

FINNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 10th November 2020
A virtual meeting via Zoom, starting at 7:33pm*

DRAFT

Present: Mr. A. Kilbee, Mrs. C. Winter, Mr. N. Arthur, Mr. J. Miller and Mr. J. Black.
In attendance: Miss. N. Hill (Clerk), Cllr, Jane Storey, Cllr Andy Mellen and 1 member of the public.

20.104 Visiting speakers

Cllr. Jane Storey went through her report, including funding for Suffolk food banks and Suffolk Community Foundation, which is on file. She did offer £700 of her locality fund towards the footpath path.
Cllr. Andy Mellen went through his report, which is on file. Home but not alone helpline is up and running again, due to the 2nd lockdown.

20.105 Contribution by Members of the Public

Footpath warden report is on file.

20.106 Apologies and approval of absence.

Apologies from Mr. G. Aiken, member of the public for being unable to attend.

20.107 Approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th October 2019.

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

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

None.

20.109 To appoint a Vice Chairman, now Mrs. M. Webb has retired from the Parish Council. Rolled over from last month. The Chairman has contacted each councillor separately.
Mrs. C. Winter offered to be Vice Chair for a year, which everyone duly accepted. The clerk needs Mrs. C. Winter to sign the relevant form.

20.110 Matters arising from the meetings held on 13th October 2020.

110.01 Does anyone know if the grass seeding on The Green has happened?

It doesn't seem as if it's been done.

110.02 The Oak trees on the Green. The Chairman has chased the tree surgeon and trying to get hold of another one.

The preferred tree surgeon used in the past is no longer in business.

110.03 The grant from Cllr Jane Storey is underway. The clerk has had to respond to a request from SCC to confirm information with regards to the grant.

110.04 CIL money can be used for the replacement of the post and rail fence surrounding The Green.

20.111 Chairman's Report

Most of my report will be covered elsewhere in the Agenda. However, there are two items which are not. The first is the Remembrance Sunday debacle, where there was a gathering and wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial but we were not there because we had received an instruction From Babergh and Midsuffolk District Council on 5th November not to hold any such act of remembrance. Prior to receiving that communication, I had spoken to the Rector and he confirmed to me that there would be no service and I assumed, no wreath laying; although I cannot remember if that was specifically mentioned. I have subsequently found out that he spoke to someone in SCC and was told that the ceremony could take place providing it was short and conformed to the usual Covid requirements. No one considered it necessary to inform me, which is odd, as we are one of the wreath layers! As it happened, the British Legion have let us down and we are still waiting for delivery so, a rather embarrassing situation was avoided.

I have since published an explanation on the Finningham Facebook but please take every opportunity to spread the word as to why we did not attend. We really do not need this sort of publicity. Jo Churchill's office has been in touch with me to see if we will join in on a Zoom meeting with SCC Highways to further the cause of the B1113 speeding issue and to take them to task regarding the flooding in Westhorpe Road. This meeting is scheduled for 26th November. I believe that some residents will be attending but I do not know who.

Mr. N. Arthur mentioned the flooding along Wickham Road and the Chairman asked for photo's of it to be sent to him.

20.112 Update from the track on The Green group.

Mr. N. Arthur reported they are looking into short, medium and long term solutions with rough costings. Mr. J. Miller said he is happy to meet outside during the current times with COVID-19.

20.113 To discuss whether the Parish Council should change its view with regards to the maintenance of the track on The Green. Previously it was agreed to only contribute as a one off.

The council want to look into other byways/bridleways within the village and whether these would also have to be considered to be maintained by the Parish Council. Therefore rolled over to the next meeting.

20.114 To discuss the request from Friends of Finningham for a contribution to the cost of a new storage shed. The cost will be between £750 - £1000 and any contribution would be greatly appreciated.

During discussing this, Cllr Andy Mellen offered £1000 from his budget that Friends of Finningham could apply for. The Council Thanked Cllr Andy Mellen for this offer. He will email the clerk with details for her to send to Greg Aiken, Chairman of FofF, and put them in contact with each other.

20.115 To discuss the footpath map. Which maps should be used? What should the layout look like as well as what artwork to include. Boundary of conservation area? Location of listed buildings?

The Council are happy for the people within the footpath map group to decide on the maps to use.

20.116 To discuss the footpath from The Green to the pub, along the B1113. A rough price from Highways is £300 per metre, so roughly £30,000 in total. What else can be done as people walk along this area already, grass cutting? Hedge cutting?

It was agreed to scrap the idea of a footpath, based on the cost. Mr. J. Miller offered to have a look at the hedge in terms of cutting it back. It was agreed to leave the area currently walked on, to remain grassed to act as a footpath.

20.117 To discuss and approve the quote from Mr. M. Baird for the replacement post and rail fence surrounding The Green. The quote is £2,650.00 + VAT. It's being checked whether the posts will be concreted in or not.

Concern was raised about whether the posts within the ground were protected, to stop them from rotting too quickly. It was asked if this could be looked into and at what costs, before accepting the quote.

20.118 To discuss the budget for 2021-2022. Should the precept be increased or kept the same as last year?

It was agreed to keep the precept the same amount as the previous year.

20.119 To discuss the update from SCC on the flooding along Westhorpe Road.

Mrs. C. Winter went through the communication she had back regarding criteria they use to look into issues. Their pot of money to deal with flooding isn't enough to resolve all issues, therefore it seems Westhorpe Road flooding is low in priority. It was discussed whether the Parish Council should pay to try and clear out the pipes themselves, through Dynorod, or someone similar. It was also mentioned whether the building company, building the new 6 houses along that road, were able to help.

20.120 To discuss and approve the risk assessment for 2020. Rolled over from last month.

The business risk assessment hasn't changed from last year. The new items purchased throughout the last year have been added.

Mr. T. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Miller and agreed to accept the risk assessment.

20.121 To discuss CIL money usage and inviting views from parishioners. People within the village should have a chance to say what they would like. Should a piece go in the newsletter with ideas the Council currently have, inviting new ideas and also listing what it can't be spend on, as there's criteria set by BMSDC on how the money can be used.

It was agreed this is a good idea and it should be done via the newsletter.

- 20.122 To approve the request from Mr. Bob Storey about his payment for the fuel for the mower. The bank rejected the cheque as there was no first name or first name initial. The amount is for £5.46 and Mr. Storey has asked, due to the amount, to forget about it and for it to be deleted from records.**
Mrs. C. Winter proposed, seconded by Mr. T. Kilbee and agreed to accept this..
- 20.123 To discuss the litter pick due in November. Due to current circumstances, the litter pick in November should be cancelled. Hopefully January's litter pick can still go ahead.**
It was agreed due to COVID-19 and the current restrictions, the litter pick in November is cancelled. Hopefully the one due in January can still go ahead.
- 20.124 Correspondence Received**
- 124.01 **CAB Mid Suffolk have emailed saying 7 people in Finningham with 61 issues over the last 12 months have used their service. They are not funded by central government and have to raise their own funds and wondered whether the parish council wanted to make a contribution to them?**
The Council felt that it should be added to the agenda of the next meeting to donate £50 to them, considering the help they have given to parishioners. It was mentioned that a former councillor, Mr. C. Spencer did a lot of volunteering for them as well.
- 124.02 **NALC's response to the proposed planning changes have been emailed to everyone.**
- 124.03 **Confirmation of the register of interest form has been completed and submitted by Mr. N. Arthur.**
- 124.04 **Change of signatories' issue continues. Barclays Bank say the signatures of both Mr. Kilbee and Mr. Black are different to what they have on file. Therefore, they must satisfy who they are before the change of signatories can be completed.**
- 20.125 Finance**
- 125.01 Clerk's report –
Previous meeting, last balance reported was from 29/09/2020
Current account £21,621.97 (£422.24 still unrepresented, once presented, then balance is £21,199.73)
Deposit account £3,329.70
Balances as of 29/10/2020
Current account £31,901.75 (£100 still unrepresented, once presented, then balance is £31,801.75)
Receipts since 28/09/20 – £10,635.73 – CIL & cemetery fees
Payments since 28/09/20 - £355.95 - (invoices approved at previous meeting)
Deposit account £3,329.70
- 125.02 **Requests for payment**
Mr. T. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to authorise the following payments
E:on - £13.21 - October's bill paid via DD
NEST - £33.44 – via DD for pension contribution
Miss. N. Hill - £363.01 – clerks wages
HMRC - £95.60 – PAYE
BMSDC - £60.82 – annual play inspection
Totalling £566.08
- 20.126 Planning**
To consider applications.
None.
Decisions & to consider planning matters coming forth.
None
All planning applications received up to the date of the meeting will be discussed.
- 20.127 Questions to Chairman**
The flagpole on the Green now has new rope. Both of the flags though are looking tatty and the edging has gone.
- 20.128 Items to be discussed at the next meeting and included in the December's agenda.**
To consider buying 2 new flags for next season.

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 9.20pm