

FINNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 13th October 2020
A virtual meeting via Zoom, starting at 7:30pm*

DRAFT

Present: Mr. A. Kilbee, Mr. N. Arthur, Mr. J. Miller, Mrs. C. Winter and Mr. J. Black.
In attendance: Miss. N. Hill (Clerk), Cllr, Jane Storey, Cllr Andy Mellen and 2 members of the public.

20.83 Visiting speakers

Cllr Jane Storey talked about her report, which she had emailed out and is on file. She wondered whether the pub would be interested in having an electric charging point. There is a new political map for SCC. With regards to the footpath map she maybe able to help with some funding, as she helped towards the one at Wyverstone. She asked for details of what's planned for it, including the total cost to be emailed to her. She gave the impression of contributing £100-£200.

Cllr Andy Mellen spoke about being the Green Party candidate for the county council, if the elections go ahead next year. His full report is on file.

20.84 Contribution by Members of the Public

A member of the public was invited to speak and agenda item 14 was brought forward [minutes ref 20.96].

Apologies and approval of absence.

20.85 None.

Approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th September 2020.

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

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

None.

20.88 To appoint a Vice Chairman for the remainder of 2020-2021, now Mrs. M. Webb has retired from the Parish Council. Someone needs to fill this position.

No one offered to do this and it was suggested that councillors were asked individually and privately by the Chairman.

20.89 Matters arising from the meetings held on 8th September 2020.

89.01 An update has been requested from Mr. D. Aiken re. the map of Walks in Finningham.

89.02 Mrs. C. Winter has had her ID validated by Barclays to add her as a signatory. The forms have now been sent to Barclays and awaiting them to remove Mrs. Webb as a signatory and add Mrs. Winter.

89.03 The Oak trees on the Green. The Chairman hasn't been able to meet with the tree surgeon yet to discuss the Oak trees on The Green. Therefore, the work on the Ash tree hasn't started yet.

89.04 The grass seeding of the area on The Green is in hand and should be done soon if it hasn't already been done.

89.05 Footpath from The Green to the pub. The Chairman is trying to get a quote from Highways.

20.90 Chairman's Report

First, my apologies for asking for this meeting to be held on line again, but I really do not feel up to spending the evening in the Church.

In the last couple of weeks, I have received another e-mail from Jo Churchill's office regarding the speeding along the B1113. They are proposing that we have a virtual meeting with SCC to discuss what can be done. To be honest with you, I do not feel that anything would be gained from such a meeting but I said that I would be happy to participate, if anything came of it. I think that both Cotton and Bacton are keen to participate. The Community Speed Watch have been active again and some of the figures that Andy has published are quite frightening.

You will recall that I wanted to instigate the installation of a 40mph limit along Walsham Road but I have not received any support for this venture. I realise that it is a forlorn hope that we could get anything done but if we do not try...

I received a message from Jan Hart of Martins regarding some feral ducks that have been invading the B1113, at great risk to their lives and limbs. She contacted the Police, as she was concerned that they could cause traffic hazard but, they were not interested so, she contacted me. AS I am unable to go there at the moment, I have asked Doug to just investigate and perhaps have a word with Mr Cracknell, if they are his birds.

During my discussions with Malcolm Walton regarding the Track round the Green, he sent me a photograph of the fence. It looks as though someone has driven into it and, due to the rotten nature of the materials it is in a very sad state. We have been patching it up on and off for a number of years now so, I feel that it is time to replace it completely. I have put out enquiries for quotations but they are not in yet so, I shall leave this subject over to the next meeting.

When we discussed the use of the CIL money the idea was raised to provide a footpath from the Crossroads to the entrance of the Green. I am not sure how to go about his so, I have asked SCC Highways for guidance. As yet, no reply.

I had a long chat to Erin this morning about the Conservation area in the village. He is of the opinion that this is a great asset and should be preserved at all costs. We did not reach any conclusion on how that could be achieved but I did promise him that I would raise the subject with you this evening to see what, if anything, could be done to promote an understanding among the villagers, especially those who live with in it, of its value.

- 20.91 To discuss and approve the purchase of the VAS from another company. As it's sold within the UK, the VAT can be claimed back. Cost is £1,893.95 + VAT £378.79 = £22,72.74.**
Highways have given a lead time of 14 weeks in terms of looking at the application as to where the poles for the VAS should be sited. The Chairman suggested the VAS should still be purchased and to temporarily mount it on an existing pole, sited along the B1113. Speedwatch data suggests there is a lot of speeding within the village, hence the Chairman's suggestion.
Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mr. N. Arthur and agreed by Mr. J. Black to place the order. Mrs. C. Winter did not agree as she is against the idea of using an existing pole within the village and would prefer to wait until approval and installation of poles by Highways.
- 20.92 To discuss and retro approve the purchase of a replacement wreath to place on the memorial in the Churchyard. The cost of this is £17 from The Royal British Legion.**
Mrs. C. Winter proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Black and agreed to approve this purchase retrospectively. It was also suggested that the council should purchase a new wreath each year.
- 20.93 To discuss the play equipment, report for 2020. A copy has been sent to all councillors. All items and areas either low risk or very low risk. There are some findings/recommendations that can be completed.**
It was suggested to implement all of the recommendations within the report, over the next 12 months. This should happen via a working party in the Spring.
- 20.94 To discuss and approve the risk assessment for 2020.**
Item to be rolled over to next month's meeting. The 3 new pieces of equipment have been added to the assessment.
- 20.95 To discuss the broken post rail fence on The Green. It's broken near to where the coffee caravan stops.**
It was discussed that it's better to replace the whole lot, rather than doing a patch repair. Quotes are being gathered to replace the whole lot. One quote is around £5000. More quotes will be gathered to discuss and approve at the next meeting.
- 20.96 To discuss and approve the quote and request of contribution of money for the work on the track surrounding The Green. It isn't just the residents of The Green that use this track.**
A resident spoke about it been about 5 - 6 years since the last repair on the track. Someone else pointed out that there was a repair 2.5 years ago. This was where someone got some free chippings from his work, which was used to fill in the potholes. The residents of The Green have got a quote of £660 + VAT to level the track, fill in the holes and use road chippings as a finishing top. The request is for the parish council to pay the full amount (as they own the track and able to claim back the VAT), with 4 residents on The Green each paying £85 and the residents of Sunnyview, at the start of the track said they would contribute £20. Meaning the contribution of the Parish Council is £300.
It was mentioned by 1 councillor of the longevity of the repair and also another added that a job like this shouldn't be completed during the winter. It was also mentioned that in the past, the Parish Council stated they would only make 1 contribution to the upkeep of the track. It isn't just the residents of The Green using this track, hence the request to the Parish Council. The Parish Council would like other options to be

investigated including different quotes and finishes as well as the longevity of the work. A working party will be put together to come up with different solutions. The working party should include residents from The Green as well as at least 1 councillor. Mr. N. Arthur said he was happy to head up the group.

20.97 To discuss the additional CIL money the Council will be receiving, as per email sent to everyone. What can this be used on? Pathway from the Green to the pub? Crime prevention measures?

The clerk will look into whether replacing the post and rail fence on The Green can be included. It was also suggested another defibrillator is installed in the village, near Rob Hall corner.

20.98 To discuss what to include in the budget for 2021-2022. The tax base will be sent out from 19th November.

The Green - trees, fencing and the track. Even though it will be looked into whether CIL money could be used for the fencing.

20.99 Correspondence Received

99.01 The ICO have confirmed our renewal.

99.02 Flooding along Westhorpe Road has been bad again and Mrs. Winter has logged it on Highways website. There are now 3 logs for this issue.

99.03 Electoral Register for 2021 should be out in December 2020.

99.04 The insurance company have confirmed our renewal for another year.

20.100 Finance

100.01 Clerk's report –

Previous meeting, last balance reported was from 28/08/2020

Current account £18,196.96 (£218.66 still unrepresented, once presented, then balance is £17,978.27)

Deposit account £3,329.24

Balances as of 29/09/2020

Current account £21,621.97 (£422.24 still unrepresented, once presented, then balance is £21,199.73)

Receipts since 28/08/20 – £3,621.50 – precept

Payments since 28/08/20 - £196.49 - (invoices approved at previous meeting)

Deposit account £3,329.70 – £0.46 interest

100.02 Requests for payment

Mrs. C. Winter proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Black and agreed to authorise the following payments

Payment of £5.46 fuel for mover for Mr Storey was approved at the last meeting. His bank rejected the cheque as there is no first name or first name initial. Mr Storey emailed to say due to the small amount, to forget it and he'd like to request that it's deleted off the records. I will include in next month's meeting for approval.

Retrospectively approved £17 to Royal British Legion for placement wreath.

E: on - £13.21 - September's bill paid via DD

Miss. N. Hill - £25.96 - expenses including zoom fee

Totalling £56.17

20.101 Planning

101.01 To consider applications.

DC/20/04134 – Planning permission – Install roof to partially constructed two storey side extension – 5 Westhorpe Road, Finningham Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 4TN.

No comment.

DC/20/04041 – Works to tree in a conservation area – Fell 1 No Sycamore (T1) due to growth and proximity to the house causing excessive shade and debris deposits on our and the neighbouring land and footpaths. April Cottage, Church Meadow, Gislingham Road, Finningham, Stowmarket.

No comment.

101.02 Decisions & to consider planning matters coming forth.

All planning applications received up to the date of the meeting will be discussed.

20.102 Questions to Chairman

None

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

Risk assessment and the other items that have been carried over from this meeting.

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 9:15pm