

The Parish of FINNINGHAM

*Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on
Tuesday, 10th. May, 2016
in the dining room, White Horse Pub, Finningham, starting at 7.08pm.*

Chairman: Mr. A. Kilbee.

In attendance: Mr. A. Kilbee (Chairman), Miss N. Hill (Parish Clerk), 4 members of the Parish Council, Cllr Roy Barker, footpath warden and 1 member of the public.

1. Welcome & introduction by the Chairman

Apologies from Mr. J. Miller and Mr. J. Black for being unable to attend the meeting

2. Minutes already approved at the Meeting held on 10th. May, 2015

The minutes had been approved at the Parish Council meeting held 14th July, 2015, proposed by Mrs. D. Sewell and seconded by Mr. J. Downie and agreed.

3. Annual report from the Chairman of Finningham Parish Council.

Activities and achievements over the last year. The Parish Council have moved to monthly meetings with the exception to August and December.

Meetings were at the pub, due to a change of usage of the room, meetings will have to be at the Church again. Public attendance to meetings is poor. The Council surgery wasn't well used either.

In the last year there has been additional play equipment in the form of the springy cow, which has been welcomed by the younger people in the village. The Council are looking to conform to current BS standards of the current play equipment.

A tree on the Green with Ash dieback has been trimmed to help stop the disease progressing. Another dangerous tree has been removed from the Green.

The grass cutting contract for the coming year has been awarded to a local resident. His equipment doesn't collect the grass but it is a much cheaper service.

Thanks to the people on the grass cutting rota who cut the cemetery and graveyard.

Adopt a triangle – could residents adopt a triangle within the village that they will cut and keep tidy?

There was the 90th birthday celebration for the Queen on the Green, where the Council erected a 12m flagpole.

The Council are addressing the height of the trees within the cemetery.

A number of Councillors have attended training over the last year, at SALC and the Clerk continues to attend training courses and networking days.

There is continuous dialogue with Highways and SCC about road signs, speed limits.

The Council are wishing to invest in a defibrillator but due to the cost of it and the Councils finances, this could only be considered if a grant can be obtained.

There is maintenance needed on the Green where 9 wooden posts as part of the surround of the Green are rotten.

The Council are looking into storage of the garden equipment it owns. Mr. J. Downie currently stores it for the Council but is moving away from the village.

Finningham Parish Council have it's own laptop which the Clerk uses. This was obtained via a grant.

Thanks to Mr. J. Downie for his long standing storage of the Council' equipment. Thanks to the Councillors for the past 12 months and thanks to the Clerk.

4. Other Reports:

The following had been invited to report, subject to availability:

County and District Councillors.

Jane Storey sent over a report in her absence and was read out and a copy can be obtained from the Clerk.

Cllr Roy Barker reported the Flower Festival was outstanding and stunning and thanks to those involved.

The community award money has been put to good use.

The village is looking clean. There is a sign up by Green Farm which needs to be removed as it informs about a 10mph restriction due to stone chips. This sign is no longer valid.

The Wyvestone wind turbine has been put to bed permanently.

With regards to the middle school site at Bacton, Westhorpe, Wyvestone Bacton and Finningham are trying to keep the playing fields.

With regards to the Police, there isn't much in terms of reports from them. Vincent Clarkson, the community office has retired.

The 106 money for the village halls, if this isn't claimed after 10 years the money goes back to the developer. He is encouraging Westhorpe to obtain our money for their village hall and allow us to have a reduced rate.

The Clerk needs to speak to Gillian at MSDC to double check if there is any money the Council can obtain through different grants etc.

CIL is coming in and will replace 106 and it should be easier to get the money developers pay to MSDC.

With regards to Moon Lane 1 kissing gate still is not installed.

Finally thanks for being a Ward Member.

a. Suffolk Constabulary. A representative was unable to attend and no report to share.

b. Finningham Amenities Committee/Friends of Finningham.

Mr A. Kilbee spoke as caretaker as most of the committee had stepped down. Mr. I. Armstrong is staying and Mick is unsure.

There will hopefully be joint editorship of the newsletter with Richard and Loraine to enable the newsletter to continue.

c. Footpath Warden. Mrs. Allen reported on the parish's footpaths and rights of way.

All paths have been walked and are pretty good. Some paths can't be walked currently due to planting.

Grosvenor Lane is a byway and not a footpath and there are signs to say it's closed but it does seem to have been levelled due to people in 4 x 4's driving down the byway.

FP2 – Westhorpe, there's a notice saying no horses or bicycles but the path is showing evidence of horses hooves.

Moon Lane – there are some ruts along the footpath and it isn't the most inviting of footpaths.

There is graffiti on the railway bridge.

5. Open Forum.

Nothing was asked of the Chairman.

There were no other matters raised and the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:44pm.