

FINNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

*Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 8th March 2022
in St. Bartholomew's Church, Finningham, starting at 7:30pm*

Present: Mr. A. Kilbee, Mr. J. Miller, Mrs. C. Winter, Mr. N. Arthur, Mrs. L. Charter, Mr. P. Trew & Mr. J. Black (late due to work)

In attendance: Miss. N. Hill (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

21.232 Visiting speakers

Cllr Andy Mellen's County and District reports are on file. With regards to development within the village and new housing, Green Farm is coming along and there maybe something along Gislingham Road, going out of the village heading towards Gislingham. Cllr Andy Mellen was Thanked for his work in helping water/flood issues along Westhorpe Road and Wickham Road.

21.233 Contribution by Members of the Public

A member of the public said Thank You to Cllr Andy Mellen and everyone for their work to get the ditch along Wickham Road cleared by Network Rail.

21.234 Apologies and approval of absence.

Mr. J. Black for running late due to work.

Mr. Doug Aiken also sent his apologies for being away and unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mrs L. Charter and agreed to approve these absences

21.235 Approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th February 2022.

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

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

None.

21.237 Matters arising from the meeting held on 8th February 2022.

237.01 Gislingham PC have confirmed they are happy to go halves on the estimate £1,598.11 (up to £1,000 as they appreciate it's an estimate and not a quote) for Suffolk Highways to supply & erect 2 new posts for Finningham/Gislingham village sign along the B1113. They have asked whether they can have a separate invoice from Highways for their half of the invoice.

237.02 Update on the footpath from The Green to the crossroads.

237.03 No new councillor training sessions are available yet.

21.238 Chairman's Report

As Paul was unable to attend our last meeting, I should like to welcome here at his first meeting as a Councillor on Finningham Parish council. I am sure that he will be a valuable addition to our team, particularly with his experience in emergency situations.

I should also like to welcome Jane Challis to our meeting. Jane is currently The Parish Clerk for Gislingham and Mellis and has indicated that she would like to be considered for that role in this council to replace Natalie. I shall ask her to give us a short presentation under item 18 of the Agenda.

A team of volunteers has been busy clearing out the Dove from the Bridge to Eastlands. I'm not sure if we decided on this at the last meeting but I feel that we should send them a note of thanks for their work.

It has been reported to me that the situation along Moon Lane has deteriorated as a large number of caravans are now parked there. This was brought to light when the Avian Flu team (based in Westhorpe Village Hall) attempted to make an inspection and were put off by their reception. As we all know, it is very difficult to get anything done about the situation there. Even more so since Mr Cracknell assisted in the removal of some large trees from the Dove during the clear-out of the river. Perhaps we should try and involve the Planning Department again.

What should the PC do re Moon Lane considering during 2005-2007 the issues with Mr. Cracknell at Moon Lane. What are their toilet facilities like? Should the environmental dept as well as the planning dept at BMSDC be contacted. It was also suggested with regards to the Avian Bird Flu aspect, Trading Standards should also be contacted.

21.239 Update from the Village Footpath map working group.

No news on what is happening with the leaflet as Mr. J. Black was helping with this.

21.240 To discuss flooding within the village.

There was work along Westhorpe Road where it was drained which seems to take 4 tankers. Floods haven't appeared since, but there hasn't been that much rain. It seems it wasn't just sludge down the pipes, stopping water moving way from the road, but also building materials. The workers indicated that they couldn't get all the way through the pipes to clear them. Mrs. L. Charter will email the clerk with information she gained when talking to the workers, for it to be passed onto Cllr. Andy Mellen to ensure they return to fully complete and resolve the issue.

Wickham Road flooding seems to have reduced now Network Rail have cleared the ditch. The flood ner Church Lane along the B1113 still appears.

21.241

To discuss the monitoring of traffic speed within the village.

Mr. P. Trew is happy to charge the VAS and to move it to the different locations in the village. He doesn't download any of the information from it though, as he doesn't have the time.

21.242

To discuss the emergency plan.

Mr. P. Trew says the initial work Mrs. L. Charter has done is good and it needs populating and then building on that.

21.243

To discuss an annual newsletter to everyone in the village. The Chairman was going to ask if someone in the village was interested in helping with this. The Chairman has spoken to Alison Guy who is able to produce 300 newsletters for about £280. This would be a 12 page booklet in colour and on decent paper.

Mrs. L. Charter has started the newsletter with information about the PC and suggested a short bio on all councillors and promote that the PC does. She has also taken some photo's of what the PC has done to include in this newsletter.

21.244

To discuss and approve plans to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June

2022. What is FoF doing? What is happening with the beacon.

FoF are doing something on the Sunday on The Green.

The beacon is in hand and its temporary position as well as long term position needs to be decided.

Mr. P. Trew with get prices on mugs/t-towels which could be delivered to every household.

21.245

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. Carried forward from last month.

After discussion, Mrs. L. Charter proposed, seconded by Mr A. Kilbee and agreed not to purchase another defib.

21.246

To discuss and approve training on how to use the defib. Who is to offer this and is it parish council business? Mr & Mrs. Winter are happy to volunteer to give the training. It was suggested to do it alongside a coffee morning in the village.

21.247

To discuss and approve the request to lay concrete slabs in part of the churchyard. The grass between the path and the church door gets muddy and slippery in winter. Mr. A. Strickland has been thinking of laying a series of concrete slabs as stepping stones from the path to the church door. He's been told that this is the province of the parish council. There would be no cost to the Parish Council, he is planning to use slabs with a rough surface, and the intention is that they will be flush with the surrounding grass, so that there is no difficulty for mowers
Mr. J. Miller proposed, seconded by Mr N. Arther and agreed the laying of concrete slabs on the path.

21.248

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.

As mentioned earlier, Mr. P. Trew is happy to look after the defib.

21.249

To discuss and approve finding a replacement clerk. Jane Challis is a clerk for Gislingham & Mellis and is interested in being the clerk for Finningham Parish Council.

Jane Challis introduced herself and what her current clerking roles are. She was then asked to leave the room whilst the Pc discussed.

Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mr P. Trew and agreed for Jane Challis to fill the vacancy of the clerk.

21.250

Correspondence Received

21.251
251.01

None.

Finance

Clerk's report

Previous meeting, last balance reported was from 28/12/2021.

£23,335.49 - all cheques have been presented

Deposit account £3,330.10

Balances as of 25/02/2022

£22,987.16 – all cheques have been presented

Receipts since 29/01/22 – £0

251.02

Payments since 29/01/22 - £348.33 - (invoices approved at previous meetings)

Deposit account £3,330.10

Requests for payment

Mr. A. Kilbee proposed, seconded by Mr. J. Miller and agreed to authorise the following payments

MISS. N. HILL - £331.45 – clerks wages

NEST - £34.90 – pension contribution via DD

HMRC - £87.20 - PAYE

MISS. N. HILL - £6.43 – expenses

SALC - £22.80 – payroll services for 6 months

TOTAL - £482.78

current acct balance per b/s £22,987.16

less unrepresented cheques £ 482.78

plus deposit account £ 3,330.10

TOTAL £25,834.48

Of which general funds £ 9,706.51

Of which restricted funds £11,406.97 (CIL & Grants not spent)

21.252

Of which reserves £ 4,721.00 (1/2 of precept & election costs)

252.01

Planning

To consider applications.

252.02

DC/22/00906 - Erection of detached double garage with workshop over (following demolition of existing) - School House , Walsham Road, Finningham, Suffolk IP14 4JF

No comment.

Decisions & to consider planning matters coming forth.

DOES NOT WISH TO OBJECT - DC/22/00602 - Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area: Repollard 1no Sycamore (T1) to 5m at the first major fork, fell 1no Sycamore (T2) leaning over property, crown reduce 1no Sycamore (T3) by 3-4m in height and 2-3m on lower lateral branches, reduce 2no Thorn (T4 and T5) to 12ft back into hedge line, and reduce 1no Conifer (T6) by 2m Stilstead House, Church Meadow, Gislingham Road, Finningham Suffolk IP14 4JU

DOES NOT WISH TO OBJECT - 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

Appeal dismissed - Land south of Westhorpe Road, Finningham - DC/21/00366 -

APP/W3520/W/21/3279217

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

GRANTED – DC/21/06334 - Planning Application - Change of use of agricultural land to Equine Use. Land To The South Of, Silver End, Station Road, Finningham Suffolk

RESERVED MATTERS HAVE BEEN APPROVED – DC/21/06813 - Application for approval of reserved matters following grant of outline permission DC/19/00317 (all matters reserved)

Access, Appearance, Layout, Scale and Landscaping for erection of 1No dwelling - Meadowbank Farm, Westhorpe Road, Finningham, Suffolk IP14 4TW

DOES NOT WISH TO OBJECT - 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.

21.253

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

Questions to Chairman

21.254

None.

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

Poles for the new 4 dog bins.
The Chairman then closed the meeting at 9.10pm