

FORNHAM ALL SAINTS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Fornham All Saints Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st March 2023 at 6.30pm.

Members Present:

Cllr Enid Gathercole

Cllr Mat Stewart

Cllr Jill Mayhew

Cllr Don Lynch

Cllr Hugo Greer-Walker

Cllr Martin Loveridge

In attendance: Christine Mason (Clerk) and one members of the public.

21/03/107 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Cathy Emerson, Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger.

21/03/108 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive disclosures of pecuniary and local non pecuniary interests for the agenda under discussion – none received.

To receive disclosures of gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 - none received.

To consider requests for dispensations - none received.

21/03/109 MINUTES

With one amendment, it was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting of 17th January 2023 are adopted as a true statement.

21/03/110 PUBLIC FORUM

With regard to the offer of a bench near to the church, Paul Purnell to take on the refurbishment and fitting.

Agenda item 15 was now heard.

21/03/11 REPAIR AND REPLACE BENCHES IN THE VILLAGE

The seat near the church wall is in need of either full refurbishment or a new one purchased. A composite bench was suggested, but as this part of the village is the prima facie of Fornham All Saints, it was agreed a more suitable style would be more in keeping i.e hardwood slats/iron frame. Together with the WI, the Community Centre will be sharing the cost of a new bench in celebration of the King's Coronation, location yet to be agreed.

21/03/112 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hopfensperger's general report was previously circulated. A meeting in relation to anti-social behaviour in Pigeon Lane has been held. Attendees, Cllr Hopfensperger, Cllr Stamp, Cllr Gathercole, three from Havebury Housing and two residents.

21/03/113 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIOS HELD

Cllr Hugo Greer-Walker: The road closure works at Tut Hill are due to be commenced on 3rd April, with the view of full closure on the 8th of April. Diversion signs will be in place. Enquiries to be made in relation to S106 monies for an improved footpath inside the road. The response to the Active Travel Plan was disappointing.

Cllr Martin Loveridge: Play area inspection carried out, minimal maintenance required, two screws to be tightened, minor unoffensive graffiti to be left, gates sorted, rusted corner of the metal bench to be rubbed down and repainted.

Cllr Enid Gathercole: From the tarmac top to the main road, a resident of Fornham St Martin has voluntarily completely cleared brambles, grass and moss from both sides of Pigeon Lane. As a thank you, a £25 voucher to be purchased. With unauthorised parking on the grassed area near Thingoe Lodge, the problem to be highlighted in the village magazine. With copious amounts of rubbish/litter in the River Lark, the Catchment Partnership to be asked what their plans are for Spring/Summer.

Cllr Jill Mayhew: The Rural Coffee Caravan is continuing at Thingoe Lodge; however, May, July and September will be by the Village Hall. Thingoe Lodge residents have

chosen the RCC to be their charity of the year, and held a very successful coffee morning at Culford Village Hall recently, (for the first time ever they ran out of chairs). The visit from Tesco Community representative was very informative as well. Attended a meeting at TL with Havebury staff. This was to discuss new bath, various health and safety issues and funding.

Cllr Don Lynch: Still reporting lots of lorries direct to their employers, Mick George is doing a big demo job on the Northern Way Industrial Est - they have a base at Snettisham and the drivers are cutting through here. The volume of trucks up and down to Anglia Water have increased, Cargate come through 10 times per day and Sat and Sun, here is the list of others, Anglian Water, Biffa, Bio Marsh, Cargate, Mitchel & Gayle, Whites, Dejays and many more. ANPR will be situated on the VAS Post in two weeks for five days and this time it is not a trial run anyone speeding will be reported by LA.. A conversation has been had with David Harris over the high fence panel that has been erected alongside his boundary to the rear of a property in Pigeon Lane.

Cllr Mat Stewart: Marham Park to be recontacted regarding moving the fence to prevent the use of the unapproved layby. The planning application for the gym and associated facilities at Marham Park is now on the planning portal

21/03/114 CLERK'S REPORT

A dispute between two allotment tenants has yet to be resolved. A further meeting to be arranged. No other matters to report.

21/03/115 FINANCE REPORT

| | | | | |
|----------|---------------|---------------------------|------|--------|
| January | Cllr Lynch | Electricity reimbursement | 1915 | 60.00 |
| | Cllr Emerson | Blankets reimbursement | 1918 | 14.00 |
| | C Mason | Expenses April - December | 1917 | 166.06 |
| | C Mason | Salary | 1920 | 663.00 |
| | Litter picker | Salary January | 1921 | 205.83 |
| February | Village Hall | Hall hire | 1922 | 30.00 |
| | Litter picker | Salary February | 1923 | 205.83 |
| | C Mason | Salary | 1924 | 663.00 |

i. Proposed and seconded that payments on the schedule are approved - all in favour.

ii. Balances as of February 2023

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Gold Account | 29915.59 |
| Current Account | 255.12 |
| Treasurers Account | 1328.25 |
| Less o/s cheques | -129.36 |
| Balance | 30041.71 |

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Treasurers Account | 1817.19 |
| Allotment Account | 1825.29 |

iii. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit was approved – all in favour.

iv. A S137 donation of £200 for the WI was approved -all in favour.

v. The quotation of £600 + vat to remove the burnt out sheds from the allotments was unanimously approved. A claim has been submitted to our insurers to replace the damaged sections of the palisade fencing. A second quotation is required prior to processing.

21/03/116 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR/ INTERNAL CONTROL STATEMENT

i. Trevor Brown was appointed to carry out the internal audit for the 2022-2023 – all in favour.

ii. The Internal Control Statement for 2022-2023 was approved – all in favour.

21/03/117 ASSETS REGISTER

Currently being progressed by Cllr Loveridge.

21/03/118 PLAYING FIELD

To expand the current parking facilities, the Community Centre have asked whether they could extend the fence to the tree and bring the gates out. The question of relocating the bottle banks was raised, but owing to a large tree and electricity box unfeasible. Cllr Gathercole, Mayhew and Paul Purnell to look at alternative sites. Frequency of collection needs to be increased, the relevant authority to be contacted in November.

21/03/119 SALC COMMUNICATION TRAINING / ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Following communication training at SALC, two points were brought to the meeting by Cllr Mayhew a) confirmation that unless the churchyard is closed, the 1894 Local Government Act does not allow spending on works relating to the affairs of the church, including grass cutting b) Annual Parish Meeting can be held separately to the Parish Council meeting, local groups/residents can be invited to give a short summary of their group's activities over the last year, refreshments are usually provided. Too late for this year, but the format as described will be an item on the January 2024 agenda. Cllr Mayhew to take this forward.

21/03/120 COMPLAINT RECEIVED REGARDING PATH OPPOSITE THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Even though reported in May and June, no action has been taken by Highways to clear the path opposite the Community Centre. To be reported again by Cllr Mayhew.

21/03/121 CHANGE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFE CROSSING SCHEME

With evidentiary proof that a safe crossing is essential, discussion followed as to who would be willing to take on the responsibility of taking the scheme forward. Cllr Lynch to be contacted within four weeks if interested.

21/03/122 REPAIR AND REPLACE BENCHES IN THE VILLAGE

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

21/03/123 REQUEST TO PLANT LAVENDER & ROSE BUSHES BESIDE THE CHURCH WALL

Agreed to wait until after Spring before any new planting is undertaken. As a thank you to the resident who looks after the cemetery wall flower beds, a £25 voucher to be purchased – all in favour. Cllr Mayhew to action.

21/03124 PROVISION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY FROM SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATION

Feasibility of the project to be assessed prior to approaching the landowner. Cllr Stewart to arrange for the technical side to be investigated. A letter from the Parish Council, as landowner, approving contact with electricity companies to be provided.

21/03/125 DOG WASTE BIN NEAR THE BUS STOP NEAREST TO THE RIVER LARK

New dog waste bin to be sited on the patch of grass on the other side of the bus stop near to the 30mph sign.

21/03/126 AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Already identified during the meeting.

21/03/127 CORRESPONDENCE

A request from a resident to move the grit bin in Pigeon Lane to the end of Dairy Drive was considered impractical – not approved.

Councillors raised questions concerning the forthcoming local elections. Nomination papers have to be taken to West Suffolk Council by 4th April. An appointment system for checking paperwork is available.

21/03/128 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting 16th May 2023 at 6.30pm followed by the Parish Council Meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm.