

FINNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Draft

*Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 8th February 2022
in St. Bartholomew's Church, Finningham, starting at 7:32pm*

Present: Mr. A. Kilbee, Mrs. C. Winter, Mr. J. Miller & Mr. J Black (late due to work)

In attendance: Miss. N. Hill (Clerk), Cllr Andy Mellen & 3 members of the public.

21.205 Visiting speakers

Cllr Andy Mellen's County and District reports are on file. He did add that he spoke to Network Rail and they thought it strange the ditch clearing wasn't dealt with during the winter. Highways are also doing a design of the curbing round the triangle where Church Lane meets the B1113. He has been asked for a grant on behalf of the pub in the village to help towards the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

21.206 Contribution by Members of the Public

Mrs. M. Webb said that she was happy to see the footpath from The Green to the crossroads is being reconsidered.

21.207 Apologies and approval of absence.

Mrs. L. Charter was feeling unwell, Mr. P. Trew had a prior arrangement, Mr. N. Arthur was away on holiday and Mr. J. Black running late due to work

Mr. J. Miller proposed, seconded by Mrs C. Winter and agreed to approve these absences.

21.208 Approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th December 2021

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

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

None

21.210 Matters arising from the meeting held on 14th December 2021.

An estimate of works from Suffolk Highways has been received to supply & erect 2 new posts for Finningham/Gislingham village sign along the B1113. The estimate is £1,598.11. Gislingham have been emailed to enable them to discuss this and whether they wish to go halves on the quote.

21.211 Chairman's Report

I hope that it is not too late to wish everyone a happy and Covid free 2022.

The beginning of the year was marred by Natalie's decision to resign from the post of our Parish Clerk. Of course, we have to respect her decision and thank her for continuing in the post until such time as we can find a replacement. We have posted an advert in SALC but I fear that we shall not be inundated with applicants as ours is one of a number of like adverts.

With regard to the Queen's Jubilee, I have spoken to Greg and he has advised me that they are moving house and therefore, will relinquish his post of Chairman of the Friends of Finningham. As you probably know, Beryl sadly passed away recently, so their finances are in a bit of a pickle with signatories of their bank account. Greg is confident that he will be able to sort it out in the near future. More about the festivities in the appropriate Agenda item.

Although he isn't here tonight, I should like to thank Paul for taking over the control of the VAS, even as a temporary measure.

The new lawnmower was safely delivered just before Christmas and is now in the lock-up shed. I have purchased some special winter fuel to prevent it gumming up during the off season. When we get nearer the mowing season, I shall run a couple of training sessions so our band of volunteers can become familiar with the workings of the machine.

- 21.212 Update from the Village Footpath map working group.**
Nothing to report as the next stage is currently with Mr. J. Black who is looking into leaflets.
- 21.213 To discuss flooding within the village.**
SCC have said the gullies along Station Road will be cleared in February. Network Rail will complete the work to clear the ditch (Wickham Skeith side of the railway bridge) in the new financial year, from April 2022.
Cllr Andy Mellen has already mentioned the ditch clearing by Network Rail. The Parish Council would like to pass their Thanks onto the group of people in the village who have cleared The Dove river within the village.
- 21.214 To discuss the monitoring of traffic speed within the village.**
Andy Brownlie is on longer dealing with the VAS. Mr. Paul Trew is kindly dealing with it short term.
As Mr. P. Trew wasn't at the meeting, he couldn't be asked if he was happy to continue.
- 21.215 To discuss the emergency plan.**
Nothing to share.
- 21.216 To discuss an annual newsletter to everyone in the village.**
Last meeting, it was agreed this should go out a month before the annual Parish Council meeting, which is held in May. What should it include?
The Chairman suggested he will talk to someone within the village to see if they were happy to help with this.
- 21.217 To discuss and approve filling the casual vacancy on the Parish Council.**
Mr Paul Trew is happy to become a Councillor. He attended the meeting in December 2021 and gave some background to himself, having just recently moved into the village.
Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Miller and agreed for Mr. Paul Trew to become a Councillor filling the casual vacancy.
- 21.218 To discuss and approve whether a 2nd VAS machine should be purchased.**
Could funding be found for another one or use existing funds?. Cost of a VAS is £1,930.00
Carry forward to next month.
- 21.219 To discuss and approve a new bracket on one of the poles for the VAS.**
It appears someone has turned the VAS causing damage to the bracket, on the pole sited along the B1113 near Quest. A replacement bracket is £39.78+VAT.
Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to purchase a replacement bracket.
- 21.220 To discuss and approve installing a footpath between The Green to the crossroads by the pub.**
Another quote has been obtained from Frank Davey Ltd. £7,640 + VAT for a 1.0 footpath. The quote includes Highways noticed & 2wy traffic lights. A previous quote from another company was £8,876 + £3,294 for traffic management ex. VAT.
Mr. J. Miller proposed, seconded by Mrs. C. Winter and agreed to accept the quote of £7,640 + VAT. CIL money will be used to pay for this,
- 21.221 To discuss who can look after the VAS now Mr. A. Brownie is no longer doing it.**
Mr. P. Trew has kindly offered to do it short term.
Mr. Paul. Trew is not at the meeting to see if he wants to continue looking after the VAS.
- 21.222 To discuss plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Thursday 2nd June 2022 at 9.15pm.**
The Chairman discussed with the Chairman of FoF about their plans and how they are coming along. A quote of £1,500+VAT has been obtained for a beacon, 750 diameter & 650 high. Has anyone managed to get a design and quote for mugs/cups.
Waiting to hear about FoF exact plans and with the pub looking to do an event as well, these shouldn't clash. Mr. J. Miller is looking to design and produce a beacon after showing the PC some ideas. No quotes have been obtained for mugs/cups.
- 21.223 To discuss and approve replacing a dog bin, after it was vandalised.**
The cost of a small dog bin Fido 25 from Glasdon) is £126.89+VAT.
Mrs. C. Winter proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Miller and agreed to purchase a small dog bin.

21.224 To discuss whether a 2nd defib should be installed in the village.

Where could it be sited and where would the electricity supply from?
After discussion, it was agreed a 2nd defib should not be installed in the village as there's no means of getting electric to it.

21.225 To discuss and approve new councillor training that SALC offers.

Cost is £25+VAT per delegate. It's via zoom with 6 modules, each lasting 90 mins. Currently there are no spaces, but SALC will email when there's more spaces.
Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Miller and agreed for new councillor training as and when more spaces are available.

21.226 To discuss finding a replacement clerk, as the current one has resigned, but will stay in position until a replacement has been found.

The clerk will inform SALC and put an advert out via them. Also she will contact surrounding parish council clerks to see if they are interested in being a clerk for Finningham Parish Council. There should also be word of mouth by everyone to find a replacement clerk.

21.227 Correspondence Received

- 227.01 Mr. Andrew Strickland has asked for the meeting dates so he & his wife can turn the heating on in the Church during the winter & to also be available for the Chairman to collect the key.
- 227.02 BMSDC have emailed about Spring Clean Suffolk 2022. The national "Great British Spring Clean" is being promoted by Keep Britain Tidy during 25 March to 10 April 2022. It was agreed that Finningham should have a litter pick, on Sunday 20th March, the 3rd Sunday of the month, which means the big banner can be placed in the village to make people aware of it.
- 227.03 BMSDC have confirmed they have received the precept paperwork.
- 227.04 Since the agenda was produced, another tree application came through from BMSDC.

21.228 Finance

- 228.01 Clerk's report
Previous meeting, last balance reported was from 29/11/2021.
£27,907.76 (£262.20 still unrepresented, once presented, then balance is £27,645.56)
Deposit account £3,330.02
Balances as of 28/12/2021
£23,335.49 - all cheques have been presented
Receipts since 30/11/21 – £28.00 (cemetery fee)
Payments since 30/11/21 - £4,600.07 - (invoices approved at previous meetings)
Deposit account £3,330.10 – 8p interest
- 228.02 **Requests for payment**
Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Miller and agreed to authorise the following payments
E:on - £22.77 – December's bill paid via DD
ANDY BROWNLIE - £15.00 – annual charging the VAS batteries
ANDY BROWNLIE - £300 – clearing rubbish & litter and cutting grass in the churchyard
MR. A. KILBEE - £19.98 – fuel for the new lawnmower
MISS. N. HILL - £13.35 - expenses
TOTAL - £371.10
- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| current acct balance per b/s | £23,335.49 | |
| less unrepresented cheques | £ 371.10 | |
| plus deposit account | £ 3,330.10 | |
| TOTAL | £19,634.29 | |
| Of which general funds | £ 3,506.32 | |
| Of which restricted funds | £11,406.97 | (CIL & Grants not spent) |
| Of which reserves | £ 4,721.00 | (1/2 of precept & election costs) |

21.229 Planning

- 229.01 To consider applications.
DC/22/00096 – Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area – Reduce crown of 1no Walnut to reduce shading, remove one diseased branch & one branch overhanging neighbouring property – Hollis House, Wickham Road, Finningham, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 4HT.
No comment.
DC/22/00486 – Householder application – Reconstruction of roof tops (following fire damage) and installation of roof windows – Drivers Farm Barn, Gislingham Road, Finningham, Suffolk, IP14 4JA.
No comment.
DC/22/00520 – Application for works to a tree in a Conservation Area – Fell 1no Golden Lawsons Cypress due to size & proximity to power lines/road/building – The Old Bakery, Gislingham Road, Finningham, Suffolk, IP14 4HZ
No comment.

DC/22/00382 - Householder Application - Erection of 2 bay cart lodge - The Old House, Church Path, Finningham, Suffolk IP14 4JD

No comment.

229.02 Decisions & to consider planning matters coming forth.

GRANTED - Full Planning Application - Erection of 1 No two storey detached dwelling and double cart lodge building with storage over (amended scheme and re-submission of DC/21/03833).

Patcham House, Station Road, Finningham, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4TH

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

21.230 Questions to Chairman

None

21.231 Items to be discussed at the next meeting and included in the March's agenda.

Points mentioned earlier.

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 8.50pm