

# FINNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

*draft*

*Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020*

*A virtual meeting via Zoom, starting at 7:30pm*

**Present:** Mr. A. Kilbee, Mrs. M. Webb, Mrs. C. Winter, Mr. J. Miller and Mr. J. Black  
**In attendance:** Miss. N. Hill (Clerk), Cllr Jane Storey, Cllr Andy Mellen and no members of the public.

## **20.19 Visiting speakers**

Cllr Andy Mellen gave an update on covid-19 cases within Mid-Suffolk. There is funding available, which can be applied for if it's needed. 'Home but not alone' helpline is manned 9am - 5pm everyday. There are plans to promote more walking and cycling as more people get back to work. The future of the doctors surgery at Bacton is in discussion.

Cllr Jane Storey 's report is on file and she gave an update on covid-19 for the county. Cllr Jane Storey confirmed a grant of £2000 will be processed towards the village's VAS project.

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

None

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

None

## **20.22 Approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020.**

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

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

None

## **20.24 Matters arising from the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

24.01 Mr. Arthur, who has recently moved to the village, has offered to take over the annual risk assessment completion. He will also continue the role Mrs. M. Webb carried out, warden of the play area on the Green.

24.02 Having emailed the landlady of The White Horse asking her about her chosen charity, she has replied saying she has informed the council (I can only assume she has informed MSDC). I have replied stating the parish council do not know which charity to send the £480.06 to (the money raised from bottle recycling from July 2014). As yet, I have had no reply.

The clerk has since had a response to say the charity is Air Ambulance, therefore a cheque will be raised to East Anglian Air Ambulance.

## **20.25 Chairman's Report**

You will remember that the new recreational equipment was due to be installed. This went ahead without a problem (at least for us, the contractor had to return the next day as the transport people had forgotten to send something.) Thanks to James and Natalie for helping to lay the rubber matting under the Monkey Bars and the Table Tennis Table. I have asked the Friends of Finningham if they would like to add a basketball to the box of equipment. I have had a reply from Greg and he said that he would get FoF to purchase a ball

The trees in the Churchyard were attended to by the tree surgeon and I think that he made a good job of it by raising the overhang and removing the branches from over the garden of Walnut Tree Cottage. The Resident should be happy that we acted on his request.

I have received the notice for the Recreation Area but have not been to B&Q yet to purchase a piece of Marine Ply to mount in on. I will do that in the next few days.

I sent an email around regarding the vacancies for Councillors. As I said, Nige Arthur is keen to join us in a month or two. He has immediately taken up the rôle of Warden for the Green and to take over the Risk Assessment from Mary. Thanks to Mary for all the years that she has been so diligent in carrying out these tasks.

I am still in the process of compiling the applications to SCC Highways for the supply and installation of the poles for the VAS. I have completed the questionnaire and taken the photos. We are just waiting for the response from the residents outside whose property the poles will be installed. I am hoping that they respond quickly. This is a long drawn out process because after the submission of the paperwork they still have to approve the sites before they actually dig any holes.

Talking of SCC Highways, I received an answer to my request for a breakdown of the exorbitant cost (about £1 200) for the installation of two new posts at Rob Hall for the Finningham and Gislingham name plates. It was quite ridiculous the way they tried to justify the cost by including actions that were patently not relevant to this particular project. It just shows why things cost so much and take so long when they are involved.

- 20.26 To discuss and approve the play equipment annual inspection for 2020. £46.08 + VAT per play area is for the play inspection, risk assessment and disability discrimination assessment. There is an additional 10% (£4.60 per play area) charge to cover MSDC admin costs. This year, there is the option for; Full DDA assessment @ £9.95 per site, Play Value Assessment @ £9.95 per site and estimated life expectancy assessment @ £4.95 per site.**

Mrs. M. Webb proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Black and agreed to have the annual inspection arranged by MSDC but not have any additional assessments completed.

- 20.27 To discuss and approve the Certificate of Exemption. As part of the end of year accounts and the Annual Governance and Accountability return, small authorities can certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review. The parish council have always done this, but this year it needs to be discussed and approved by the parish council.**

Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mrs. M. Webb and agreed to approve the certificate of exemption.

- 20.28 To discuss whether the Litter Pick in July goes ahead. The litter pick in May was cancelled due to COVID-19. The next litter pick is due on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July. Should this go ahead and what precautions should be put in place?**

Yes, the litter pick should still go ahead in July. The Chairman will do a piece for the newsletter about following social distancing guidelines during the litter pick.

- 20.29 To discuss and approve the purchase of 3 Finningham signs. Last year, 2 Finningham signs cost £177.62 + VAT (this included delivery, post clips as well as the 2 signs). Sites for these signs are near Rob Hall Corner (going into Gislingham), Westhorpe Road and potentially the one along the B1113 near the water tower.**

Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Black and agreed to purchase 3 Finningham signs.

- 20.30 To discuss how to spend the CIL money that has recently been paid to the Council. The clerk has emailed the guidance from MSDC. What infrastructure items should the council consider?**

It was suggested to have an illustrated map with the walks of Finningham. Cllr Andy Mellen said he would check whether CIL money could be spent on this, as it isn't clear within the guidance. He also suggested the county council will have an up to date map of footpaths.

- 20.31 Correspondence Received**

31.01 Now the new play items have been installed, the clerk has asked for a quote on having these items insured. Also she is checking that the full value of the new slide is covered (is it replacement cost covered, or just the original purchase value).

31.02 MSDC have accepted the instruction to cut the long grass within the cemetery twice a year.

- 20.32 Finance**

32.01 Clerk's report

Previous meeting, last balance reported was from 29/04/2020

Current account £23,777.96

Deposit account £3,328.35

**Balances as of 29/05/2020**

Current account £24,093.44 (£1,125.80 still unrepresented, once presented, then balance is £22,967.64)

Receipts since 29/04/20 – £1,353.61 - (VAT refunds)

Payments since 29/04/20 - £1,038.13 - (invoices approved at previous meeting)

Deposit account £3,328.35 -

Mrs. M. Webb proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to authorise the following payments.

**32.02 Requests for payment**

E:on - £7.48 – May's bill paid via DD

THE EARTHWOOD TREE Co - £650.00 – Cutting Lime trees back within the Churchyard

EAST ANGLIAN AIR AMBULANCE - £480.06 – Chosen charity for money from bottle bank recycling to go to.

Retrospectively approve the following

WICKSTEED - £3,309.64 – 3 items of new play equipment including installation

Totalling £4,447.18

**20.33 Planning**

33.01 To consider applications.

DC/20/02145 – Erection of extension to garage – Southwood, Wickham Road, Finningham, Stowmarket, IP14 4HT.

No comment

33.02 Decisions & to consider planning matters coming forth

Refused Conditions – Action required in accordance with a specific timetable: Fenestration Approved

Conditions – Action required in accordance with a specific timetable; Agreement on

materials. DC/20/01464 – Discharge of conditions application for DC/19/05842 – Condition 3 –

Fenestration, Condition 4 - Materials - Location: Shadwell House, Church Lane, Finningham,

Stowmarket, IP14 4JB All planning applications received up to the date of the meeting will be

discussed.

**20.34 Questions to Chairman**

None

**20.35 Items to be discussed at the next meeting and included in the July's agenda.**

Internal audit and end of year accounts approval.

Footpath from Church to cemetery, could CIL money be used to surface this?.

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 8.50pm