

FORNHAM ALL SAINTS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Fornham All Saints Parish Council held on 3rd November 2015 at 7.30pm in Fornham All Saints Village Hall.

Members Present:

Mr Howard Quayle – Chairman

Mrs Enid Gathercole

Ms W Braithwaite

Mr Gary Clark Ward

Mr Bernard Grimshaw

Mr Michael Guest

Ms Liz Hodder

Mr Paul Purnell

With Mrs Victoria Waples (Clerk) in attendance and 1 member of the public.

998. OPENING STATEMENT – a statement was read out indicating, that in accordance with changes in legislation, the public and councillors were permitted to film, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of the meeting.
A full transcript of the statement is available from the Clerk upon request.
999. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
There were no applicable apologies.
1000. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTEREST
- i. Cllr. Guest declared a pecuniary interest under Agenda Item 11 and took no part in the discussion or vote that ensued with regards to Financial Matters. Cllrs. Clark-Ward & Purnell declared Local Non Pecuniary Interest as Member and Treasurer of the Village Hall respectively and Cllr. Gathercole as Chairman of the Community Centre. There were no other pecuniary or local non pecuniary interests for the agenda under discussion.
- ii. There were no requests for dispensations with regards to the Agenda under discussion.
1001. MINUTES – approval of the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of 15th September 2015 would be approved and signed at the next full Parish Council Meeting.
1002. PUBLIC FORUM – the following concerns were raised by members of the public present:
- Community Governance Review – it would not be sensible not to change the boundaries; if they were not changed would expect to see an increase in the number of Cllrs and this may well put the village of FAS at a disadvantage. Would recommend that the change in boundary decision be implemented immediately once the decision has been taken and that the new boundary follow the centre line of the new link road to ensure that the Parish Council was still a stakeholder.
 - *The Chairman responded by stating that if there was an immediate change once the CGR is finalized and prior to the completion of phases 1, 2 and 3 for Bury North West then FAS would only be consulted on the development as an adjoining parish. Further clarification on this point would be sort from the CGR Team at West Suffolk.*
1003. VILLAGE MATTERS – the following urgent matter was brought to the Council's attention:
- i. Roundabouts at the bottom of Tut Hill – the Clerk was asked to highlight to Highways once again that urgent attention was required with regards to the loose bricks in the centre. Cllr. Grimshaw confirmed that he had pointed this out to Charlie Mitson during their meeting and that he had also been made aware of the issue regarding the right hand bend when approaching the junction from Bury St Edmunds.
1004. FINANCE – it was noted that a meeting date needed to be set up for the Charities Committee to look at the Fuel Poverty Payments for the current year. An additional meeting would also be called to discuss the S137 Payments that would be paid out for the coming year prior. All Councillors were welcome to attend the latter meeting but the former would exclude non member Councillors and members of the public due to the sensitive nature of the matter being discussed. Dates would be circulated once agreed.

1005. PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Community Governance Review – first round on consultation –

- New homes included in the Vision 2031 Strategic Site “North West Bury St Edmunds” – following circulated of the papers submitted by the Borough, it was proposed and agreed by all that Council’s response should be as follows:
“Due to the impact the addition of a potential 1494 electors will have on the parish in terms of impact on interest, identities and community cohesion the PC feels that its boundary should be changed to continue along the south side of the A1101 (Bury-Mildenhall Road) to where the link road commences and then to follow the centre line of the new link road which is being proposed for the new development up to the point at which the road meets Tut Hill and then to return across the field to the East of the Golf Course and to the follow the original boundary line.

Reasons for the above:

- This would give an area which reflects the community identity and interest & is of a viable size as an administrative unit.
- Would create a distinctive and recognizable boundary by retaining the Open Space feel of the surrounding area of the parish thereby providing the community with a strong ‘sense of place’ and identity
- Would reflect the common historic traditions of Fornham All Saints as a rural community with a link to the nearby Market Town of Bury St Edmunds
- Area between Fornham Lock Bridge and the Sheepwash Bridge, adjacent to the sewage works entrance, Fornham St Martin – Council noted that this boundary had been in existence since medieval times and follows the original river bed of the Lark River. It was agreed that the views of the residents concerned was paramount in this and that the Parish Council should take account of these views, as canvassed by the Parish Council Chairman of FAS, in its response to the Borough. It was noted that both the Chairman of FAS and the Chairman of Fornham St Martin had indicated that their response would be guided by the residents’ views on whom any proposed changes would have the greatest impact. It was therefore agreed by all that the Parish Council’s response would be along the following lines:
“the PC of FAS will abide by the democratically expressed view of the 4 electors (impacted by this decision) which is to remain in the parish of Fornham All Saints. The electors have expressed the view that they identify with the Parish in which they are currently located and that their inclusion within Fornham All Saints reflects patterns of everyday life as they have a common interest in parish affairs and support the amenities located within the Parish”.

b) Concept Statement for development @ Park Farm, Ingham – whilst it was agreed that the Concept Statement produced for the development of Park Farm was impressive, Council had the following concerns with the development as a whole:

- Potential for large scale development – could be as many as 150 lodges
- Links between open access on the site and the part of the parkland that would be open to the public and the surrounding villages in terms of cycling and walking paths
- Whilst the site at Park Farm would be screened there is concern at the current level of clearance and fencing that has taken place at Fornham Park
- Given the scale of leisure development planned for Fornham Park concern was raised at the possible overload on the Fornhams and the WSOH with a second leisure development at this point
- Level of competition – could the area sustain two such developments
- Traffic impact on the village and not only will this but also Fornham Park, WSOH and the development at Bury NW need to be taken into account when producing the Travel Plan for Bury St Edmunds

c) West Suffolk’s Local Enforcement Plan: Council noted the recent short survey which had arisen from the councils’ requirement to engage with residents, elected members, parish councils and businesses to understand the areas of planning enforcement that are of local importance. This would then assist the councils to produce a plan that sets out the priorities and timescales for enforcement complaints

so that the Enforcement Team can manage their caseload as efficiently and effectively as possible.

1006. URGENT REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS RELATING TO PORTFOLIOS HELD –
- i. Village Magazine – it was noted that the current issue was running 4 – 5 weeks late and that there had been timing issues and presentation issues relating to a number of editions. It was agreed that perhaps now was the time for a review of the production of the magazine in general and that the Parish Council should explore alternative means of handling the production of the village magazine. Council was in agreement that the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Parish Council should take this further and look into the feasibility of an alternative production method for the village magazine and report back to the Parish Council at the next full Council Meeting scheduled for later in the month.
1007. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Parish Council Meeting on 17th November 2015 commencing at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

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