

FINNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday, 8th November 2016,
in St. Bartholomew's Church, Finningham, starting at 7:30pm*

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

In attendance: Miss. N. Hill (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

16.143 Visiting speakers

None

16.144 Contributions by Members of the Public

The footpath warden shared that she hasn't been able to walk the paths in Finningham due to breaking her arm, but if anyone had any issues/concerns with the footpaths to let her know.

16.145

Apologies and approval of absence

Mr. J. Black & Mr. J. Miller sent their apologies as they were unable to attend the meeting.

16.146 Mrs. D. Sewell proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to accept the absences.

Approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th October 2016

16.147 Mrs. M. Webb proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Downie and agreed that the minutes were a correct record and the Chairman then signed the minute book.

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

16.148
148.01 Nothing from any of the Councillors.

148.02 Matters arising from the meeting held on 11th October 2016

Defibrillator – has the form been completed to apply for the grant? – No as

148.03 figures relating to ambulance time responses were needed to complete the form

148.04 before it could be submitted.
Letter to the occupier of Shadwell House regarding the trees – It was suggested to include a copy of a solicitor's letter, where the issue of the trees was trying to be dealt with.

16.149 Any update on the Welcome to Finningham signs – no update.
Have there been any feedback/comments on the article in the newsletter around what the Parish Council does and how it spends its money? – The article didn't make the newsletter; therefore, it will go in the next issue.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that he has been moving equipment into the new metal storage unit. It should be able to accommodate the Friends of Finningham marques if a mezzanine is erected inside, which the Friends of Finningham are looking to sort out..

- The Chairman is still completing the forms to obtain the S106 money which can be used towards outdoor play equipment only. Planning approval may have to be obtained. Looking at the prices of a outdoor table tennis table and safety matting, the S106 money of £1,407.07 wouldn't cover all of this and the Council may have to put £650 to cover the shortfall. The question was asked of the Council whether they would be happy to use reserves to cover this, which they are. Approval will be obtained, once confirmation of the grant has been give.
- 16.150** With regards to the grant to help replace the slide and swings, the grant would only cover a third of the total cost which is around £10,000. Cllr Jane Storey said she could potentially give £3000, therefore there is still a difference of around £3000, which the Council would have to either pay or find another source to pay this.
- 16.151** The monthly coffee and book sale are now established and maybe it's worth a try again to have a PC surgery to share what the Parish Council do.

To discuss and consider having a bus shelter in the village. Were there any more responses for the Council to consider following the final piece in the newsletter from Mrs. M. Webb asking for views. Nothing else has come from the newsletter so it was unanimously agreed not to continue due to lack of interest.

- 16.152** **To discuss, consider and approve making a contribution of the Friends of Finningham Speed Camera initiative.**
Friends of Finningham have put in £500, Mr. A. Brownlie is looking to raise £500 and looking to Finningham Parish Council for £500. The Parish Council would like more information before making a decision. Therefore, it was suggested to invite Mr. A. Brownlie and the rest of the people working on this to do a presentation at the next meeting in January 2017.
- 16.153**

- To consider and discuss whether the Parish Council should have a Facebook page/account.** The Chairman should have feedback on how Gislingham PC run their Facebook account. Who is happy and willing to run this, if approved? The only information found out was that the Clerk of Gislingham PC ran the Facebook page. So, will carry over to the next meeting to make a final decision.
- 16.154**

- To discuss and approve the pension contribution that the Council have to make to their employee, the Clerk.** Contributions have to be made via the Councils bank account. Qualifying earnings cannot be used to work out contributions due to the Clerks earning being less than the threshold. Therefore, contribution is worked out using certification, of which there are 3 tiers. Tier 1 – pensionable earnings of the worker's basic pay. Tier 2 – pensionable earnings must be at least 85% of total earnings (including commission, bonuses & overtime). Tier 3 – pensionable earnings to include basic pay, commission, overtime & bonuses. Mrs. M. Webb proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to make pension contributions using the tier 1 option.
- 16.155**
155.01
155.02
155.03

- 155.04** **To finish discussing and approve the budget and precept for 2017-2018**
Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mrs. D. Sewell and agreed to increase the precept by 3% to £6,695 for 2017-2018.

- 155.05** **Correspondence Receive**
Precept Consultation. SALC shared that potentially Government could introduce automatic referendums if they deem precept increases to be 'excessive' regardless of the parish being in agreement of the increase.
- 155.06**

16.156

- 156.01 Traffic lights at the crossroads by The White Horse pub. It was felt they were not needed as very little work was being carried out and whether the Parish Council could do anything to help to have these temporary traffic lights be removed. Faulty defibrillators – Government have issued a warning around 2 types of machines, manufactured by Physio-Control that are potentially faulty. MSDC were disappointed that the Council didn't want to be part of the housing survey. They wanted to talk to the Clerk or Chairman to try and understand why and explain the benefit of having the village complete the survey. After attempts by the Clerk to speak to the person in question they were given the Chairman's number. The Chairman never received a call.
- 156.02 It has been reported to Highways about the trees/hedging opposite The Old Bakery. As yet, there has been no response. MSDC should be sending the new electoral register via email to the Clerk by the end of the year.

Finance

Clerk's Report

Previous meeting, last balance reported was from 26/9/2016

Current account £5,126.08 (7 cheques totalling £1,454.32 not yet presented, once presented balance will be £3,671.76)

Deposit account £3,312.54

16.157 Balances as of 28/10/2016

157.01 Current account £4,101.22 (£63 unpresented cheque for key safe)

Receipts since 26/09/16 – £665.01 (glass recycling credit and refund of VAT)

157.02 Payments since 26/09/16 - £1,689.96 (uncleared cheques & approved payments from last month)

Deposit account £3,312.95 - £0.41 interest

16.158 Requests for payment

Mrs. D. Sewell proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winters and agreed to authorise the following payments:

MISS N. HILL - £527.45 - Salary

MISS. N. HILL - £31.30 - Expenses

16.159 HMRC - £131.80 - PAYE

MR. A. KILBEE – £20.90 – Travel expenses

MR. A BROWNLIE - £120 – 2 x cuts of the Green

FRIENDS OF FINNINGHAM- £100 – Annual donation of use of website and magazine

Totalling £931.45

Planning

To consider applications –

None to consider.

Decisions & to consider planning matters coming forth.

No decisions to share

Questions to the Chairman

The 30mph road sign along Westhorpe Road is still bent over and hasn't been righted/replaced.

There is concern that building supplies have been left on parts of The Green and the grass wont be made good afterwards.

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

Apart from what has been mentioned earlier, a replacement notice board needs to be discussed due to the poor state of repair of the current one.

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 9.00pm