

# FINNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on  
Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup>. November, 2017,  
in St. Bartholomew's Church, Finningham, starting at 7:31pm*

**Present:** Mr. A Kilbee, Mrs. D. Sewell, Mr. R. Negus, Mrs. C. Winter and Mr. J. Black (late)

**In attendance:** Miss. N. Hill (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

**17.135 Visiting speakers**

None

**17.136 Contributions by Members of the Public.**

The footpath warden was unable to make the meeting, but sent a report, which was read out and is on file. The point of asking SCC to put wire netting on the bridge was agreed as a good idea, but it was discussed that SCC not to do this, as the wire netting can act as a trip hazard. The report sent into SCC about the footpath by Saracen's Hill was agreed with, as the footpath finishing on a bank by the road is dangerous. Poster of walks was mentioned and a Councillor thought they had copies of walks within Finningham that could be used. A comment was made that the Church path looks good.

**17.137 Apologies and approval of absence**

Mrs. M. Webb is on holiday, Mr. J. Black running late from work and Mr. J. Miller unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments.

Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mrs. D. Sewell and agreed to accept these absences.

**17.138 Approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup>. October, 2017**

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

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

Nothing from any of the Councillors.

**17.140 Matters arising from the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

140.01 WW1 commemoration – what information has been found to include in a pamphlet? It seems a lot of the WW1 archives were destroyed in the past. There are more WW2 records though.

140.02 The Green around Green Farm Barn – have the owners been written to? - The grass looks healthy, so the owners haven't been written to.

140.03 Update on the insurance claim on the swings, now the claim has been approved – the clerk hasn't heard back from the insurance company with how long the Council have to complete the approved claim.

140.04 Water supply in the cemetery – look at the cost of a plastic tub to collect water in the cemetery.

140.05 Compost heaps in the cemetery – have they been removed? It's the churchyard and not the cemetery. The Chairman will ask if the promise of a skip will be honoured.

**17.141 Chairman's Report**

The Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October was very well attended and proves that a door drop of leaflets is the only way to get some support.

The Chairman attended the meeting in the Pub in his role as Chairman of the Parish Council and also in a private capacity. It became clear the meeting was for the Licensee and her staff member to establish why there was a 'them & us' feeling in the village and how to overcome this. The Chairman said he would support their enterprise before they had moved to the area. A lot of work has been carried out on the internals of the premises and be more 'lady friendly'. The pub has no plans to open a restaurant, but are serving pizzas and will investigate a Sunday Roast option, if there is a need. It is a matter of personal preference whether or not villagers support the pub, but this is one of our last remaining resources in the village.

Next year sees the centenary of the end of WW1. 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 falls on a Sunday, the Parish Council should be seen as the prime mover in the village celebrations. This should be in partnership with Friends of Finningham and the Pub. Any ideas of the format this should take? The Church will most probably already have formulated some plans but no idea what form these will take.

The removal of the Cemetery trees is still on track.

There seems to be a slight confusion regarding the maintenance of the Churchyard, but hopefully will be clearer later.

#### **17.142 Working Group Reports –**

##### **142.01 Defib**

Mrs. C. Winter reported the concrete pad has been completed. A qualified electrician to fit the fuse box etc has been found, it just needs to be fitted. It was suggested that a plaque with Awards for All and the names of people who have made the project happen should be erected once the defib is in place. The Council thought this was a great idea. Mr. R. Negus asked Mrs. C. Winter to let him know of the names of people to be name checked in a press release that he will compile.

##### **142.02 Recreation area**

Mr. Eliot Coward will lead the group and Mr. R. Negus is happy to be part of the group. Greg is too busy to be able to help

#### **17.143 To discuss including low impact outdoor fitness equipment, as part of the regeneration of play equipment on the Green.**

Mr. R. Negus said the government are trying to improve health in over 45's and he will look into different options as the Council thought it would be good to have a piece of this equipment.

#### **17.144 To approve and accept the external audit completed by BDO.** An amendment had to be made to the fixed assets box for 2016/2017.

Mrs. D. Sewell proposed, seconded by Mr. R. Negus and agreed to accept the external audit.

#### **17.145 To discuss a Welcome Pack for people moving to the village.** What should it include and what format.

What it should include – history of the village, details of doctors & vets, playgroups in the area, information on the pub, information on the parish council, where to get logs for fires, heating oil and local dentists. Mrs. D. Sewell will co-ordinate.

#### **17.146 To approve the Council's and the Clerk's pension contribution. Tier 1 was approved in November 2016.**

From 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018 – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019 the minimum contribution moves to 6%, with the employer paying at least 3%. Then from 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019 onwards the minimum contribution moves to 9%, with the employer paying at least 4%. Mr. J. Black proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed the pension contributions.

#### **17.147 To discuss, agree and approve that the recent CIL payment from BMSDC of £891.54 is used towards recreation facilities.** This money can be used towards to the play area on the Green.

Mr. J. Black proposed, seconded by Mrs. D. Sewell and agreed to use the recent CIL money towards the recreation facilities

#### **17.148 To discuss and approve the 2018-2019 Budget and what the precept should be set at.** The Council need to take into consideration the Government could make the council have a referendum if it's felt the increase in precept is excessive.

The Council would like guidance from BMSDC to whether there would definitely be a referendum before approving what the precept should be set at for 2018-2019.

#### **17.149 Correspondence Received**

149.01 Payments of fees to the ICO – Fees will continue to be charged by the ICO after the new data legislation comes into force next year.

149.02 Be Winter Ready – UK Power networks have emailed out a leaflet and poster with basic advice on preparing for winter. This has been sent to be included in the next village magazine.

149.03 Older Persons Fair – 1<sup>st</sup> Dec at the Apex Bury St. Edmunds between 10.30 – 13.30. This information has been emailed to be included in the village magazine.

149.04 The dog bin in Church Lane is loose in it's setting and is resting on the fence.

#### **17.150 Finance**

150.01 Clerk's report

Previous meeting, last balance reported was from 29/09/2017

Current account £6,383.67 (£130 not yet presented)

Deposit account £3,313.36

##### **Balances as of 27/10/2017**

Current account £8,235.10 (£465.26 not yet presented, afterwards £7,768.84)

Receipts since 29/09/17 – £1,981.43 (£1000 donation from FofF, £50 cemetery fee, £39.89 recycling credit, & £891.54 CIL)

Payments since 29/09/17 - £130 (cheque previously not presented)  
Deposit account £3,313.36

150.02 **Requests for payment**

Mr. J. Black proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to authorise the following payments  
BDO - £156.00 – External audit fee  
MR.A.BROWNLIE - £315 – 4 x cuts of the Green (Aug & Sept) & 1 x cut cemetery  
MR.A.BROWNLIE - £120 – 2 x cuts of the Green (Oct)  
FRIENDS OF FINNINGHAM - £100 – annual donation of website & magazine  
J.LAWES - £8.63 – parts for securing electrical cabinet to concrete base  
N.HILL - £37.32 – clerks expenses  
N.HILL - £521.35 – clerks salary (hours between 08/07/17 – 07/11/17)  
HMRC - £132.00 – PAYE  
NEST - £19.80 – pension contribution  
COMMUNITY HEARTBEAT - £628.80 – def trainer  
Totalling £2,037.90

**17.151 Planning**

151.01 To consider applications. All planning applications received up to the date of the meeting will be discussed.  
DC/17/05462 – Fell 1 T1 Holly tree, the crown of 1 T2 Cherry Tree, remove overhanging limb of T3 Thorn tree, reduce large limb T4 Thorn tree & fell 1 T5 Sycamore Tree – Knock O’Ronald, Church Meadow, Gislingham Road, Finningham.  
DC/17/05156 – Silver Birch, fell and grind stump T1. T2/T3/T4 Silver Birch reduce the overall crowns by up to 25% - Knock O’Ronald, Church Meadow, Gislingham Road, Finningham.  
DC/17/05164 – T1 ash – fell leaving stump cut close to ground level. T2 ash – prune crown – Yew Tree House, Church Lane, Finningham, IP14 4JB.  
DC/17/05164 – T1 ash – fell leaving stump cut close to ground level. T2 ash – prune crown – Yew Tree House, Church Lane, Finningham, IP14 4JB.  
The Council had no comments on any of the planning applications.

151.02 Decisions

GRANTED – DC/17/03768 – Erection of ancillary annexe accommodation following demolition of existing outbuildings. Stanwell Farm, Gislingham Road, Finningham, Stowmarket, IP14 4JA

**17.152 Questions to the Chairman**

None

**17.153 Items to be discussed at the next meeting and included in the November’s agenda.**

Village signs & the budget.

Mr. J. Black wanted it known he had finally given his donation to Friends of Finningham towards the defib project.

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 9.06pm