

**Minutes of Farndon Parish Council held on Thursday, 20th April 2017 at 6.40pm in the Parish Council Room**

**Present:** Councillor M Baker, in the Chair  
Councillor Mrs M Bayne  
Councillor A Duckmanton  
Councillor Mrs J Gafney  
Councillor I Millner  
Councillor M Oldham  
Councillor J Teixeira-Gomes

**Also in attendance:** Cllr N Mison, Mr S Swanwick(FREG) and 3 members of the public

**FPC16-123** Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I & K Walker and County Councillor Mrs Saddington (due to purdah).

**FPC16-124** Declarations of interest

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

**FPC16-125** Minutes of the Parish Council – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**FPC16-126** Newark & Sherwood District Council's Business Manager – Growth & Regeneration

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.35pm and welcomed Matt Lamb, Business Manager – Growth & Regeneration to the meeting, together with his colleague, Julia Lockwood, Senior Manager.

Mr Lamb gave an in depth presentation to Members on how planning applications were determined and the legal framework and policies that had to be taken in to consideration in making a decision.

Farndon was considered to be an 'other village' in policy terms and, as such, had no development allocated. Development was governed by Spatial Policy 3 which stated that housing won't be supported unless there is identified local need.

Members expressed their concern at recent applications that had been approved which would impact on the local community, especially around parking. This was despite good and cogent objections from the Parish Council. It often appeared that the Planning Authority did not listen to the representatives of local communities and this was a frustration.

It was AGREED that the presentation would be forwarded to the Clerk so that it could be circulated to Members.

The Chair thanked Mr Lamb for his presentation and reconvened the meeting at 7.20pm.

**FPC16-127** District Councillor Session

The Chair welcomed Councillor Mison to his first meeting of the Parish Council and suspended the meeting at 7.21pm to allow him to present his report.

Councillor Mison introduced himself as the third District Councillor for the Ward.

Since the last Parish Council meeting, no Full Council had been held at the District Council so there was little to report. However, with two elections it was a busy time.

Councillor Mison advised that he had joined Newark & Sherwood Homes on their walk around of the village on Tuesday. It had been interesting to see the level of ownership, with houses mostly being sold off but bungalows retained in the housing stock.

Councillor Mison stated that he wanted to look at parking issues and to look at dropping kerbs to alleviate problems. He would work with Ward Councillor colleagues to do this, but it could only be done for tenanted homes.

In response to a question posed by Councillor Gomes, Councillor Mison confirmed that this was the first meeting of the Parish Council he had attended because it had been agreed that, when elected, there was little point in everyone attending all meetings. As he didn't drive, due to a visual impairment, and Farndon and Fernwood meetings were held on the same days, it had been agreed that he would attend Fernwood and Councillor K Walker, who then lived in the village, would attend Farndon. However, he would try and attend more meetings.

The Chair thanked Councillor Mison for his report and reconvened the meeting at 7.25pm.

**FPC16-128** Farndon Residents Environment Group

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.26pm to allow Mr Swanwick to present his report.

A litter pick had been held on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April. It was intended that a pull of young Himalayan Balsam be trialled to see whether it had a better impact on controlling the plant.

The Church Yard clean up would take place on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April. On 14<sup>th</sup> May a coppice of the Farndon Park would take place, along with another litter pick.

The Chair then thanked Mr Swanwick for his report and reconvened the meeting at 7.30pm.

**FPC16-129** Public 10 Minute Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.31pm to allow for any questions from the public.

It was reported that the bridge in the Ponds had been reconstructed, and the member of the public had dismantled it. The Clerk advised this was part of the Village Handyman's duties and would be inspected weekly.

Additionally, the work undertaken at the Ponds was questioned. The Clerk advised that all work at the Ponds was done in conjunction with FREG.

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 7.35pm.

**FPC16-130** Parish Council Matters

(a) **Newark Healthcare Consultative Group – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

The meeting had been attended by both Councillors Mrs Bayne and Oldham.

The CCG had given an explanation with regard to prescriptions and what would not now be available. It had also been reported that the shuttle bus had now been terminated.

A discussion had been held on the Appointment Gateway and access to appointments. Patients had a right to be offered the chance to go to Newark Hospital for their appointment and could challenge that if Newark was not offered. A meeting had been arranged with the Gateway service to clarify their role.

(b) **Gordon Welbourn Running Week – 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

Members received and noted details of the Gordon Welbourn Running Week and that the race through the village would be on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017. No objection was raised to the use of the Council's land.

**FPC16-131** Update Reports from Chairs

(a) **Planning & General Purposes**

Decision Notice – 17/00540/TWCA – Pollard 8 Limes – St Peter's Church Yard

Members noted the decision notice for work to pollard 8 Lime Trees to previous pollard points at St Peter's Church. This work had been undertaken by the Council's contractor on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

16/01903/FUL – 9A Cross Lane, Farndon – Conversion of outbuilding to form dwelling

Members noted the application for the conversion of an outbuilding to form a dwelling at 9A Cross Lane. It was further noted that this land formed part of the garden of 2 School Lane and had previously been the subject of a report to the Enforcement Officer.

The Chair suspended the meeting at 8pm to allow neighbours to express their views. There was a concern that this development had been taking place by stealth over a number of months, with much of the ground work completed in advance of any application being submitted. The property was located at the narrowest pinch point of the road and had already suffered damage by a delivery lorry. Additionally, it would be creating another vehicular access at a point where there was no pavement in an area where there were elderly residents and also school children.

The Chair thanked the neighbours for their comments and reconvened the meeting at 8.05pm.

After much discussion it was AGREED that objection be raised to this application and that delegated authority be given to Councillor Oldham, in conjunction with the Clerk, to respond using the appropriate material considerations.

17/00518/RMA – Land South of Newark, Bowbridge Lane, Balderton – Reserved Matters comprising Parcel 1a landscaping within Key Phase 1

Members received and noted the application that formed part of the wider Growth Point development. No comments were offered.

17/00593/TWCA – 3 Prebends Close, Farndon - Reduce 1 No. Laburnum by 30% volume to clear utility cable and remove overhang over drive

Members noted the intended works to trees in the Conservation Area at 3 Prebends Close.

17/00621/TWCA – Welwymbury, 6 Church Street, Farndon - Reduce 1 No. Norway Spruce tree by 20% in height and 20% to the sides to allow more light into property and clearance to utility cable

Members noted the intended works to trees in the Conservation Area at Welwymbury, 6 Church Street.

17/00216/FUL – Land between 4-6 California Road, Farndon – Development of 1 x 2 bed bungalow – Amended site layout

Councillor Oldham confirmed that, in line with the request made by the Parish Council, two parking spaces had been provided as replacement parking, in addition to those for the development.

It was AGREED that the Council could now support the application with those amendments.

Enforcement Officer's Report – Advertisement Hoardings – Fosse Road, Farndon

Members noted that the hoardings had now been removed by the agent following intervention by the Enforcement Planning Officer. The adverts did not relate to the land so were in contravention of Regulations.

Enforcement Officer's Report – Wyke Lane

Members noted the response from the Enforcement Officer, however, were not satisfied and requested the Clerk seek further clarification.

(b) **Playing Field**

Proposed Village Fun Run – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Members received correspondence requesting permission to use the field for a fun run on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> July, in member of John Clark. This was AGREED subject to confirmation that there was no cricket fixture on the evening.

### Football Goals

A request had been received asking if it would be possible for the Parish Council to provide better football facilities on the playing field.

The goals by the Memorial Hall were considered too small for older children and the worn patch of grass in front of the goals made the ground hard and uneven. The cricket nets had started to be used as a football goal which could lead to damage, with current costs to replace £150.

After discussion it was AGREED that Councillor Duckmanton would raise the matter with the Cricket Club to see if a solution could be reached and report back to the May meeting.

### Farndon Bowling Club – Dates for Vehicular Access

Members received and noted the dates the Club would like vehicular access to the Bowling Club during the coming season:

- Presidents Day - Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June
- TSB Final – Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> July
- Eric Heeley Open Competition – Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> August
- End of Season BBQ – Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September

These were AGREED but the Clerk was asked to remind the Club of the importance of the speed limit being respected given the number of children using the field.

### Broken Seat – Removal and Replacement

One of the seats next to the play area was broken. After discussion it was AGREED that this should be repaired not removed and replaced.

### Hedge Pleshing

The Clerk advised that the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) had advised that they may be interested in pleshing the hedge. The charge would be £8/metre depending on the condition. A meeting would be arranged on site to investigate this further to see if it was a viable project.

### Middle Gate

The Clerk to speak to the Council's contractor regarding putting a fly wheel on the bottom of the gate to make it easier to open and close by users.

### Wall on Wyke Lane

Councillor Mrs Gafney advised that a resident had expressed concern at the condition of the boundary wall on the corner of North End and Wyke Lane as it appeared to be 'bulging'.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should report this through the County Council's online portal and request an inspection be made.

(c)

### **Cemetery**

#### Provision of new litter bin

Councillor Mrs Bayne requested a new litter bin be purchased for the Cemetery, for installation at the back boundary. This was AGREED.

#### Church Yard

Councillor Mrs Gafney asked if it was the Parish Council's responsibility to manage the Ivy in the Church Yard and, if so, whether there were any plans to cut it back.

The Clerk advised that the maintenance within the Church Yard was the responsibility of the Parish Council, supported by FREG. It was AGREED that the Clerk should discuss a way forward with the Church and report back to a future meeting.

(d) **Ponds & Riverside**

Repairs to Revetment

The Clerk advised that further damage had occurred to the revetment. The contractor had been asked to provide a quotation as soon as possible so repairs could progress.

Commemorative Seat

The Clerk advised that the resident had confirmed they were happy to proceed with the quotation provided for the commemorative seat and for it to be sited at the Ponds.

This would now be progressed, although an 18 week lead time had been given by the manufacturers.

Picnic Area Trees

Councillor Gomes requested that the trees either side of the commemorative seat be pruned back appropriately as they were growing away.

Seat on Meadow

Councillor Gomes was pleased to note that the seat had now been repaired and was being well used.

Riverside Car Park

Councillor Gomes requested that the car park be cleaned of waste leaves and grass. It was AGREED that the Clerk would arrange this with the handyman.

**FPC16-132** Financial Matters

(a) **To consider accounts for payments in accordance with the circulated schedule**

Members AGREED payments in accordance with the circulated schedule outlined below:

<b>To</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>
Various	682.04	Wages
UK Fuels Ltd	62.51	Fuel
D Lyne	156.00	Playing Field Mow 16 & 31/03
HM Revenue & Customs	1,091.63	Q4 PAYE
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1,992.18</b>	

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

Members NOTED receipts in accordance with the circulated schedule outlined below.

<b>From</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>
HMRC VAT Reclaim	728.06	Q4 Reclaim
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£728.06</b>	

(c) **To note the Council's financial position as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

The Clerk advised that the closing balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 was showing at £47,201.22. However, this was not yet confirmed as some receipts were outstanding.

(d) **Auto-Enrolment - NEST Pensions Update**

The Clerk advised that the Pensions Regulator had to be advised by 13<sup>th</sup> May of any employees enrolled in the Council's scheme.

(e) **Review of rents for service users of the playing field.**

Prior to consideration of this item, Councillor Duckmanton declared a personal interest due to his membership of the Farndon Cricket Club and withdrew himself from the discussion.

Members noted that the increase in the Retail Price Index for the year to January 2017 was 1.8%. It was proposed by Councillor Gomes, seconded by Councillor Mrs Gafney, that a 1.8% increase be applied to the rents for service users of the playing fields. This was AGREED by 6 votes for with 1 abstention.

(f) **Public Works Loan Board Audit Statement**

A statement had been received from the Public Works Loan Board confirming the total balance outstanding, as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, was £19,622.90.

(g) **Confirmation from Grant Thornton of the External Audit Process**

Documentation had now been received from Grant Thornton confirming the dates for the submission of the Annual Return to the external auditor as 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

**FPC16-133** Notts Association of Local Councils

(a) **How to Access Local Policing Information**

It was AGREED that the information provided be circulated to Members and a copy placed on the village noticeboards.

(b) **Governance & Accountability 2017**

The Clerk advised that this was a comprehensive document that would be used as part of the audit process.

**FPC16-134** To receive any correspondence

(a) **Information from Reboot Notts seeking participants for a study for people suffering with anxiety and/or low mood**

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from REBOOT Notts who were looking to recruit over 2,000 people to join a study across Nottinghamshire for those suffering with anxiety and/or low mood.

Flyers were taken by Members and a copy would be placed in the noticeboards.

**FPC16-135** To receive items for notification

(a) **Fly Tipping**

Councillor Duckmanton asked if it could be determined from the District Council how much it cost to remove fly tipping as it continued to be a problem along the riverside and also at the ponds.

It was AGREED that the Clerk would contact the District Council for that information and to also request signage.

(b) **Dog Fouling**

It was noted that dog fouling on the streets and open areas was a continuing problem. The Clerk was asked to contact the Dog Warden Service at the District Council to see if a visit could be made.

(c) **Domestic Waste**

Councillor Milner expressed his concern that the bins on the playing field were being used for domestic waste and provide details to the Clerk. It was AGREED that this would be followed up with the resident.

(d) **Graffiti**

Councillor Milner requested the graffiti on the walls leading down the entrance from Oak Avenue be cleaned.

(e) **FARI Meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

The Chair reminded Members that the meeting arranged by FARI regarding the Southern Relief Road would be held at the Memorial Hall on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April. All were welcome to attend.

(f) **Office Equipment**

It was AGREED that the Clerk should investigate the purchase of a projector and a new printer which would be more economical on ink.

**FPC16-136** Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 – Annual Meeting of the Council

The meeting closed at