

Minutes of Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 27th March 2017 at 6.40pm in the Parish Council Room

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

Also in attendance: Cllr I Walker, Cllr K Walker, Mr J Dodson (FREG) and 2 members of the public

FPC16-107 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Gafney, Councillor Mison and County Councillor Mrs Saddington.

FPC16-108 Declarations of interest

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

FPC16-109 Minutes of the Parish Council – 27th February 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 27th February 2017 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

FPC16-110 County Councillor Session – Cllr Mrs Saddington

The County Council election had now been called and, as purdah was now in place, Cllr Mrs Saddington would not be attending.

FPC16-111 District Councillor Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.42pm to allow Councillor I Walker to present his report.

Councillor Walker referred to the District Council's planning committee when the application regarding the garages were discussed. The Officer's recommendations were to demolish and the new properties built. However, Councillors Mison and I Walker put forward an amendment asking for deferment so that members of each Council, and the Highways Authority, could meet and review the parking, but that was lost. A meeting was still being pursued as problems will arise with parking when the developments are complete.

Councillor Oldham referred to the recent works that had taken place at Westfield Way and queried whether District Councillors were aware of any plans in that area as residents were asking. District Members confirmed they were not aware of any plans.

Councillor Walker advised Members that, even though Councillor Mison did not attend the Farndon meetings, he was kept updated on matters. Councillor Baker responded that he appreciated that was the case but, as he had not attended any

meeting since being elected, he looked forward to welcoming him to a future meeting.

The Chair thanked Councillor Walker for his report and reconvened the meeting at 6.45pm.

FPC16-112 Farndon Residents Environment Group

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.46pm to allow Mr Dodson to present his report.

Mr Dodson reported that March was litter pick month, which had resulted in 20 bags of litter, plus other items, being collected. The District Council had disposed of the waste.

It was planned to undertake maintenance work in the Church yard during April. The Clerk asked FREG to liaise on dates as there was pending work to the Lime Trees.

The Chair then thanked Mr Dodson for his report and reconvened the meeting at 7.47pm.

FPC16-113 Public 10 Minute Session

No questions were raised.

FPC16-114 Parish Council Matters

(a) **Update on Legal Matters – Draft Lease in respect of St Peter’s Early Years**

The Clerk confirmed that the Lease had now been agreed and was ready to be signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

It was AGREED that the Lease should now be executed and was duly signed by Councillor Baker and Councillor Oldham, witnessed by the Clerk.

The matter was now complete.

(b) **Newark Healthcare Consultative Group – 6th January 2017 Minutes**

Members received and noted the minutes from the 6th January 2017 Newark Healthcare Consultative Group.

(c) **To consider the redecoration of the Parish Room**

Members AGREED to the redecoration of the Parish Room in the sum of £465.

FPC16-115 Update Reports from Chairs

(a) **Planning & General Purposes**

17/00182/TPO – Old Hall Farm, Wyke Lane, Farndon – T1 Chestnut – Reduction in height by maximum 2 metres and radial crown reduction maximum of 1 metre. T2 Chestnut – Height reduction of maximum 2 metres and reduce 2 lower lateral branches to east and west by maximum 3 metres. T3 Chestnut – Removal of deadwood. T4 Chestnut – reduction in height by 2-3 metres to previous reduction points, reduction of north canopy over outbuildings by maximum 2 metres and reduction of east canopy over garden reduce back by a maximum of 1.5 metres and to a height of 10 metres from the ground upwards

Members received and noted the decision notice granting permission for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order at Old Hall Farm, Wyke Lane.

17/00261/TPO – Holly Croft, 4 Tow Court, Farndon – Holly tree and Yew tree – reduce the trees by 1m in all directions and remedial work to the Yew tree
Members received and noted the decision notice granting permission for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order at Holly Croft, 4 Tow Court.

17/00419/TWCA – Pollard 2 Cracked Willows, Picnic Area
Members received and noted the decision notice granting permission for works to trees in the Conservation Area at the Picnic Area.

17/00332/TWCA – Work to Trees at The White House, Fosse Road
Members received and noted the decision notice granting permission for works to trees in the Conservation Area at The White House, Fosse Road.

Advertisement Hoardings – Fosse Road, Farndon
The Clerk advised that this matter had been referred to the Enforcement Officer at Newark & Sherwood District Council.

Discussion on Roundabout – Sandhill Road
The Chair updated Members on the meeting held recently with an Officer from Via East Midlands and County Councillor Mrs Saddington.

After discussion it was resolved that there was little that could be done, particularly given current funding constraints. Following the meeting the Clerk had ascertained that Newark & Sherwood Homes did not own any of the properties discussed at the meeting.

While on site, the Officer had also reviewed the bollard that had been installed outside 31 Sandhill Road and agreed to write to the householder to seek its removal.

Repollarding of 8 Limes and to rectify bad workmanship on Yews – St Peter’s Church Yard
The Clerk advised that following a complaint received and an inspection of the Limes, application had been made to Newark & Sherwood District Council for permission to pollard them and, at the same time, to rectify the bad workmanship on the Yews. Permission had been granted for the pollarding of the Limes but not for any work on the Yews at this time.

Report of repair required to bus shelter – Main Street
The Clerk advised that the hold in the roof of the bus shelter on Main Street had been reported to Nottinghamshire County Council. An inspector had visited and works ordered.

(b) **Playing Field**

Request to hold an event – Farndon Cricket Club
A request had been received from the Farndon Cricket Club to hold a fundraising event on the playing field on Saturday, 9th September 2017. While this was to raise funds for the Cricket Club, it was hoped that this would be an event that would involve the whole of the village.

Boundary Hedge
Councillor Duckmanton queried whether the temporary fence to fill the gap in the hedge was any closer to being removed. The Clerk advised that Devon Croft Nursery had been out to establish what whips were needed to fill in the gaps and a quotation was awaited.

However, it had been suggested that the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers may be able to assist with slashing the hedge at the end of the season. It was AGREED that an approach be made to the BTCV to see if this would be an option for them.

Playing Field Mow

It was AGREED that the Clerk would, together with Councillor Duckmanton, review the area of the field mown by the contractor.

Container

The Clerk advised that the container had been inspected with the Village Handyman. The entrance would need to be measured to identify whether the ride on mowers would fit.

It was not sure whether the floor of the container would be able to bear the weight of two mowers and the Clerk was asked to review this with an appropriate contractor.

(c) **Cemetery**

Completion of Work to Conifers

The Clerk advised Members that there was further work that needed to be undertaken to the conifers, following their reduction in height. The Village Handyman had been shown how to cut the conifers back and this work would be undertaken as soon as possible.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk should seek advice from the Council's contractor to determine what impact there would be if the conifers were removed.

Cemetery Gate

It was understood that there had previously been a gate in the Cemetery railings. It was AGREED that the Clerk should review where this had been and report back to a future meeting of the Council.

(d) **Ponds & Riverside**

Signage at the Ponds

It had recently been reported that fishing was taking place from the island in the ponds. The Village Handyman had removed the bridge that had been placed across to gain access.

The Clerk sought permission to purchase a sign to install on the island advising anglers it was out of bounds. This was AGREED.

Ownership of Fishing Rights – Farndon Ponds

The Clerk advised that a long discussion had taken place with the Nottingham Anglers Association regarding the fishing rights at Farndon Ponds. There appeared to be a conflict with information contained in the Council's title deeds.

It was AGREED that the Clerk would seek a meeting with a representative from the Association and Councillor Gomes to discuss in more detail and report back to a future meeting of the Council.

Access to Ponds

A meeting to discuss the access road to the ponds with Farndon Marina was still outstanding.

Pollarding of 2 Additional Limes – Picnic Area

The Clerk advised that, in the original application, only 7 Limes had been included then the contractor had identified a further two. Permission had been granted by the District Council for the works to be completed.

FPC16-116 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:

To	Amount	Description
Town & Country Gardens	£680.00	Bench installations
Trade UK Account	£82.03	Supplies & Fixings
Farndon Memorial Hall	£450.00	Office Rent – Jan to March
Newark & Sherwood Locksmiths	£11.40	Key for Back Gate
D Lyne	£1,110.00	Work at Ponds
Parkland Trees & Hedges	£1,860.00	Tree Works – Cemetery & Picnic Area
UK Fuels Ltd	£101.23	Fuel
Smiths Timber Merchants	£106.76	Sundries
Zurich Municipal	£625.19	Motor Insurance
E.On	£8.35	Morturary Electricity
Lincoln Office Furniture	£1,680.00	Office Furniture
Rialtas Business	£135.60	Alpha Software Maintenance
12Pay Ltd	£79.20	12Pay Payroll Software
Various	£1,670.74	Wages
J Saunders	£17.69	Screws for Bench
Total:	£8,618.19	

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

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

From	Amount	Description
Early Years	£333.33	March Rent
Farndon Focus	£604.17	Donation towards bench
E Gill & Sons Ltd (Funeral)	£365.00	Interments
Total:	£1,302.50	

(c) **To note the Council's financial position as at**

Members noted the Council's Receipts and Payments Summary which had been updated. The closing balance was currently showing at £48,468.04.

(d) **Auto-Enrolment – NEST Pensions Registration**

The Clerk advised there was nothing further to report at this time.

(e) **To consider the review of rents for service users of the playing fields**

The rents for service users of the playing fields was undertaken on a bi-annual basis with a review due in 2017.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should review the leases and report back to the April meeting.

- (f) **To consider reviewing the Cemetery Fees**
The Clerk advised that Newark Town Council had recently undertaken a review of Cemetery fees in the area. It was AGREED that a copy be requested and a decision then be made whether or not to review fees charged.
- (g) **Notification of Rent increase 2017/18 for garage at 27 Almond Grove**
The Clerk advised that notification of a rent increase for the garage had been received. The weekly rent would now be £9.66 (£8.05 plus £1.61 VAT), a rise from £9.49. Given the current planning application it was AGREED that the Clerk should set up a weekly direct debit for the rent.
- (h) **To consider reviewing the Council's Insurance Provider**
It was AGREED that the Clerk should seek alternative quotations for the Council's annual insurance.
- (i) **To consider the appointment of the Council's Internal Auditor**
It was AGREED that Roger Snowdin be appointed as the Council's Internal Auditor for the financial year 2016/17.
- (j) **To note any correspondence received from Grant Thornton re the External Audit**
The Clerk advised that no correspondence had yet been received from Grant Thornton regarding the Council's External Audit.

FPC16-117 Nottinghamshire County Council

Rights of Way Claim – Crees Lane

The Chair referred to correspondence received from Nottinghamshire County Council confirming that the Rights of Way Claim for Crees Lane had been refused and outlined the reasons for that decision.

A resident present requested a copy of the correspondence, which the Chair agreed could be provided.

FPC16-118 Newark & Sherwood District Council

(a) **Review of the CIL Draft Charging Schedule**

It was AGREED that this be completed by the Clerk in conjunction with Councillor Oldham prior the submission deadline of 13th April.

FPC16-119 Notts Association of Local Councils

(a) **CILCA Training Programme for Clerks**

It was AGREED that the Clerk be permitted to undertake the CILCA Training Programme for Clerks, with costs shared with North Muskham Parish Council.

(b) **Confirmation of Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2017/18**

The Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2017/18 of £7.57 per head of electorate was noted.

(c) **Best Kept Village Competition Details**

After discussion it was AGREED that the Parish Council would enter the 2017 Best Kept Village Competition.

The Clerk was asked to liaise with FREG on the detail of the competition and submit the entry form.

FPC16-120 To receive any correspondence

(a) **Letter commending the floral displays on the verges**

The Chair referred to a letter received from a member of the public commending the Parish Council on the beautiful floral displays that they enjoyed seeing while travelling through the village on the bus.

FPC16-121 To receive items for notification

(a) Gate to Playing Field

Councillor Milner queried why the gate had been left open recently on a Saturday evening.

It was explained that the Memorial Hall had been hired for a function and guests had left their cars at the end of the evening. The gate had to be left open to allow for vehicles to be collected on the Sunday.

The Clerk was asked to look at the gate with the Village Handyman as it was becoming difficult to lock.

FPC16-122 Date of Next Meeting

To be arranged after consultation with Members.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.