removal of eleven metres of hedge between Field No SK7650 9533 and Field SK7780 1343

It was AGREED that no objection be raised to the application and it be supported.

15/02297/FUL – 60 Fosse Road, Farndon – Householder application for two storey extension to rear of property to provide kitchen and dining area to ground floor and bedrooms to first floor.

It was AGREED that no objection be raised to the application and it be supported.

15/02171/LBC – Chestnut Farm, 36 Main Street, Farndon, Newark – Householder application to install ventilation systems in first, second and third floor bathrooms.
It was AGREED that no objection be raised to the application and it be supported.

15/02236/FUL – Trent Cottage, 6 West End, Farndon, Notts, NG24 3SG – Householder Application for Detached Garage

Councillor Oldham reported that neighbours were not supportive of the application, however, there were no genuine planning grounds to object. It was AGREED that no objection be raised to the application and it be supported.

Decision Notice – 15/0008FUL – Trent Cottage, 6 West End, Farndon, Notts, NG24 3SG – Householder application for the erection of a rear ground floor extension

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

Decision Notice – 15/01753/FUL – 21 North End, Farndon, Notts, NG24 3SX – 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.

Tree on Nursery Avenue

Councillor Oldham reported a tree on the verge on Nursery Avenue that had recently been causing interference with a neighbouring property. The problem had now been rectified and the tree removed.

The Clerk to remind Nottinghamshire County Council of its responsibility to maintain trees on verges. Further the Clerk was asked to establish if trees on verges had been included in the tree survey.

Tree on Marsh Lane

Members were concerned that the tree on Marsh Lane covered by a Tree Preservation Order appeared to be sloping more.

The Clerk to report to Newark & Sherwood District Council and establish whose responsibility it was to maintain the tree and ensure it was safe.

Funding Newsletter

Councillor Oldham referred to the circulated newsletter outlining various sources of funding that could be applied for. One source was the Premier League and Councillor Oldham suggested an application could be made for funding for an artificial pitch.

While this suggestion was not supported by Members it was AGREED that the sources of funding be discussed further at the February meeting.

(b) **Playing Field**

Grass Condition

Cllr Duckmanton reported that the grass was getting long on the playing field. The Village Handyman to try and mow with the small mower given how wet it was underfoot.

The Clerk to try and establish whether the Early Years had allowed a vehicle on to the field as there were tyre tracks leading towards the building which had damaged the grass

Signage

It was AGREED that the Clerk should liaise with Councillor Duckmanton to establish whether improvements could be made to the signage on the playing field. There had recently been several incidents where dogs had been off lead in the play area and the number of dogs being exercised off lead appeared to be increasing.

Grants were available from Fields in Trust for QEII for improvements and this could be utilised for signage.

QEII Plaque

The Village Handyman reported that the plaque was becoming unreadable. The Clerk to liaise with Fields in Trust on how best to maintain and renovate the plaque.

Goal Post

The second goal post had been ordered and would be installed by the Village Handyman when delivered.

Litter Bin

The Village Handyman advised that there was a spare wall mounted bin that could be utilised. The Clerk and Village Handyman to liaise to identify a suitable location.

(c) **Cemetery**

Electricity Connection to the Mortuary

Western Power Distribution had confirmed they would be on site on Monday, 1st and Tuesday, 2nd February, to install an electricity connection to the mortuary.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should source an electricity provider.

Unconsecrated Area

The Clerk confirmed that there had been a further interment in the unconsecrated area. Both families were fully aware that the area was unconsecrated.

FPC15-251 Nottinghamshire County Council

(a) **Information on the Devolution Application**

It was AGREED that this item be deferred to the February meeting.

(b) **Definitive Map – Modification Order**

It was AGREED that this item be deferred to the February meeting.

FPC15-252 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
Parkland Hedges & Trees	210.00	Remove fallen tree from Cemetery
J R Mowers	423.91	Service – John Deere Ride On Mower
Petty Cash	200.00	Various
D Lyne	180.00	Mow Playing Field
Screwfix	10.39	Cuprinol Fence Care
County Signs	78.00	Barrier Sign
NSDC	139.75	Recharge for May Election Costs
County Signs	66.00	Slipway Sign
Western Power	1319.80	Electricity connection to Mortuary
Farndon Memorial Hall	450.00	Room Hire – Oct to Dec
Skip it Ltd	210.00	Skip Hire – Cemetery
County Supplies	112.52	Sundries
A Duckmanton	80.00	Phone for Village Handyman
HMRC PAYE	1219.71	3 month period ending 5 th January
Wages	3679.69	Various
Total	£8,379.77	

(b) **To note any receipts in accordance with the circulated schedule:**

Members NOTED payments in accordance with the circulated schedule below.

From	Amount	Description
Newark & Sherwood D C	50.49	NNDR Refund – PCs
Early Years	333.33	November Rent
Early Years	333.33	December Rent
E Gill & Sons Ltd	290.00	Funeral fee
E Gill & Sons Ltd	200.00	Funeral fee
Total	£1,207.15	

(d) **Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments – First Communication**

Members received and noted the first communication.

FPC15-253 To receive any correspondence

Rural Crime Leaflet

Members were given a leaflet received from the Police & Crime Commissioner detailing the action being undertaken to tackle rural crime across Nottinghamshire.

FPC15-254 To receive items for notification

Car Park

Discussion took place on the current condition of the car park and the responsibility placed on the Council to maintain the area to an acceptable condition.

The Chair advised that, together with the Vice-Chair, a meeting had been held earlier in the day with representatives from the Riverside Pub and the Boathouse to discuss the potential for financial support from either, or both, of those businesses, for resurfacing given the benefits to those businesses from patrons using the Parish Council's car park.

The Chair advised Members that neither business felt able to assist financially as they had both had work done to their own car parks and no financial support had been forthcoming from the Parish Council.

The businesses had asked that, if work was undertaken to the car park, whether it could be done on either a Monday or Tuesday in February (excluding Valentines week).

Members had differing views on whether the work should be undertaken and the time restrictions imposed by the businesses be met, should work proceed.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should obtain three quotations, by the end of the week if possible, and the matter be further considered by Members once those quotations were received.

FPC15-255 Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 22nd February 2016 commencing at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.00pm