

Farthingstone Parish Council

Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting of Farthingstone Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Farthingstone Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 16th May
2016 at 8.00pm

Minute No		Action																
30/16	<p>Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present: Jennie Miller, Susan Castle, John Church, Stephen Batterby, Peter Stanton, Stewart Summers and Sarah Hyatt • Also in attendance: Alan Bell and Linda Mayne (part meeting only) 																	
31/16	<p>Election:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennie Miller was elected as Chairman – proposed Susan Castle and seconded Peter Stanton. • Peter Stanton was elected as Vice Chairman – proposed Susan Castle and seconded John Church. • Planning and Cemetery Committees – as in previous years it was agreed that the full council would deal with these matters. • Appointment of Responsible Officer/Responsible Financial Officer – Sarah Hyatt was appointed – proposed Susan Castle and seconded Stephen Batterby. 																	
32/16	<p>Apologies and Approval of Absence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apologies received from Councillor Amos and Councillor Brown 																	
33/16	<p>Members Disclosable Pecuniary and other Disposable Declarations of Interest in agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None declared. 																	
34/16	<p>Minutes of the last Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minutes of the Farthingstone Parish Council Meeting of 21st March 2016 were reviewed for accuracy. The Minutes were then signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record. Proposed Susan Castle and seconded Stephen Batterby. 																	
35/16	<p>Matter Arising not covered by the agenda:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">8/16</td> <td>To note the agreement by email that FPC chose not respond to the DDC Draft Housing Supplementary Planning Document Part 2a Sustainability Appraisal.</td> <td rowspan="3" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">SH</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">13/16</td> <td>Defibrillator – the proposed questionnaire to the village was agreed, to be posted through doors and also via the village email system. Return date 1st July in order to report back to next FPC meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">15/16c</td> <td>Blocked drains – Maidford Road – to note that gully cleansing has now taken place within the village confines. Still some concerns about Maidford Road but will keep watching brief. Agreed to manage build-up of leaf debris earlier in the year via request for road sweeper/FPC working party.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">20/16</td> <td>Superfast Broadband – Radio Jumping - SB reported that he has not yet discussed this with Paul Justice. SB also provided an update on SFB – still no BT solution for Farthingstone – part of the delay cited as changes to State Aid. SB very unhappy with situation – recommended that he write to Chris Heaton-Harris (MP) with strong letter ensuring that he has to respond with good information and not just bland politically correct response. This was strongly supported.</td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">SB</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">22/16</td> <td>Noted that a response was made on line to the DDC Consultation on the future of Waste Collection – FPC not supportive of proposed changes</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">23/16</td> <td>Church Wall Project: The project was discussed in some detail and the</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	8/16	To note the agreement by email that FPC chose not respond to the DDC Draft Housing Supplementary Planning Document Part 2a Sustainability Appraisal.	SH	13/16	Defibrillator – the proposed questionnaire to the village was agreed, to be posted through doors and also via the village email system. Return date 1 st July in order to report back to next FPC meeting	15/16c	Blocked drains – Maidford Road – to note that gully cleansing has now taken place within the village confines. Still some concerns about Maidford Road but will keep watching brief. Agreed to manage build-up of leaf debris earlier in the year via request for road sweeper/FPC working party.	20/16	Superfast Broadband – Radio Jumping - SB reported that he has not yet discussed this with Paul Justice. SB also provided an update on SFB – still no BT solution for Farthingstone – part of the delay cited as changes to State Aid. SB very unhappy with situation – recommended that he write to Chris Heaton-Harris (MP) with strong letter ensuring that he has to respond with good information and not just bland politically correct response. This was strongly supported.	SB	22/16	Noted that a response was made on line to the DDC Consultation on the future of Waste Collection – FPC not supportive of proposed changes		23/16	Church Wall Project: The project was discussed in some detail and the		
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	<p>following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A grant of £1,000 has been received from the All Churches Trust. SH to display notice of grant on FPC notice board. • Grants applications have been made to Awards for All (National Lottery) and The Skinners Company Lady Neville Charity. • Linda Mayne reported that she has requested a donation from Farthingstone Foot Fest which their committee will consider. • Linda Mayne will approach Historic Churches Trust again and secure response in writing. • Linda Mayne will contact the Diocese again to secure written confirmation of the situation regarding the need for a Faculty, • Councillor Brown has agreed a grant of £500 (verbally only at present). • SH reported that she has had a conversation with Rev Oley, who suggested that PCC might be able to make a small contribution. • To consider an appeal for donations to the Village (maybe targeted) at the next FPC meeting. • Agreed that any wording would read “restoring the wall that surrounds the church yard” rather than church wall. • The drystone walling approach was agreed as the preferred solution – retaining the methodology historically used on the wall, thus retaining its heritage and character, and potentially providing a more cost effective and affordable solution. • That two further quotes for a drystone walling approach would be obtained (we have one already). • SS to find out who undertook the Maidford Pocket Park work. 	<p style="text-align: center;">SH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SS</p>
<p>36/16</p>	<p>Governance Documents 2016/17: SH requested approval of a bundle of governance documents which had been approved in 2015/16. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standing Orders • Financial Regulations • Code of Conduct • Freedom of Information Procedure and Publication Scheme • Complaints Procedure • Cemetery Fees and Rules • Parish Councillor responsibilities <p>SH recommended that these are reviewed and approved annually at the first Council of each year. All the documents were approved for 2016/17 – proposed Stephen Batterby and seconded John Church</p>	
<p>37/16</p>	<p>Parish Council Annual Accounts 2015/16:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SH presented the Annual Accounts for 2015/16, which had been circulated with the Agenda. Dr John Mole had undertaken an internal audit of these accounts and was satisfied that they were a true and accurate account of the receipts and payments. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SH noted that whilst total receipts were similar to 2014/15; total payments were greater which was due in large part to the election costs incurred in 2015/16. The closing balance for 2015/16 was £5,453.43 (Deposit Account £4,393.83; Current Account £1,059.60). The Parish Council Annual Accounts were considered and approved by the Council – proposed John Castle and seconded Stephen Batterby. 																
38/16	<p>Parish Council Annual Return 2015/16 Parts 1,2 and 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors reviewed the Annual Governance Statement (Part 1 of the Annual Return) and approved it for signature by the Chair. Councillors reviewed the Accounting Statements (Part 2 of the Annual Return), noting that the RFO had signed to certify that these properly represent the receipts and payments, and approved these for signature by the Chair. Councillors reviewed the Annual Internal Audit Report prepared by Dr John Mole and noted that internal control objectives had been met. The Annual Return for 2015/16 was approved for submission to BDO (External Auditors) – proposed Peter Stanton and seconded Susan Castle. SH reported that the 30 working day period for the Exercise of Public Rights would commence on 3rd June 2016. SH reported that she has drafted a covering letter to BDO with explanations of variances that exceed +/- £100, or +/- 10% on the previous year. Councillors reviewed the letter and approved it for submission with the Annual Return – proposed Stephen Batterby and seconded Stewart Summers. 																
39/16	<p>Budget Report YTD 2016/17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SH tabled a budget report showing the position as at 16th May 2016. Cash at bank is £8,506.66 (Current Account £3,112.65; Deposit Account £5,394.01). The balance on the ledger is £6,909.60 – the variance being unrepresented cheques totalling £1,597.06. SH noted that £1,000 had been received from the All Churches Trust as a grant towards the Church Wall (Deposit Account) SH noted the receipt of a cheque from Councillor Robin Brown for £500 as a grant to Farthingstone & District NOMADS. The following cheques were approved for payment and duly signed: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Cheque No 744</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Northamptonshire ACRE – 2016/17 subscription</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: right;">£35.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cheque No 745</td> <td>Farthingstone & District NOMADS NCC/FPC Grant</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£700.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cheque No 746</td> <td>NCALC 2016/17 subscription</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£192.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cheque No 747</td> <td>Cumbria Clock Company – annual service Church Clock</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£144.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cheque No 748</td> <td>AON UK Ltd – Annual Parish Council Insurance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£511.57</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors reviewed and approved a Special Instructions Letter to NatWest Bank to enable the RFO to access information about the bank accounts – eg to order copy statements <p>The Budget Report was approved by Councillors – proposed by Susan Castle and seconded by Peter Stanton.</p>	Cheque No 744	Northamptonshire ACRE – 2016/17 subscription	£35.00	Cheque No 745	Farthingstone & District NOMADS NCC/FPC Grant	£700.00	Cheque No 746	NCALC 2016/17 subscription	£192.49	Cheque No 747	Cumbria Clock Company – annual service Church Clock	£144.00	Cheque No 748	AON UK Ltd – Annual Parish Council Insurance	£511.57	
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40/16	<p>Planning Applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DA/2016/0156 The Gables, Everdon Road, Farthingstone – to note that a broadly supportive response was submitted to DDC. No decision has been 																

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	notified to date.	
41/16	<p>Correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note that the Aviva Women’s Cycling Tour is passing through Farthingstone on the morning of 19th June. DDC is making some small grants available to communities who are planning any community celebration of this event – PS reported that Joymead is applying for a grant. 	
42/16	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PS reported that there has been a further road traffic accident along the Litchborough Road outside the bungalows. The couple in the first bungalow have had their car written off for the second time. He reminded councillors of the school bus accident, the accident to the carer visiting another bungalow, and near miss accident with a cyclist, all within the last two years. At the time of the school bus accident, no action was taken by the police other than to recommend removing a hawthorn hedge on the field side of the road – which was done. PS has contacted Road Safety Officer with respect to this stretch of road; and received an inadequate response, with a recommendation to use Community Speed Watch (see 35/16). Road Safety Officer has now agreed to visit – PS to advise councillors when. The question was asked about any opportunity to make a layby on the road by filling in the ditch in front of the bungalows – or using the plot of land at the end of the bungalows and the chance for that to be off road parking – but unclear about ownership (DDC/Anglian Water) – SH to write to DDC to clarify. SS asked about 4G as a solution to the SFB issues – SB reported that he has investigated this – uneconomic for small communities – would need subsidy which we are unlikely to get. Residents object to masts. There is a national target for 4G coverage – we might still end up in the %age that cannot get it. 	SH
	<p>Date of the Next Meeting: Monday 18th July 2016 8.00pm Farthingstone Village Hall.</p>	
	The Meeting closed at 9.55pm.	