

FINNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday, 12th. September, 2017,
in St. Bartholomew's Church, Finningham, starting at 7:30pm*

Present: Mr. A Kilbee, Mrs. M. Webb, Mrs D. Sewell, Mr. J. Miller, Mrs. C. Winter and Mr J. Black

In attendance: Miss. N. Hill (Clerk), Cllr Roy Barker and 5 members of the public.

17.86 Visiting speakers

Cllr. R. Barker talked about the joint plan and the consultation document, which the clerk has a copy of. He feels it's the Joint Local Plan is an important document to go through and allows views to be given to where new towns/villages could be.

17.87 Contributions by Members of the Public

The footpath warden didn't have any news to give.

A point was made about local bus route being cut but due to local pressure the cutting of public transport was going to be rescinded.

17.88 Apologies and approval of absence

Mr. J. Black was going to be late due to working late.

17.89 Approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th. July, 2017

Mr J. Miller said he didn't receive the minutes. The clerk apologised and said she would make sure a copy gets to him.

Mrs. D. Sewell proposed, seconded by Mrs. M. Webb and agreed that the minutes were a correct record and the Chairman then signed the minute book.

17.90 To receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest from Members and any Gifts of Hospitality.

Nothing from any of the Councillors.

17.91 Matters arising from the meeting held on 11th July 2017

91.01 Reinstatement of the Green near Green Farm barns – it seems it hasn't been grass seeded.

The Chairman will give an update during his report.

91.02 Has Mrs. D. Sewell been successful on how the Council could obtain grants to help replace the slide? Not as yet, no.

91.03 Any further news on the moles moving from the Green to someone's gardens that lives near the Green?

No further news.

91.04 Have the replacement components been fitted to the bench on the Green? Yes, it's all completed.

91.05 Dog mess around the village. Someone put a piece in the newsletter about it. The Chairman said he had put the piece in the newsletter. A comment was made that used dog bags were being left along Saracen Hill.

91.06 Neighbourhood plan – Response from SALC as to whether villages the size of Finningham normally have a neighbourhood plan. SALC had responded giving details of towns/villages with a neighbourhood plan, they were all bigger in size than Finningham.

17.92 Chairman's Report

The Chairman spoke about his meeting with the brother of the recently deceased owner of Shadwell House. He is committed to dealing with the trees and to ensure the new owners of the property are made aware of their responsibility with regards to the trees.

With regards to Green Farm Barn, the Chairman has heard from the owner who said grass will be sorted once electric works have been completed. He also stated that the agent selling the property knows that the grass is part of the Green and doesn't come with the house. Could the Council potentially consider putting posts around the area to stop people driving on to that area, especially whilst the grass is growing?

The Tour of Britain came through the village, but the television coverage stopped at Robb Hall corner for an advertisement break.

Wiring the swings meant they shouldn't be used, but that didn't stop people still using them, therefore the seats and chains have now been taken down completely.

17.93 Sub-Committee Report.

Mrs. C. Winter gave an update on the defibrillator project. They have found someone able to do the electrics and is conscious of the grant money being used. It has been agreed that the grant money needs to be spent as per the grant application and Mrs. C. Winter proposed, seconded by Mrs. M. Webb and agreed to pay for the cabinet to house the electrics having considered different quotes. 4 adult mannequins have been offered free to allow training to be completed.

17.94 Mrs. M. Webb to tell the Council of her learnings after her Councillor training at SALC.

Mrs. Webb told the council that any repairs she completes on the Green, i.e. moving playbark back to the play areas and replacing the goal post pegs should be approved by the Council.

She is keeping a record of any repairs and checks on the Green that she completes.

Planning applications should not be dealt with via e-mail and all planning applications should be discussed at meetings, where the public are able to attend and give their views/comments.

Suffolk Community Foundation and Tesco offer grants to councils, between £1000 & £4000. She enjoyed her 2 days of Councillor training.

17.95 To co-opt a new council member to fill the casual vacancy. Mr. Richard Negus and Mr. Eliot Coward have volunteered to be co-opted. Both will give a short presentation to the Council about themselves before the Council vote as to who will fill the vacancy.

After both presentations it was unanimously agreed for Mr. Richard Negus to be co-opted onto the Council. Mr R. Negus accepted this and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. It was felt that Mr. Eliot Coward had a lot to offer and asked if he would be happy to head a group of people working on the play area, which he accepted. The Chairman and Mr. E. Coward would meet up to set some objectives.

17.96 To discuss the play equipment area, now the slide and swings both needs replacing. Should the play area be sited in a different position on the Green, to reduce that chance of them being damaged in the future. Could it involve new pieces of play equipment or just replace the slide and swings.

Carry the point over to the next meeting as a separate group needs to be put together to deal with this. Mrs. M. Webb offered to be part of this group.

17.97 To discuss the state of the Ash tree on the Green. After it being trimmed back how is the tree now a year on. The tree currently looks healthy but Ash dieback is still within the tree. When the tree looks worse and parts of the tree die, the advice from a tree surgeon is to pollard it. For the health of the tree and also for safety it the Council think it should be pollard. A quote should be obtained to be discussed at the next meeting.

17.98 To approve the design of the reservation markers and to order 12 markers at a cost of £456 + VAT.

Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mrs. D. Sewell and agreed to the design of the reservation markers and agreed to hold off ordering due to the cost of what the Ash tree issue maybe.

17.99 To approve for Mrs. M. Webb to put back playbark and pegs for the goalposts when she does her checks on the Green. From her training, Mrs. M. Webb needs the approval from the Council that she is able to do this, as any repairs to Council equipment should be approved.

Mrs. C. Winter proposed, seconded by Mrs. D. Sewell and agreed to allow Mrs. M. Webb to put back the playbark and the pegs. It was suggested that an agenda item for the next meeting seeks approval for any Councillor to complete repairs as they see fit, as long as it doesn't incur any costs.

17.100 To discuss a year 3 plan of what the Council would like to do for the village. What does the village need or want over the next 3 years. With the 2018-2019 budget needing to be discussed in October's meeting, the Council need to know what they want to budget for.

It was agreed for a leaflet drop to be completed within the village to invite people to the next meeting with their thoughts and views.

17.101 To retrospectively approve the tree work needed due to part of on Oak tree on the Green falling onto the swings. Due to the risk to the public work had to be carried out to make the area safe.

Mrs. D. Sewell proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Miller and agreed to give retrospective approval for the tree work due to needing to deal with the tree quickly.

17.102 To retrospectively approve for the cemetery hedge to be cut as it has been every year. The cost of this is £40. Are the Council happy for this to continue each year?

Mrs. C. Winter proposed, seconded by Mrs. M. Webb and agreed to give retrospective approval and continued approval for the cemetery hedge to be cut for £40 a year.

- 17.103 To approve the risk assessment for this year 2017-2018.** The clerk has emailed out the changes to the risk assessment as discussed at the last meeting
Mr. J. Miller proposed, seconded by Mr. A. Kilbee and agreed the risk assessment for 2017-2018.
- 17.104 To discuss the maintenance of the flagpole.** Currently it is very hard to lower the flag and it's thought that there may be a kink in the braid.
The Council could get the flagpole service, but at a cost of £180 per service, it was felt this wasn't worth the money. The braid had been replaced at a cost of £22.80 due to the flag being stuck and felt it was unsafe it leave it as it was.
- 17.105 To discuss and approve a training sheet for the volunteer using the Council equipment.** This can be on constant display on the inside of the door of the storage unit.
There was a training sheet in the previous storage unit, therefore this will be moved to the new storage unit.
- 17.106 To approve the annual renewal of the data protection registration £35.**
Mrs. M. Webb proposed, seconded by Mrs. D. Sewell and agreed to renew the ICO data protection registration.
- 17.107 To discuss and approve someone to attend a training and briefing session on the reform of data protection legislation.** Cost is £22 + VAT. Thursday 5th October 6pm – 9pm or Tuesday 10th October 2pm – 4pm or Thursday 12th October 10am – 12pm.
Mrs. D. Sewell proposed, seconded by Mrs. M. Webb and agreed for the Clerk to attend on Thursday 5th October, as some Councillors were unsure whether they could make the dates.
- 17.108 Correspondence Received**
- 108.01 Friends of Finningham have agreed to donate £1000 to the Council towards the replacement slide/play equipment. The Clerk has thanked them for this.
- 108.02 MSDC & Babergh joint local plan consultation – consultation document has been sent for people to read as well as 'have your say' drop-in sessions. Specifically a Town and Parish briefing at Rickinghall Village Hall on Wednesday 20th September for 2 representatives from the Parish Council to attend.
- 108.03 BDO – Last year for 2015/2016 accounts BDO noticed the fixed assets figure was different. This was because of the replacement cost value had increased as well as additional items. BDO stated the fixed assets should always be reported as what they were purchased at, not replacement cost. This has been amended for account for 2016/2017, but they have returned the annual return to the Clerk as they want the year ending 31st March 2016 amended to state the correct amount. Due to them having to return the annual statement, there is a fee of £30.
- 108.04 SALC – Litter Strategy, based on 3 themes – Education, Enforcement and Infrastructure.
- 108.05 KOMPAN playground competition to win matched funding
- 17.109 Finance**
- 109.01 Clerk's report
Previous meeting, last balance reported was from 29/06/2017
Current account £6,961.61 (£3,823.92 unrepresented cheques) after all cheques cleared, £3,137.69
Deposit account £3,313.36
Balances as of 29/08/2017
Current account £4,031.62 (£46.60 already presented) so before £46.60 presented £4,078.22
Receipts since 29/06/17 – £2,530.49 (grant for outdoor table & VAT claim)
Payments since 29/06/17 - £5,460.48 (£46.60 cheque already presented)
Deposit account £3,313.36
- 109.62 **Requests for payment**
Mr. J. Miller proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Black and agreed to authorise the following payments
Retrospectively – MR. A. Kilbee £46.60 – fuel expenses and cutting of the cemetery hedge
EARTHWOOD TREE Co £450 – tree work on the Oak on the Green
MR. A. BROWNLIE - £130 – Cutting the Green twice & replacing 1 length of fence on the Green
MRS. M. WEBB - £38.50 – fuel expenses to SALC in Claydon twice for Councillor training
HALDO DEVELOPMENTS LTD - £878.40 – GRP cabinet for electrical meeting for defib
N. HILL – £20.75 – clerks expenses
SALC - £30 – Grant & funding workshop attended by Mrs. D. Sewell
SALC - £120.00 – Councillor training for Mrs M. Webb
ICO £35 – Annual renewal of data protection registration
MR. C. WINTER - £22.80 – Braid for flagpole
- 17.110 Planning**
- 110.01 To consider applications.
DC/17/03768 – Erection of ancillary annexe accommodation following demolition of existing outbuildings.
Stanwell Farm, Gislingham Road, Finningham, Stowmarket, IP14 4JA.
The Council received views from a neighbour, which has been sent to MSDC.
The Council would like the planning department to take into consideration these views. The clerk will make

MSDC aware of the Council's views.

DC/17/03688 – Listed building consent - Black Horse Barn, Walsham Road, Finningham, IP14 4JN – No comment.

110.02 DC/17/03939 – Erection of a new dwelling and cart lodge. Gosford House, Station Road, Finningham, IP14 4TH. No comment.

Decisions & to consider planning matters coming forth.

GRANTED - DC/17/03687 – Replacement stable building to serve as ancillary accommodation – Black Horse Barn, Walsham Road, Finningham, IP14 4JN

GRANTED – DC/17/02911 – Erection of a first floor extension over existing garage and convert garage to additional living accommodation. Erection of front porch – Last Oak, Westhorpe Road, Finningham, IP14 4TW.

All planning applications received up to the date of the meeting will be discussed.

17.111

Questions to Chairman

None

17.112

Items to be discussed at the next meeting and included in the October's agenda.

A public meeting where the Council can listen to what the people in the village would like in the village.

A welcome pack for new residents.

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 9.45pm