

# FINNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019,  
in St. Bartholomew's Church, Finningham, starting at 7:30pm*

**Present:** Mr. A. Kilbee, Mrs. M. Webb, Mr. J. Miller, Mrs. C. Winter and Mr. J. Black (arrived 8.17pm)

**In attendance:** Miss. N. Hill (Clerk), Cllr. Jane Storey, Cllr. Andy Mellen & 1 member of the public.

## **19.137 Visiting speakers**

Cllr. Jane Storey went through her report, which is on file. Highways have had its 4<sup>th</sup> cabinet member in 3 years. She said that her locality budget has been used for this year, but will get a new one March/April next year and would be happy to offer £2000 towards a VAS. It was mentioned that if it's known when certain vehicles are speeding, then to tell the Police and they can make a presence in the attempt of catching people.

Cllr. Andy Mellen went through his report, which is on file. He said he will check on CIL money for the village, as he thought it should be received straight away and Finningham would be due some due to a few new houses being built.

## **19.138 Contribution by Members of the Public**

Footpath warden report was read out and is on file.

## **19.139 Apologies and approval of absence.**

Mr. J. Black sent his apologies as he thought he would be unable to attend due to having to work later than expected.

Mrs. M. Webb proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to accept this apology.

## **19.140 Approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019.**

Mrs. C. Winter proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Miller and agreed that the minutes were a correct record and the Chairman then signed the minute book.

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

None.

## **19.142 Matters arising from the meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019.**

142.01 Cutting of the long grass in the cemetery. The clerk has had a reply from MSDC to say they need to visit the site to be able to quote, once they have done that they will be in touch.

142.02 Any more instances of the newly installed gate being left open? Is a 'please close the gate sign' needed?

142.03 No, not that anyone has seen.

Has anything been done with the flagpole? Should the council approve for it to be serviced?

142.04 No, but hoping to do it over the next couple of weeks. So the Council shouldn't need to pay for a service.

VAS in the village. Did an article go in the newsletter? Were there any responses? Has Cllr. Jane Storey responded to the Chairman's email about funding towards this?

142.05 There was something in the newsletter and no one has made any comments about the Council purchasing a VAS. Cllr. Jane Storey gave her offer earlier in the meeting.

The polite notice on the vehicle that was parking on the Green next to the recently completed barn has kindly moved. Thank you to whoever owns the vehicle and is now parking in a different place.

## **19.143 Chairman's Report**

I have recently spoken to the owner of the Green Farmyard and she has told me that it looks as though matters are coming to a head now. Certain reservations that the Planning Department raised with her architect have now been resolved. I do not know what they were. This does not mean that all the issues raised by this Council and members of the community have been resolved too.

As you know, I have been trying to get some reaction from our County Councillor, Jane Storey to the e-mails that both Natalie and I have sent her over the last few months. The most recent was to ask her to contribute to our VAS fund. I am still waiting her reply, even though I was quite forthright in asking her what her problem was with our village. Considering that, in the past, she had been very supportive. Last Saturday I visited Rickinghall Farmers Market and had a one to one with Jo Churchill. As you know, she has been very interested in our problem with the speeding issue. We agreed to put everything on hold until after the election, but she is still very interested in championing our cause, providing she remains our MP after the election.

I have received a price for the priority change at the railway bridge; It is £6 000. Needless to say, I rejected it! I have received a suggestion that the 30mph sign should be moved from its present position to the far side of the bridge. I have not investigated the feasibility or cost of this yet.

Perhaps we need to have another extraordinary meeting to discuss our approach to the road safety issue.

**19.144 Working Groups?**

No one has taken Mrs. M. Webb's place in terms of reporting back with regards to the play area/the Green. Mrs. M. Webb has said she is happy to tutor someone who takes over the risk assessment role.

**19.145 To discuss the positioning of the new play equipment (monkey bars & log run) on the Green, following on from the extraordinary meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019.** What has happened since the extraordinary meeting? Should a notice be placed on the proposed site/area, so people are able to see?

It was agreed to meet on the Green on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 10am to discuss on site.

**19.146 To discuss and approve whether the council should buy banners, to be placed around the village to promote the litter picks.** This was rolled over from the previous meeting, to think about the wording. Should litter picks be more regular than twice a year? Either monthly or bi-monthly. This would make it easier for dates on the banner, and hopefully encourage more people to help and becomes a 'get together each month/bi-month to pick litter'?

It was agreed the wording to be 'Litter pick 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of this month'. This makes the banner generic. The Chairman will get prices for the next meeting for approval.

**19.147 To discuss buying a bench (or something similar) and dedicating it to the Jimmy Downie.** Mr. Downie passed away at the beginning of October and served as a Finningham Parish Councillor. The Parish Council would like to do something in memory of him and for what he did for the village. Mr. J. Black proposed, seconded by Mrs. M. Webb and agreed to in principal to purchase a bench. Quotes will be obtained for approval at the next meeting.

**19.148 To discuss and approve the street name and numbering for the new development at land south side of Westhorpe Road, Finningham, Stowmarket.** The developer has proposed 1 – 6 Highbank Meadow and would like this taken into consideration.

Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Black and agreed with 1 – 6 Highbank Meadow.

**19.149 To discuss, approve and agree any actions based on the completed play inspection report 2019.** Whilst everyone is meeting on the Green on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November, it was agreed to look at the play equipment then to help come up with any actions needed.

**19.150 To discuss what needs to be included within the budget for 2020-2021 as setting the precept will need to be discussed and approved at December's meeting.** The potential to deal with an Ash tree on the Green was mentioned last month. Anything else?

Not really.

**19.151 To discuss and approve the purchase of a "Children" road sign to be placed along the B1113 near the Green.** Total price for sign, rail, clips and postage £128.06 (including VAT)

Mrs. C. Winter proposed, seconded by Mrs. M. Webb and agreed to purchase this road sign.

**19.152 To discuss and approve the purchase of new nets for the goalposts on the Green.** The state of the current nets are very poor. A paid of goal nets including shipping and VAT is £99.90.

Mrs. M. Webb proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to purchase new goal nets.

**19.153 After the extraordinary meeting Mrs. Mary. Webb emailed the councillors stating she would be stepping down at the AGM next year and feels after 20 years on the council and helping the village she has nothing left to give.** The council could potentially have 3 vacancies, no longer a vice chair from May and would need someone to take over the play equipment inspection and annual risk report.

This can be looked at nearer the time.

### **19.154 Correspondence Received**

- 154.01 BMSDC have emailed to say postal votes for the general election on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019 need to be in by 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019.
- 154.02 A static caravan seemed to be left in the layby by the old school on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct. Thank you to Mr. James Black for reporting it to the Police and it was no longer there Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November.
- 154.03 The consultation of the division boundaries for SCC has been extended until 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020.
- 154.04 Mr. C. Goddard emailed to say since the resurfacing of Gislingham Road, the white lines at the junction of Wickham Road have not been replaced. He has reported this and was advised 3 weeks, but it's over that time and still no replacement lines at the junction.
- 154.05 Mr. C. Goddard also informed the council that on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019 the manhole covers in along Wickham Road were overflowing. He reported it to the water authorities, and they attended the pumping station and reported that work needed to be completed on 1 of the pumps. 35mm of rain fell on 5<sup>th</sup> October.
- 154.06 The clerk has updated information with the Pension Regulator, which needs completing once every 3 years.
- 154.07 ICO have confirmed renewal and a direct debt has been set up to pay and automatically renew each year.
- Thefts seem to be on the increase recently, ensure everything is secure at all times.
- Keep Britain Tidy are doing a campaign to reduce dog fouling. They say under the cover of darkness, dog owners are less likely to pick up their dog mess. They offer an award-winning solution, glow in the dark signs from £250 + VAT.

### **19.155 Finance**

- 155.01 Clerk's report –  
Previous meeting, last balance reported was from 29/08/2019  
Current account £8,965.88 (£740.38 not yet presented, so once presented £8,225.50)  
Deposit account £3,323.86  
**Balances as of 29/10/2019**  
Current account £11,137.90  
Receipts since 29/08/19 – £3,602.86 (2<sup>nd</sup> part of precept & recycling credit)  
Payments since 29/08/19 - £1,430.84 (invoices approved at previous meeting)  
Deposit account £3,325.52
- 155.02 **Requests for payment**  
Mrs. M. Webb proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to authorise the following payments  
E: on - £7.73 – September's bill paid via DD  
E: on - £7.48 – October's bill paid via DD  
MSDC - £82.80 – Dog and litter bin emptying (error in 1<sup>st</sup> invoice that was paid)  
CAS - £299.78 – renewal of insurance  
HMRC - £96.20 – PAYE  
NEST - £33.67 – pension contribution  
N. Hill - £365.64 – salary

### **19.156 Planning**

- 156.01 To consider applications.  
DC/19/04825 – Erection of a 3 bay cartlodge. The Osiers, Westhorpe Road, Finningham, Stowmarket, IP14 4TW.  
DC/19/04903 – Notification of works to Trees in a Conservation Area – T1 (Ash) – Reduction of crown by 30%, T2 (Ash) - Reduction of crown by 30%, T3 (Weeping Willow) – Raise crown and remove leaders – Walnut Tree Cottage, Church Lane, Finningham, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 4JB.  
The Council have no objections to the above.
- 156.02 Decisions & to consider planning matters coming forth.  
GRANTED - DC/19/04053 – Erection of single storey front extension, fenestration alteration to side and insertion of roof window to front. Carousel, Westhorpe Road, Finningham, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 4TW.  
Does not wish to object - DC/19/03859 – Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation area – Lift and thin crown on 1 no. Walnut tree (T1) Yew Tree House, Church Lane, Finningham, Stowmarket, IP14 4JB.  
All planning applications received up to the date of the meeting will be discussed.

### **19.157 Questions to Chairman**

None.

### **19.158 Items to be discussed at the next meeting and included in the December's agenda.**

Sign for the Green, as per the one at Gislingham on their play area.

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 9.12pm