

FORNHAM ALL SAINTS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Fornham All Saints Parish Council held on 18th July 2017 at 7.30pm in Fornham All Saints Village Hall.

Members Present:

Mr Howard Quayle – Chairman
Mr Gary Clark Ward
Mr Bernard Grimshaw

Mrs Enid Gathercole
Mr Paul Purnell
Ms Liz Hudder

With Mayor of St Edmundsbury, Mr Terry Clements and Lady Mayoress Mrs Vivienne Clements (in part), County and Borough Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger (in part), Mrs Victoria Waples (Clerk), and 10 members of the public.

1203. 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.
1204. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:
- i. Apologies of absence were received from Cllr. Braithwaite for work related reasons and from Cllr. Dawson for personal reasons.
 - ii. Council consented to accept these apologies, aif.
1205. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTEREST
- i. Cllr. Gathercole declared Local Non Pecuniary Interest as Member of the Community Centre Committee. Cllrs. Clark Ward and Purnell declared Local Non Pecuniary Interests as Members of the Village Hall Committee. There were no other pecuniary or local non pecuniary interests for the agenda under discussion. Councillors were reminded that they should regularly review their own Register of Interests and advise the Clerk of any changes within 28 days of the change.
 - ii. There were no disclosures of gifts of hospitality exceeding £25.
 - iii. There were no requests for dispensations with regards to the Agenda under discussion.
1206. MINUTES – approval of the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of 16th May 2017 and additional meetings of 19th June and 11th July 2017, were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman as true and accurate records.
1207. TO RECEIVE AN ADDRESS BY St EDMUNDSBURY MAYOR, MR TERRY CLEMENTS – The Chairman of the Parish Council officially welcomed the Mayor of St Edmundsbury Borough Council and the Lady Mayoress to the Parish and thanked them for taking the time to attend the Parish Council Meeting. He was invited to address the meeting and the following items were covered in his address:
- Longest serving Councillor – since 1983 had represented Horringer and Welnetham
 - Mayoral Commission established to deal with Mental Health issues especially for young people – all need someone to talk to and need to know where to access assistance – his own experience had been instrumental in ensuring that this subject should be brought out into the open
 - One of the charities that he would be supporting was Suffolk Mind, and he wanted to ensure that this and other charities were active in helping the community be more open with mental health issues so that people know they are out there and are contactable.
 - Very happy to engage with all of the communities in the Borough and would support and promote where possible.
 - Looking forward to learning more about his role and was surprised as to what he had learnt from the role already.
 - He applauded openness and wished to be fully involved in the communities he was elected to serve.

So signed by the Chairman at the meeting of 19th September 2017

1208. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLOR, MRS REBECCA HOPFENSBERGER – the Chairman thanked Cllr. Hopfensperger for attending and invited her to submit her report in which she commented on the following

- WSOH – she confirmed that she would speak on behalf of her Ward at the Development Control Committee and that she had been given six minutes to speak. She confirmed that she would be objecting to the application on grounds that would cover cumulative impact from traffic and contrary to local planning policy. With regards to the former she felt that a cumulative impact on current and future needs going forth had not been adequately covered in the traffic assessments carried out and that little or no account had been taken of the increase in traffic in general that would arise from the development in the Northern Arc of Bury St Edmunds. She advised that she felt the application was a deviation from local planning policy in the Local Plan and that for such a deviation to take place there needed to be material evidence to do so was the only way forward. She felt such a case had not been made.
- Moseley's Barn application – against this application as it was outside of the housing settlement and again a deviation from the Local Plan. Unfortunately her arguments and those who had spoken on behalf of the Parish Council were ignored and the application was passed.
- Vision 2031 Document – she confirmed that Cllr. John Griffiths at St Edmundsbury was taking legal responsibility for the Vision 2031 Document.
- Speed survey from Hengrave Road – one positive was the agreement for an extension of the 30mph speed limit between FAS and Hengrave as the survey had shown that the average speed over a 7 days period along this stretch was 43mph.
- When questioned as to how to move the issue of speeding and volume of traffic on she agreed that she would organise another meeting between herself, the Parish Council and Guy Smith on suggestions and way forward.
- She urged all to keep an eye on the Borough's Planning pages on its website for future development as the granting of planning permission at Moseley's Barn might not be the last of such applications coming forward.
- Outstanding Highway Matters – Cllr. Grimshaw referred to an update on actions agreed at the site meeting with SCC Highways Department in February 2017 and mentioned that very little progress had been made with a number of items. He confirmed, as stated in his recent email, that given the high volume of traffic on route in and out of FAS, it was imperative that not only the Parish Council but also SCC Highways Department takes measures that assists with not only the management of traffic flows, but also ensures that the village is as safe as it can be made for the many residents using the footpaths and crossing the roads. Cllr. Hopfensperger agreed that she would press for a meeting to be organised as soon as the Highways Department Review was completed.

1209. TO RECEIVE ISSUES FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

- i. Relating to the agenda under discussion – there were no matters raised for the agenda under discussion.
- ii. Relating to matters of concern with regards to Fornham All Saints -
 - Enforcement – who enforces planning conditions? This related in particular to the development that was taking place on an area of landscape value at the end of Pound Meadow. Complaints had been made to the Borough but there appeared to be little interest in enforcing planning conditions on this site.
 - An application for a ménage at this area had been submitted and yet neither the Parish Council nor the Ward Member had provided any response – why had it not come before both? It was confirmed by both the Parish Council and Borough Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger that neither had seen the application and that the Parish Council would ask to be able to consider this at its Planning Committee Meeting of 24th July and Councillor Hopfensperger would investigate further.
 - Could the Borough Councillor investigate the possibility of having more prominent environment weight limit notices at both ends of the road through the village?
- iii. Relating to the speed of traffic through the village specifically the road adjacent to Larks Gate, the width of the footpath and the lack of a footpath to one side of the road –
 - Safety of traffic at Larks Gate with regards to site lines on left

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- Narrow footpath between Larks Gate and Pound Meadow – too narrow and not safe with particular reference to the speed at which vehicles are travelling.
 - Could there be a speed calming measure at this point such as the one in Westley?
 - Weight of traffic is greater on the B1106 than the A1101 and yet there is very little effort being made to control this. The Parish Council confirmed that it had identified some measures to try and calm traffic at this point and were in discussions with SCC Highways department to take this forward.
 - Indentations along the B1106 were dangerous as they were forcing traffic too close to the pavement – could something be done about the road surface?
 - Increasing number of illegal vehicles travelling through the village – how is this to be sorted. The meeting's attention was drawn to the HGV Highways Tool for reporting such incidences – link could be found through the Parish Council website and it was agreed that such a link would be mentioned in the next newsletter.
- Borough and County Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger reassured the meeting that these issues were being looked at by the Parish Council, SCC Highways and herself and would form part of a formalised response on speed and traffic issues.

1210. REPORTS ON PARISH MATTERS RELATING TO PORTFOLIOS HELD & in particular –

- i. Website – Cllr. Clark Ward questioned once again as to what else was required from a website as the only information being uploaded was that relating to the Parish Council and existing information from the previous website. He claimed that the current website did not inform anyone of anything and so no-one was informing the editors of any items to upload. Cllr. Clark Ward proposed and it was agreed by those present that a Facebook Page should be started which would feed questions into the website which could then have answers linked to it. The Clerk advised that strict controls needed to be in place to monitor the Facebook Page if it was to be linked to the website to ensure that there was no liability to the Council for inappropriate content. The meeting was asked in the first instance to review the content on the website and advise him of any errors.
- ii. Flooding on the A1101 – the Parish Council expressed concern at the state of this road and the water that flowed down the allotment track onto the road – it was agreed that this needed further investigation and in the first instance the Chairman was tasked with speaking to Countryside Properties and their agents to ensure that this was an interim issue and not a result of insufficient drainage measures put in place to mitigate the development at Marham Park.
- iii. Reports of odours from the newly opened Fish and Chip shop – the Chairman confirmed that he had seen correspondence on this matter to and from the Environmental Health Officer and that the shop had been visited to discuss measures that needed to be put in place to address these concerns. The meeting also raised issues relating to parking and littering. It was agreed that this would be monitored over the coming months and brought back to the Parish Council if there was no improvement in the situation.
- iv. Change of editorship of the Village Voice – the meeting was in agreement that the editorial role from the next edition would be handled by Mr and Mrs Mayhew. It was confirmed that the magazine was under the responsibility of FAS Parish Council and there was a disclaimer for content and advertisements on the inside cover.
- v. Overgrown hedgerows in the Village along public footpaths – the meeting noted the email from the Chairman on this matter and it was noted that action had been taken or agreement had been taken over the work to be done at hedgerows bordering Church farm, cottages opposite the Church, Gaughton House and allotments/Community Centre.

1211. POLICE MATTERS –

- i. To receive reports of interest from the Bury Safer Neighbourhood Team – the meeting was advised that current and previous reports were uploaded onto the website. It was noted that there was a PCC Public Meeting on 12th September 2017 in Bury St Edmunds. The meeting was also advised that an email had been received from PCSO Kenneth Ruston on the Biker Events at Crazy Horse – it was noted that this email was for information only and was advising the Parish Council of events that would be taking place.
- ii. To receive from Bury SNT advice on parking at junctions in the Village – it was noted that such advice would be inserted into the next edition of the Village Newsletter in the hope that residents and visitors to residents would park more considerately in the future.

So signed by the Chairman at the meeting of 19th September 2017

1212. BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS –

- i. To receive an update on works at Marham Park – the Senior Projects Manager at Countryside Properties had provided the meeting with an update – a summary of which is repeated below:
Completed works over the last few months:

- PMC north from Mildenhall road to middle roundabout complete
- Mildenhall roundabout fully lit with signs all in place
- First phase of link road built including all drainage and swales
- All 3 pond excavated and drainage pipework completed
- Road drainage from the square going round the site all going in
- Bloor Homes starting on site
- Phase 2 Archaeology across parcels A&B stripped

Planned works for the next few months highlighted in red

- Bloor Homes starting on their parcel to build houses, sales unit should be opening Autumn - TBC
- Countryside to hopefully start in the Autumn date - TBC
- Phase 2 Archaeology continuing excavating ongoing
- Cycle way/ footpath from middle roundabout to Parcel D being built
- Road from Tut hill and roundabout up to parcel D being built - this will include all services and drainage etc.
- Pigeon lane is due to be seeded in the next month

Works on Tut Hill to join the new and old roads, will be when we will have traffic management on the road, this is expected to start about November depending on notices currently – further updates would be provided when firm dates are agreed. With regards to the bollards on Pigeon Lane, it was note that the current update is that both the Highways and Rights of Way teams in Bury are chasing round to see who was the last person to have access to remove them. It was confirmed that Breheny (Countryside's contractor) had them in position on completion of all of their works, which the authorising bodies are happy with, but there still remained the question as to who will replace them and by when. The Contract's Manager had agreed to continue to follow this up until it is resolved and it was agreed that the Chairman would continue to liaise on this point.

- ii. To receive information relating to the new road signs on A1101 and B1106 in relation to Marham Park - the Chairman confirmed that he had received reassurance from the Senior Projects Manager at Countryside Properties that agreement had been given that the signage contractors will now overspray the incorrect destinations/roads with the sign-masking aerosols. It was agreed that this might be unsightly and Suffolk Highways had still to comment on this approach as the signs will now only be showing "Mildenhall", "Bury" or "Local Traffic", but as Highways were aware of what had happened, the meeting agreed it was for Highways/Breheny/Countryside to liaise over this issue.
- ii. WSOH – The Development Control Committee to determine this application was scheduled for next day (19th July). It was further commented that the Borough seemed to be in complete disarray over this application and that, despite reassurances throughout the process to date, the planning application would be called in by the Secretary of State (SOS) for examination and determination as the applicant / developer (St Edmundsbury Borough Council) and granting authority (St Edmundsbury Borough Council) were one and the same and the proposals were at variance with or in direct contravention of the approved Local Plan – Vision 2031, it would appear now that this will not happen and that St Edmundsbury Borough Council, intended to approve the application without challenge and without reference to the SOS. As such the three Chairmen of Fornham St Martin; Fornham All Saints and Great Barton had submitted a request to the SOS to call this application in for consideration by his department. However just after the letter had been sent, a reply from the Planning Officer dealing with the case was received to say that, in the event of approval on Wednesday, this application would be sent to the SOS after all.

1213. SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:

- i. To receive a report on the monitoring of agreed actions following the meeting held with the Area Representative from SCC Highways Department, County Cllr. Hopfensperger and Cllrs. Grimshaw and Quayle – it was agreed that this had been covered elsewhere within the agenda.
- ii. To consider and respond to the SCC highways Consultation on Tayfern Road and the surrounding area – it was agreed that valid concerns should be raised over the issue of traffic lights at Station Hill and that any controls that were out in place that would control the movement of traffic at

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Tayfern Road via pedestrian crossings could only be a positive. The meeting was disappointed that there were no plans for the bottom of Station Hill and all were in agreement that the proposals needed further investigation which would be covered in a further meeting scheduled for 24th July 2017 at which this and further planning applications would be discussed.

1214. TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT INC. FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- i. To consider and approve payments as per the list in Financial Appendix A – a number of cheques were presented for payment and approved by all present – details of which can be seen at Appendix A
- ii. To receive the Bank Balances and Budget to Actual Statement – Council noted bank balances stood at £26,941.22 to 17th July 2017 with available funds being £25,275.79. The budget to actual statement for the period ending 30th June 2017 was presented to the meeting and it was noted that, for the time of the year and bearing in mind that it was only the end of the 1st Quarter, expenditure was only slightly over budget. It was agreed that this was acceptable and the position would be revisited at the meeting scheduled for September.
- iii. To consider further the costs involved with the purchase of the BT Telephone Box outside of the Village Hall for use as a base for a community defibrillator as outlined in a report from Cllrs. Braithwaite & Dawson – it was reported that the Clerk had initiated the contact with BT to register an interest in purchasing the phonebox. St Edmundsbury had advised that this would be part of a public consultation to remove the telephony equipment from the box and as such the meeting agreed that until ownership of the phonebox had been transferred the item could progress no further at this stage.
- iv. To consider costs involved in sowing wild flower seeds along Pigeon Lane – it was confirmed that Countryside Properties had stated that the area would be reseeded within the next two months. The meeting agreed that clumps of wildflower seeds would be preferable as to grass as there was doubt as to who would be responsible for cutting such an area. The Chairman agreed to seek clarification as to what was to be sown and how it would be maintained.
- v. To consider costs involved in providing further lighting along Pigeon Lane – it was agreed that this should be removed from the agenda as the requirement had now changed.
- vi. To consider the quotations for the repair/replacement gate to the Children's Play Area on the Community Centre Grounds – Council considered the two quotations for work to the fenced area including the gate and it was agreed that the Wunawf quotation in the sum of £226.87 for repairs to the gate be accepted and that the contractor be asked to re-concrete the loose gate post at the same time. The meeting was also informed that Cllr. Purnell had replaced a number of timber slats that had been vandalised as mentioned in the latest monthly inspection reports as carried out by the Borough. The meeting was also informed that the fencing along the A1101 in front of the Community Centre had also been damaged and pulled down.
- vii. To consider an application to the Transparency Fund to offset costs involved with compliance with the Transparency Fund – it was agreed that the Clerk would submit a claim against the fund for the cost of website hosting and hours incurred in maintaining the website to ensure compliance with the code.
- viii. There were no further financial matters coming forth.

1215. PLANNING MATTERS

- i. To consider the information provided by West Suffolk Principal Planning Officer on Neighbourhood Plans and to discuss the way forward – it was agreed that this matter required further input from the Officer at West Suffolk and as such the Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Parish Council during the day at her offices to enable an open and frank discussion on the merits of a Neighbourhood Plan for a parish the size of Fornham All Saints.
- ii. The following planning applications were considered by the Council: there were none received in time to be discussed and Council noted that an additional meeting would need to be called to discuss planning applications received since the agenda was served. It was agreed that this would be the following Monday 24th July 2017 commencing at 7.00pm.
- iii. Council was informed of the following decisions as determined by the Borough Council:
 - Permission for works to trees @ Owlsden, The Green
 - Refusal of planning permission for change of use of green keepers facilities (barn and portacabin) to builders yard @ Barn, Pigeon Lane
 - Withdrawal of application for two storey side extension with first floor Juliet balcony @ 27 Hengrave Road

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1216. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING –
- i. SALC – LAIS 1400 – Precept Data for 2017 – 18 – Council noted the contents of the document.
 - ii. Havebury Housing Partnership – Council noted the proposals to change the company's status.
 - iii. Network Assurance – Council noted the details of roadworks.org and how this would be used to advise of future road works and road closures relating to road works.
 - iv. General correspondence and magazines were brought to the Parish Council's attention. It was noted that, when relevant, general correspondence was passed on to Councillors in between meetings via email.
1217. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS: Additional Planning Meeting on 24th July commencing at 7.00pm and Parish Council Meeting on 19th September commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.59pm.

FINANCIAL APPENDIX A – ACCOUNTS PRESENTED AT THE MEETING

		Nett	VAT	Gross	Power Used
Current Account – nil movement since the last meeting					
	Sub Total Paid out			£0.00	

Current Account – cheques to be drawn

403	FAS Parish Hall – Hire of Village Hall	54.00		54.00	LGA 1972 s133
404	V Waples – Salary	601.20		601.20	LGA 1972 s112 (2)
405	V Waples – Expenses	42.37		42.37	LGA 1972 s111
406	M Guest – Litter Picker	300.96		300.96	Open spaces Act 1906 s9 & 10
407	ICO – Renewal of Registration	35.00		35.00	Data Protection Act
408	SALC – Website Training	50.00	10.00	60.00	LGA 1972 s111
409	Suffolk Cloud – website hosting	100.00		100.00	LGA 1972 s111
410	HMRC – PAYE due	221.90		221.90	Inc & Corp Taxes
	Total Due			£1,415.43	

Income received since the last meeting

	Dividend Interest	0.10		0.10	
	Total Income Received			£0.10	

Current Account – income received since the last meeting

	Bank Balances				
	Current account (as at 30.06.17)			£228.67	
	Deposit account (as at 30.06.17)			£26,712.55	
	Sub Total			£26,941.22	
	Less invoices due for payment			£1,415.43	
	Less outstanding cheques			£250.00	
	Plus unaccredited lodgements				
	Bank Balance effective 17.07.17			£25,575.79	
	General Reserves:			£20,885.79	
	Earmarked Reserves:				
	Repairs to play equipment			2,000.00	
	Churchwall repairs			1,300.00	
	Allotment maintenance			850.00	
	Newsletter Account			240.00	
				£4,390.00	

Newsletter Account – movement through the account and cheques due for payment

	Drawn since the last meeting				
100	P& S Brooklyn – April/May Production	150.00		150.00	LGA 1972 s142
101	Community Workshop Ltd	144.61		144.61	LGA 1972 s142
	Total Due			£294.61	
	Movement since the last meeting				
	Advertisement monies received	165.00		165.00	
	Bank Balance			£827.48	
	Less outstanding cheques			£294.61	
	Balances			£532.87	

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