

**Minutes of the Farndon Parish Council held on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 6.30pm 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, County Cllr Mrs Saddington, Mr J Dodson and 1 member of the public

**FPC17-22** Apologies for absence  
None had been received.

**FPC17-23** Declarations of interest  
It was AGREED that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.

**FPC17-24** Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017  
The minutes of the annual meeting held on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**FPC17-25** County Councillor Sessions – Cllr Mrs Saddington  
The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.32pm to allow Cllr Mrs Saddington to present her report.

Cllr Mrs Saddington advised that the cost for interactive speed signs had come back at between £7,500 and £10,000 for Members to consider.

It was noted that the Nottinghamshire Minerals Plan was on the agenda, and Cllr Mrs Saddington confirmed that the present Plan had been withdrawn and a re-consultation would be issued.

The current restrictions whereby residents had to register to use the Household Waste Recycling Centre would be withdrawn, allowing free access to the facilities.

Cllr Mrs Saddington referred to a request received for yellow lines on Main Street between Grays Court and Holmefield. The Chair explained the problems that residents were experiencing, with the near permanent parking of two vans that swapped on a daily basis, and people still 'parking and riding' to use the bus to Nottingham. The situation had further been exacerbated by the building works on land at 9 Main Street. Cllr Mrs Saddington to seek a site meeting to review the area.

It was confirmed that the work to Brockton Avenue would commence in July.

While not a County Council matter, Cllr Mrs Saddington explained that she had abstained from the vote on the development of the garages at 27-29 Almond Grove as she did not want to support any matter that may interfere with the bus service provision.

The Chair thanked Cllr Mrs Saddington for her report and reconvened the meeting at 6.41pm. It was AGREED that any items from Nottinghamshire County Council would be brought forward on the agenda to immediately after the County Councillor Session. This would allow Cllr Mrs Saddington to participate in any discussion and report any matters back to the County Council directly.

**FPC17-26** District Councillor Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.42pm for reports from Cllr Mison.

Cllr Mison referred to the site meeting held on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, prior to the Planning Committee on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June. Representation had been made to Officers to defer consideration of the development of the garages but that request was declined and the application proceeded to Committee. The concerns of the Parish Council were raised at the meeting but permission was granted for the development.

It was AGREED that the Clerk would forward a copy of the letters sent to the Highways Authority to Cllr Mison for information.

On 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 the Tour of Britain cycling event would finish in Newark adjacent to Sconce Park. This would impact on roads around the town.

Members were advised that the Newark Castle Cycling Club were holding an event in Farndon on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, in advance of the Tour of Britain.

The Newark Half Marathon would again be held, with the same route as last year. The road closures would impact on the village.

The Chair thanked Cllr Mison for his report and reconvened the meeting at 6.47pm.

**FPC17-27** Farndon Residents Environment Group

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.48pm to allow Mr Dodson to present his report.

Mr Dodson advised that the group had undertaken their regular litter pick and had also pulled the Himalayan Balsam on land next to the car park at the ponds.

It was reported that a Willow tree on the Council's boundary at the ponds had split and fallen across the footpath. A FREG member had attended and removed it from the footpath and cleared the debris.

Cllr Duckmanton asked if FREG were aware of who had put the hard surfacing down on the lane down to the power station. Mr Dodson advised it was undertaken every couple of years by Hardy's

It was also noted that hardcore had been placed along Cottage Lane and it was understood planings were to follow. It was AGREED that the Clerk would contact Nottinghamshire County Council to establish if it was a Green Lane and whether any conditions were in place on it.

The Chair thanked Mr Dodson for his report and extended his thanks to members of FREG for their hard work. The meeting was reconvened at 6.52pm.

**FPC17-28** Public 10 Minute Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 6.53pm for any questions from members of the public present.

A resident expressed their concern at the parking of cars on the pavement on Almond Grove and the problems experienced by people with pushchairs and anyone with a disability.

The Chair sympathised and referred to the meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June which sought to identify ways to address the problem. Draft letters had been produced to send to residents on Almond Grove and it may be possible to amend that to include a request for considerate parking and people to be mindful of the needs of users of the pavements.

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 6.57pm.

**FPC17-29** Parish Council Matters

(a) **Trade Waste Disposal**

The Clerk advised Members that the current arrangements for trade waste were not sufficient for the amount of waste being generated. There were a number of options available:

- continued hire of skips on an ad hoc basis at a cost of £222 per hire
- an additional trade waste bin from Newark & Sherwood District Council at an annual cost of £864
- the green waste bin scheme with an annual cost of £30 per bin

After discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk should sign up for 5 bins through the green waste scheme and usage be monitored over the next 6 months.

(b) **Chairman's Allowance – Purchase of Medals for John Clark Fun Run**

The Chair advised that a request had been made to support the provision of medals for the John Clark Fun Run on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> July. The costs would be shared with the Memorial Hall. It had been AGREED that the cost would be met from the Chairman's

Allowance.

Members were invited to attend the event if they would like to do so. The Clerk would circulate timings of the event for information.

(c) **Introduction of Public Space Protection Orders for Dog Control**

It was AGREED that the Clerk should review the questionnaire received and respond accordingly, but to include the need for enforcement that is currently lacking.

(d) **To consider applications for support from local organisations**

Members considered the request for financial support from:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Farndon Guides
- 1<sup>st</sup> Farndon Brownies

The Clerk advised that a grant of £100 had been made in the 2016/17 financial year.

It was AGREED that a minimum grant of £100 be made but that further information be sought on the number of participants that may take place in the outlined events. That information to be circulated to Members on receipt and a decision be made on whether to increase that amount.

(e) **To review letters for circulation to residents in Oak Avenue and Almond Grove**

Prior to consideration of the item on Oak Avenue, Councillor Millner expressed a personal interest and withdrew himself from the discussion on that item.

The Clerk read the draft letters it was proposed to send to residents on Oak Avenue and Almond Grove, subject to approval from the Highways Authority.

It was AGREED that the letters should be amended to include 'considerate parking' and resubmitted to the Highways Authority for approval.

**FPC17-30** Update Reports from Chairs

As Councillor Duckmanton needed to leave at 7.25pm, the Chair agreed to take the update report on Playing Fields in advance of Planning & General Purposes.

(a) **Playing Field**

Proposals for Boundary Hedge

Discussion took place on the best way to move forward with the gap in the hedge adjacent to the Bowls Club. It was noted that temporary fencing had been vandalised twice.

The quotation received from The Conservation Volunteers to pleach half the hedge was noted.

After consideration it was AGREED that the Clerk should look to purchasing established shrubs to plant in the gap.

Enquiry to use playing field by football team

Cllr Duckmanton referred to a request made by a team to use the playing field as their home ground. This would be discussed at a meeting of the Football League as there were other issues that needed to be considered. A report would be brought back to the next meeting.

Damage to Play Area

Cllr Duckmanton advised that the cable runway seat had been damaged and pulled off from the pulley wire. The Clerk advised that a request would be made for the Wicksteed Leisure representative to attend site and review the options available.

Early Years request to erect a pergola

The request from the Early Years to erect a pergola 9m x 3m at the rear of the unit was considered by Members. No objection was raised and it was AGREED that permission could be given.

(b) **Planning & General Purposes**

17/00219/FUL – Land at Staveley Court, Farndon – Development of 2 x 2 bed bungalows and 2 x 2 bed residential dwelling house – Amended Proposal & Plans

Prior to consideration of this application, Councillor Oldham declared a personal interest and withdrew himself from the discussion.

After discussion, Members did not feel that the submitted amended proposal and plan addressed any of their concerns and AGREED that objection continue to be raised as follows:

- it was over-intensive development for the site
- the plans showed 2 parking spaces for each dwelling. The area already suffered from on-street parking and narrow roads and an additional 24 vehicles would have a detrimental impact on the access currently enjoyed by residents.
- the design of the dwellings did not match the existing properties and, given the intensive development, would have a negative visual impact on the existing properties. the proposed dwellings would impact on the privacy and daylight enjoyed by the existing properties.
- the development would have a detrimental impact on the ecology of the adjacent site. Members would want an ecological survey undertaken prior to any works commencing, in the event that planning permission were to be granted.
- the application referred to the provision of a new or altered pedestrian access to or from the public highway. It was noted, however, that there was insufficient space to allow for any pavements.

17/01087/FUL – 3 Prebends Close, Farndon – Householder application for erection of an oak framed single garage in front garden

After consideration it was AGREED that the application be supported.

Stopping up of Highway – California Road

After consideration it was AGREED that objection be raised to the stopping up order as the removal, prior to the new parking spaces being available, would result in further on-street parking.

BT Adopt a Kiosk

The Clerk advised that the documentation to allow the adoption of the kiosk to proceed had now been received. A one off fee of £1 would be payable.

(c) **Cemetery**

Update on recent complaints

The Clerk advised Members of the recent complaints that had been received regarding the Cemetery. One was a complaint about the general tidiness and upkeep of the area, the other was a complaint of spillage of soil from a newly dug burial plot in advance of an interment.

The Clerk had dealt with both issues, liaising with both Cllr Mrs Bayne and the Chair. It had been AGREED that a broken pot would be replaced at a cost of £16.00.

Tree Works

A tree at the front boundary had died and would need to be removed. It was only small so the Clerk would liaise with the Sexton to see if it could be removed in house.

Nature Boxes

Cllr Mrs Bayne advised Members that she had discussed with the Clerk the potential of introducing bird boxes and other boxes for wildlife/insects in to the Cemetery. This would be explored in greater detail and a report brought back to a future meeting. Members were supportive of the initiative.

(d) **Ponds & Riverside**

Vandalism

A picnic table had recently been vandalised on the picnic area and awaited repair by the handyman.

Riverside Car Park

Cllr Gomes requested that the slipway grass be cut more often and also referred to the surface of the car park that still needed to be cleared and swept. The Clerk advised she would liaise with the handyman on both matters.

Litter

It was noted that there was a lot of litter around the riverside area. It was AGREED that a further litter bin be purchased and installed adjacent to the existing bin near the

slipway.

#### Repairs to Revetment

The Clerk advised that a quotation to repair the revetment was still awaited.

#### Tree Works

A number of trees had been identified as requiring work in the picnic area, including a dead Beech tree. It was AGREED that the Clerk should liaise with the Council's contractor and obtain a quotation for the work. As the picnic area was within the Conservation Area, permission would be required to undertake any work.

#### Dogs on Leads Notices in Picnic Area

Cllr Mrs Gafney queried whether the signs at the picnic area needed to say 'Farndon Parish Council'. The Clerk advised that was not necessary, the area was a designated 'dogs on leads by direction order'.

#### Diversion of Public Bridleway – Boathouse Summer Garden Party – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2017

The Clerk referred to email correspondence with the County Council Rights of Way Team regarding the diversion of the public bridleway for the Summer Garden Party at the Boathouse.

It was AGREED that the Clerk should liaise with the Boathouse and ask that staff are fully briefed and aware of their duties in terms of allowing members of the public to use the diversion.

#### Riverside Car Park

The Chair referred to an email received from the Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils. It was AGREED that the Clerk should progress a meeting with the Riverside Inn and the Boathouse as soon as possible.

#### **FPC17-31** Financial Matters

- (a) **To consider accounts for payments in accordance with the circulated schedule**
- (b) **To note any receipts in accordance with the circulated schedule**
- (c) **To note the Council's financial position as at 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

Members noted that the Clerk would circulate information relating to the above 3 items when the year end had been moved on in the Council's Accounts package. Reports would be circulated to Members as soon as possible.

- (d) **Completion of Internal Audit**

Members noted the completion of the internal audit and received the internal auditor's report.

The Clerk advised that the recommendation that Members receive regular management accounts would be implemented from the July meeting.

- (e) **External Audit – Annual Governance Statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

Members received and approved the Annual Governance Statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 and AGREED that it should be signed by the Chairman.

(f) **External Audit – Accounting Statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

Members received, noted and agreed the Accounting Statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 and AGREED that it should be signed by the Chairman.

(g) **PWLB Loan Rates**

The Clerk advised that the PWLB Loan Rates were variable depending on the amount required to borrow, the length of the loan and were generated on a daily basis at a set time.

Enquiries were best to be made as and when any decision to apply for a loan was agreed.

**FPC17-32** Newark & Sherwood District Council

(a) **Consultation on Planning Applications**

Members received and noted the information from Newark & Sherwood District Council. It was AGREED that the Clerk would circulate the correspondence to Members for information.

**FPC17-33** Nottinghamshire County Council

(a) **Advance Roadworks Bulletin – Brockton Avenue**

Members received and noted the advance roadworks bulleting notifying of the temporary road closure of Brockton Avenue from 7.30am on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> July to 5pm on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> July for carriageway resurfacing.

(b) **Update on Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan**

Members noted that the County Council had resolved at its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May to withdraw the draft Minerals Local Plan and Officers were preparing to reconsult.

**FPC17-34** Notts Association of Local Councils

(a) **Plant a Tree Charter – Legacy Trees**

It was AGREED that the Clerk should sign the Parish Council up to the Tree Charter.

(b) **Reform of Data Protection Legislation and Introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation**

Members noted that this reform would be progressing and the Parish Council may have to make changes to its data handling.

(c) **Consultation on Trade Union Pay Claim**

Members received and noted the correspondence regarding the Trade Union Pay Claim. It was AGREED that the Secretary of the Notts Association be advised that Members were content for the National Association to respond as appropriate.

**FPC17-35** To receive any correspondence

(a) Red Flag Day

The Chair referred to correspondence received from Seafarers UK seeking support for Merchant Navy Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> September by flying the Red Ensign.

After discussion it was AGREED that Cllr Millner would check the size and dimension of flag his flagpole could take and report back to the Clerk.

**FPC17-36** To receive items for notification

(a) Windlass

Cllr Gomes asked whether there was any update on the Windlass and when it might be back in place. The Chair advised that the work was ongoing and would take some time.

(b) Planters

Cllr Gomes asked that the planters be maintained when he was away. The Clerk confirmed that this would be undertaken and asked that Cllr Gomes liaise with her on the dates of his annual leave.

(c) Playing Field

Cllr Millner commented that the play area bins were not fit for purpose as they were continually being vandalised. He had also noted that, at times, there were no bin bags in some of the bins. The Clerk advised that the lack of bin bags would be investigated. Regarding the play area bins the Clerk was aware of their inadequacies and investigation would be made in to sourcing new bins. A report would be brought back to a future meeting.

(d) Purchase of Land

Cllr Oldham asked if there was any update on the potential purchase of land for future Cemetery provision. The Clerk advised that the land owner had been contacted. A letter would be sent outlining the requirements of the Council.

**FPC17-37** Date of Next Meeting

The Chair noted that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> July. Due to a number of Members being on annual leave on that date it was AGREED that the meeting be moved to Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

**FPC17-38** Exclusion of the Press & Public

It was AGREED to exclude the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 1 (2) during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial for the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

- Staffing Matter

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.