

SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 22nd JUNE 2020 VIRTUAL MEETING

Minutes of the virtual meeting of Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 18th May 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 PC Stenner (Temporary Beat Manager) Councillor I Walker and one member of the public.

FPC20-001 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from District Councillor K Walker and County Cllr Mrs Saddington.

FPC20-002 Declarations of Interest

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

FPC20-003 Minutes of the Parish Council held on 27th April 2020

Councillor Mrs Bayne requested clarification on whether or not information would be shared with Nottinghamshire County Council to identify those receiving support through the buddy scheme. The Clerk confirmed that information would not be shared and would remain confidential.

In terms of District and County Councillors attending, Councillor Mrs Bayne asked how the village representatives were involved if they were unable to use the Zoom platform. The Clerk confirmed that dialogue was being maintained with County Councillor Mrs Saddington and District Councillor would be attending as he was using his own standalone equipment. Further, District Councillor Walker had been contacted regarding a couple of issues that had arisen since the previous meeting which required reporting to the District Council.

Subject to the above the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27th April 2020 were accepted as a true and correct record.

FPC20-004 **COVID-19 Update**

(a) Lockdown Memories

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire regarding capturing Lockdown Memories.

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Signature _____ Date _____

It was AGREED that the Clerk circulate the correspondence received to Members and that the members of the buddy scheme be contacted to establish if they were willing to participate.

Further, Councillor Mrs Kingston, suggested that the request should be across the entire village population, especially the younger age group and the impact lockdown had on them. This was AGREED.

FPC20-005 Nottinghamshire Police

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.40pm for PC Stenner to present his report. It was confirmed that a permanent Beat Manager should be in place by 8th June 2020.

It was noted that crime figures had significantly reduced during lockdown. Under current guidance the Police would enforce against gatherings.

Police were aware of the theft that had recently taken place in the village and were pursuing lines of enquiries.

Other matters that had been brought to the attention of the Police have been actioned and will continue to be monitored.

It was noted that the play area was still closed and some young people had been asked to vacate from it earlier in the day by the Sexton.

FPC20-006 County Councillor Session

No report was presented.

FPC20-007 Nottinghamshire County Council

(a) Local Improvement Scheme – Application Update

There was no further information to report back to Members.

(b) Farndon Village Green

Councillor Duckmanton continued to liaise with the former Clerk and will report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

(c) Household Waste Recycling Centres

The Centres would be re-opening from 18th May 2020.

FPC20-008 District Councillor Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.55pm to allow Councillor Walker to present his report.

Councillor Walker congratulated the Parish Council on their quick adaptation to the new way of working remotely which allowed them to continue to serve their community.

The District Council continued to support the local business community and community under the 'HART' umbrella. 496 individuals had been assisted in some form or other.

Councillor Walker referred to the landing strip that had appeared at the side of the A46 behind the houses on Fosse Road. A landing strip could be used 28 days of the year without permission, but it depended on how it had been constructed and there were the added concerns of how close it was to the A46 and the short distance to RAF Syerston. The matter now rested with Officers at the District Council.

Councillor Parker referred to the landing strip that had also appeared across the River Trent in the Averham, Kelham & Staythorpe parish. Councillor Walker confirmed this was not his area but would pass on to his colleagues.

(a) Land at Corner of Fairfield Avenue and Marsh Lane

The Clerk confirmed that the District Council had been advised that the Parish Council wanted to renew their lease of this land. Paperwork was awaited.

(b) Green Waste Collection

Advice had been received that the garden waste recycling collections would resume from Monday, 1st June 2020.

FPC20-009 Public 10 Minute Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.05pm for the public session.

A resident had a number of questions relating to Farndon Ponds and fishing:

- could trees be cut back to make pegs more accessible
- friends who wanted to fish were having an issue getting permits
- was anything planned to control the weeds, as in the dye that had been used previously
- were bailiffs operating in the area

The Clerk advised that if anyone wanted a permit it should not be an issue provided they could produce proof of address and a passport sized photo and held a valid Environment Agency rod licence. Five permits had been issued in the last week following the relaxation of lockdown.

The dye used last year to try and combat weed growth had proved ineffectual and had led to reports to the Environment Agency that there was blue-green algae, when that was not the case. Weeds are a perpetual problem and not an easy fix.

In terms of chopping back around the fishing pegs, the Council's Sexton/Handyman had been confined to the Cemetery during lockdown and was only just going to other areas of Council owned land. The grass at the Ponds had been cut last week and a

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fallen tree removed, but as the area is a nature reserve any other work will be towards the latter end of the year.

The Clerk confirmed that bailiffs did visit the area and were challenging those fishing, but people may not necessarily be aware that they are present.

Councillor Duckmanton asked if Members of the Parish Council could challenge those fishing and what rules applied to those fishing. It was AGREED that a copy of the regulations be circulated to Members and that ID cards be issued to Councillors Duckmanton and Parker to support the bailiffs.

The resident confirmed it would be nice to have someone looking out for those fishing, especially if a young person as in the evening people were coming in from Newark and it was easy to feel threatened. If more people were policing the area it would be better for younger people who wanted to fish properly.

Cllr Mrs Kingston thanked and congratulated the resident for attending the meeting. It was fantastic for a young person to come and speak to people that they don't know on a subject they were passionate about.

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 7.15pm.

FPC20-010 Parish Council Matters

(a) Tree Works – Picnic Area – Application to Newark & Sherwood District Council

The Clerk referred to the submission made to Newark & Sherwood District Council which had now been approved.

There was a query over the ownership of a Sycamore in the boundary hedge, which the Clerk had raised with the Sea Scouts. The hedge was in the ownership of a private individual but communication was difficult so the issue was not straightforward.

The Sycamore was a multi-stemmed specimen but had crown dieback and deadwood, and was recommended for felling. However, the Parish Council should not commit to cost if it was not its' responsibility. The Clerk to liaise with the Council's tree surgeon to establish if any alternative works could be done to the tree, other than felling, and enquiries to contact the owner to continue.

FPC20-011 Farndon Residents Environment Group

Mr Dodson had confirmed that all activities were still currently suspended due to the COVID-19 lockdown. It was anticipated that this may be reviewed at the end of May.

It was noted that, other than around the riverside, litter was not a major issue at the moment.

FPC20-012 Update Reports from Chairs

(a) Chairman's Report

Helipad

The Chair drew Members attention to a helipad that was in the village down the bottom end of Wyke Lane.

(b) Planning

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

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

It was AGREED that this be supported.

20/00202/FUL – Tonic Farndon, 19 Main Street, Farndon - Change of use from Sui Generis to a dwelling.

It was AGREED that this be supported.

20/00737/FUL – 19 Village Close, Farndon - Householder application to remove conservatory and erect rear single storey extension

It was AGREED that this be supported.

Decision Notice - 20/00615/TWCA – Land off North End, Farndon - T22 Sycamore - Fell due to multistemmed variety and dieback throughout crown T25 Horse Chestnut - Fell due to bleeding canker, decay evident in stem T27 Horse Chestnut - Fell due to bleeding canker, bark dysfunction. G3 Ash, Birch, Beech, Willow - Fell dead and leaning trees. T7 Willow - Deadwood T8 Ash - Deadwood T10 Ash - Deadwood T12 Poplar - Deadwood T23 Horse Chestnut - Deadwood T24 Horse Chestnut - Deadwood T26 Sycamore - Remove Ivy and deadwood T30 Hornbeam - Formative prune T31 Hornbeam - Formative prune T32 Oak - Deadwood

Members received and noted the decision notice granting permission for the tree works as outlined.

(c) General Purposes

Telephone Box

Members noted that this was working well as a 'swap shop' but needed to be tidied. The Clerk had tasked to do this later in the week.

(d) Playing Field

Grass Cutting

The grass had now been cut twice by the contractor. The daffodils had been left on the verge by Main Street and should be cut next time.

Cricket Club

Acknowledgement and thanks had been received from the cricket club for the Parish Council's waiving of the rent for the 2020-21 season (or pro-rata next year depending on any matches played).

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Bowls Club

It had been reported to Councillor Duckmanton that someone had been using the bowls club to exercise their dogs off lead. The Sexton had made the gate secure to prevent access and will continue to monitor.

(e) Cemetery

Church Yard - Horse Chestnut across Power Lines

A Horse Chestnut (T3) was growing across power lines within the Church Yard. The Clerk had contacted Western Power who had confirmed that responsibility for pruning would lie with the land owner, and three week's notice of work would be required to ensure power outage. The work was not identified as urgent.

(f) Ponds & Riverside

Boundary Fence

The Clerk confirmed that the property owner who had planted an area of the meadow (behind their boundary fence) with shrubs, etc, had now removed them in line with the timescale given

The Sexton had met on site with an Officer from Newark & Sherwood District Council to discuss the disputed new boundary fence, which had narrowed the entrance to the meadow from the garage side. The matter was ongoing.

Fishing – Ponds

This item had been covered under minute number FPC20-009.

FPC20-013 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 30th April 2020
Members noted the Council's financial position as at 30th April 2020

FPC20-014 Correspondence

There was nothing to report.

FPC20-015 Items for Notification

Councillor Duckmanton had received an expression of interest from a resident to join the Parish Council and wondered if an invitation could be extended to them to attend the next meeting.

In response to a question put, the Clerk confirmed that the minimum age of someone wishing to join the Parish Council was 18 years of age.

Picnic Area

Councillor Parker referred to an area of land at the picnic area that was looking quite unkempt. The Clerk confirmed that the Sexton would inspect.

Planters

Cllr Teixeira-Gomes asked that the planters on the slipway be watered regularly. Plants for the planter on Main Street would be purchased by Cllr Teixeira-Gomes from Devon Croft Nursery.

FPC20-016 Date of Next Meeting
Monday, 22nd June 2020

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.