

Minutes of the Meeting of Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 25th March 2024 in the Memorial Hall at 6.30pm

Present: **Councillor M Baker**
 Councillor Mrs H Bayne
 Councillor Mrs M Bayne
 Councillor B Boyer
 Councillor A Chrimes
 Councillor A Duckmanton
 Councillor Mrs S Kingston
 Councillor P Parker

Also present, Stephen Swanwick (FREG) and District Councillors Allen, Kellas & Haynes and County Councillor Mrs Saddington together with 8 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

FPC23-127 Apologies for absence
 There were none.

FPC23-128 Declarations of Interest
 It was AGREED that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.

FPC23-129 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council – 26th February 2024
 The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 26th February 2024, were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

With the agreement of Members, the Chair brought forward agenda item 9.

FPC23-130 **Public 10 Minute Session**
 The Chair suspended standing orders for the public session.

A resident asked about the cancellation of the 91 bus service and whether any action could be taken to keep it as it was used a lot. Members noted that the service went from Newark Northgate Station, to Farndon and then through the villages to Bingham.

County Councillor Mrs Saddington referred to an email received from the Manager of Transport & Travel Services advising that the closure of the 91 route was originally requested by the operator in 2022, but the County Council had continued to support it until now to allow for suitable alternatives to be developed and approved. The new Demand Responsive service has been developed to serve the villages to the east of the A46 between Newark and Bingham. Farndon will continue to have the 90 service operated by Vectare. The Clerk clarified that the demand led , which will start on

8th April,

Councillor Mrs Saddington referred to the Electoral Mayor scheme that will allow access to external funding and include responsibility for the integrated transport plan.

A resident asked about the flooding situation experienced in Nursery Avenue during Storm Henk. The concern was that the issues would get lost and nothing would change. The Clerk advised that at the multi-agency drop in session held today, Severn Trent had confirmed that the pump on Nursery Avenue was the sole responsibility of Via.

District Councillor Haynes advised that the District Council were being proactive in trying to understand what had led to the flood events and Members will be advised of any information received, which will be sent out to the Parish Council if appropriate. Other meetings were being held, but these were predominantly with U&C regarding the Southern Link Road.

Councillor Parker advised that the issue appeared to be that the outlet into the River Trent, that ran from the pump, was too low, and could not open when the water level was high. County Councillor Mrs Saddington and the Clerk would liaise to raise with the appropriate officers at Via.

The Chair thanked residents for their participation and reconvened the meeting.

FPC23-131 County Councillor Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.18pm for Councillor Mrs Saddington's report.

The Section 19 report for Storm Babet will be presented to the County Council shortly. The report from Storm Henk should be available in June.

Funding has been secured to resurface the Great North Road from the Cattle Market roundabout to the British Sugar factory. Work will be undertaken prior to September.

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

FPC23-132 Nottinghamshire County Council

- (a) To note the submission of the Pre-Submission draft of the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan to the Secretary of State
Members noted the submission of the draft to the Secretary of State.
- (b) To note the cessation of the No 91 Bus Service and the introduction of the Notts Connect Bus On Demand
This item had been covered under Minute No FPC23-130.

(c) To note the Roadworks Bulletin for Long Lane

Members noted that resurfacing works to Long Lane were scheduled to take place between 9.30am and 3pm from Wednesday, 17th April to Monday, 29th April. The closure will be removed every evening.

The Clerk was asked to clarify what effect this will have on the 90 bus service that comes through the village.

FPC23-132 District Councillor Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.31pm for the District Councillor session.

Councillor Haynes referred to the road closure at Hawton which would be in place for 6 months. Assurances have been given that the construction of the road is on schedule at the moment. However, the land continues to be very wet in the area.

The kerbside glass service is currently being rolled out, with collections due to start from 8th April. If residents didn't want the bin they should contact the District Council and request they be collected.

New council tax bills have been issued, with a 2.99% increase applied by the District Council. An alternative budget had been proposed by the Conservative Group, with a lower increase, but that had not been supported.

Councillor Mrs Bayne referred to the comments made by the Leader of the District Council about 'selfish older people', which were wholly inappropriate. Councillor Haynes advised that members of the council can be reported to the Monitoring Officer.

The District Council were administering flooding financial support schemes. The deadline for the Storm Henk event is 8th April. Residents are encouraged to ring the District Council if they need any assistance.

The District Council were holding a service at Southwell Minster to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day, and also at Thoresby Museum. Balderton Parish Council will be arranging an event at Newark Air Museum.

The Chair thanked the District Councillors for their report and reconvened the meeting at 7.33pm.

FPC23-133 Newark & Sherwood District Council

(a) To note the request for a joint meeting received from the Public Protection Team

The Clerk apprised Members of the request for a Joint Meeting between the District Council Public Protection Team and the Police. It was not clear what the meeting was to discuss but it was understood that there had been a change to the village Beat Manager.

FPC23-134 Farndon Residents Environment Group

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.39pm to allow Mr Swanwick to present his report.

Mr Swanwick advised that the River litter pick had been cancelled, with the weather holding projects back at the moment. A litter pick had been conducted around the village.

Reference was made to motorcycles that had recently been in Willow. These had been reported to the Police. Mr Swanwick would feed back to the Clerk on whether there had been any damage.

The Chair thanked Mr Swanwick for his report and reconvened the meeting at 7.42pm.

(a) Minutes – March 2024

Members received and noted the Minutes of the FREG Main Meeting held in March.

FPC23-135 Parish Council Matters

(a) To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies

Village hall pothole near the gate. Said as have no ownership we would not contribute. Due to the amount of traffic that goes through gate that is PC, i.e., children to the nursery would PC consider making a contribution. PJP will review.

Point making if don't have gate shut. JS will take on that action.

Councillor Mrs M Bayne had attended a recent health meeting. Most of the discussion had been around the availability of GP appointments.

The Clerk referred to the stakeholder briefing that had been received updated on the opening times at the Urgent Treatment Centre. A copy had been forwarded to Members for information.

(b) To consider correspondence regarding the Hedgehog Highways Project

Members noted the correspondence received regarding the Hedgehog Highways Project but did not wish to support it at this time.

(c) To confirm arrangements for the 80th Anniversary of D Day event on 6th June 2024

The Clerk advised that the organiser of the John Clark Fun Run was supportive of moving the date to 6th June, and the Cricket Club had confirmed they would be prepared to open the Cricket Pavilion.

The Clerk would now progress timings and a plan for the event.

Discussion took place regarding the provision of the medals for the Fun Run. It was AGREED that the Parish Council would fund the whole cost of the medals.

- (d) To receive an update on the Community Emergency Plan
The Clerk advised that the forms completed for Flood Wardens had been forwarded to Nottinghamshire County Council. Details of training were awaited.

FPC23-136 Update Reports from Chairs

- (a) Chairman's Report
The Chair referred to the resignation received from Councillor Rawlings. The Clerk was asked to convey thanks of Members to Councillor Rawlings for his service.

The Clerk would now progress the process of advertising a Casual Vacancy.

- (b) Planning
Prior to consideration of the Planning applications, Councillor Mrs H Bayne removed herself from the meeting at 8pm.

Applications

24/00354/LDCP – Wyke Lodge, Church Street, Farndon - Lawful Development Certificate for replacement gates and gate posts
Members noted the application as outlined. No comment was required.

Councillor Mrs H Bayne rejoined the meeting.

Decision Notices

24/00013/LBC – 16 Main Street, Farndon - New boiler flue through roof
Members received and noted the decision notice granting permission for the development as outlined.

24/00007/LDCP – 1 Chestnut Grove, Farndon - Certificate for a Lawful Development Certificate for proposed conversion of integral garage to a habitable room, block up garage door and replace with window and create an internal doorway
Members noted that a Certificate for Lawful Development had been issued.

24/00323/DEM – Honey Lane Farm, Honey Lane, Farndon - Application to determine if prior approval is required for demolition of two general purpose agricultural buildings as per Schedule 2 Part 11 Class B
Members noted it had been determined that prior approval was required and had been granted.

Tree Works

24/00391/TWCA – 11 Chapel Lane, Farndon - T1 - Silver Birch - Fell to ground level due to being a poor specimen too close to property and other tree; T2 - Silver Birch - Reduce by up to 4m in height and 2m in width due to interference with phonelines and poor previous tree work; T3 - Mountain Ash - Fell to ground level due to poor condition – NO OBJECTION

Any Other Planning Matters

23/01429/FUL – Land adjacent to Fosse Road, Farndon – Appeal against refusal of planning permission for a four bedroom bungalow.

Members noted that an appeal had been made to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the refusal of planning permission on the site. The Parish Council's comments will be forwarded as part of the process.

(c) General Purposes

There were no matters to consider.

(d) Cemetery

To note attendance of the Sexton on a Memorial Inspection Training Course – April 2024

Members noted that the Sexton would be attending a Memorial Inspection Training Course on 8th April 2024.

(e) Playing Field

To consider a request from the Gordon Whelbourn Running Week

Members noted the request from the organisers of the Gordon Whelbourn Running Week to use the hard standing area of the playing field for participants to park in. the dates were Wednesday, 5th and Friday, 7th June 2024.

Members raised no objection to this use, subject to all cars being clear by 9pm.

To note the attendance of the Sexton on Visual Inspection Training

Members noted that the Sexton had recently undertaken Visual Inspection Training for the play area.

To note works undertaken to equipment in the play area

An inspection of the equipment in the play area following receipt of the annual inspection had been undertaken by Councillor Duckmanton, the Sexton and the Clerk. A decision had been taken to remove two items of the wooden trail as they were considered unsafe.

(f) Ponds & Riverside

The Clerk advised that the tree works previously agreed would be undertaken shortly.

FPC23-137 Financial Matters

(a) To receive 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 29th February 2024
Members received and noted the Council's financial position as 29th February 2024, with a balance of £59,222.39 across the accounts.

(d) To consider areas where cost savings could be made for the 2024-25 budget
Members received the Clerk's report outlining potential cost savings for the 2024-25 budget.

It was AGREED that an immediate cost saving in terms of the Council's trade waste arrangements be made with a move from Newark & Sherwood District Council to Biffa.

(e) To consider changes to the Parish Council's banking arrangements
The Clerk advised that Virgin Money had given notice that the Parish Council's passbook deposit account would be closed. This gave the Parish Council an opportunity to review its banking arrangements for both the deposit and current account.

After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Boyer that the Parish Council move across to the Unity Bank. The Clerk would investigate.

(f) To note the receipt of correspondence from PKF Littlejohn regarding the 2023-24 External Review
The Clerk advised that correspondence had been received from PKF Littlejohn outlining the process to be followed for the 2023-24 external review.

FPC23-138 Notts Association of Local Councils

(a) Notts ALC March 2024 Newsletter
Members noted the circulated Newsletter. The Clerk was asked to obtain the NALC Legal Topic on the sexual harassment item.

The Chair advised that the Annual General meeting would be held on a Saturday afternoon this year, starting at 1.30pm at the YMCA in Newark.

FPC23-139 To receive any correspondence

(a) 23/01654/HOUSE – 41 Marsh Lane – Proposed garden building/ancillary accommodation in connection with existing dwelling
The Clerk advised that the decision notice had been received granting planning permission for the development as described. A condition had been imposed to prevent the creation of a separate dwelling in a location where new residential development would not normally be permitted. The annexe shall not be occupied at any time other than for purposes ancillary to the residential use of the dwelling. This would be formally noted on the agenda for the April meeting.

- (b) Stakeholder Update – Urgent Treatment Centre
The update relating to opening times at the Urgent Treatment Centre would be circulated to Members for information.
- (c) Planning Scheme of Delegation to Officers and Protocol for Planning Committee
The Clerk referred to correspondence received from Newark & Sherwood District Council regarding changes to the planning scheme of delegation to Officers and protocol for Planning Committee. Details would be forwarded to Members.

FPC23-140 Items for Notification

- (a) Councillor Boyer asked if the report of %age spend against budget could be included on a monthly basis, along with the payments and receipts. The Clerk confirmed this would be done.
- (b) Councillor Boyer referred to parking issues on Almond Grove and other areas. The Clerk would investigate whether support could be provided by the County Council's Civil Enforcement Officers
- (c) The Clerk confirmed that the unsafe vehicle on Almond Grove had been reported to the PCSO and also Newark & Sherwood District Council.
- (d) Councillor Mrs M Bayne referred to work that had been undertaken to trees on land at School Lane. The Clerk would investigate.
- (e) Councillor Mrs Kingston asked whether the Parish Council would be supporting the 'No Mow May' initiative. The Clerk advised that, due to the weather, it had not been possible to undertake any mowing as yet. The Parish Council would support the initiative if it was possible operationally.

FPC23-141 Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 22nd April 2024 at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9pm.