

## Farthingstone Parish Council

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### Minutes of the Meeting of Farthingstone Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 8.00pm

Min No		Action
72/17	<p><b>Attendance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present: Jennie Miller, John Church, Susan Castle, Stewart Summers, Peter Stanton and Sarah Hyatt</li> <li>• Also in attendance: Councillor Johnnie Amos and Councillor Tony Teague (Stowe IX Churches Parish Council)</li> </ul>	
73/17	<p><b>Apologies and Approval of Absence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul>	
74/17	<p><b>Members Disclosable Pecuniary and other Disposable Declarations of Interest in agenda items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter Stanton and Sarah Hyatt declared an interest in Item 8 (Joy Mead Grant) as trustees of Joy Mead. The Chair agreed that they should remain for this discussion. No other declarations made.</li> </ul>	
75/17	<p><b>Minutes of the last Meeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Minutes of the Farthingstone Parish Council Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were reviewed for accuracy. The Minutes were then signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record. Proposed John Church and seconded Stewart Summers.</li> </ul>	
76/17	<p><b>Matters Arising:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Village Design Statement – SC and AH meeting with Tom James at DDC on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, who may be able to give some assistance, particularly with revising the map included as part of the VDS.</li> <li>• SLOW Signs – not yet repainted.</li> <li>• Electric fencing – all noted the content of PS’s email with action to be taken by 17<sup>th</sup> November to be monitored by the Rights of Way Officer.</li> <li>• Church Farm Paddock footpath – now vegetation dying down – SS to follow up with landowner.</li> <li>• SH noted that the stile out of the paddock is in very poor repair – several walkers have mentioned it. PS to chase up again.</li> <li>• Defibrillator – SH reported that the cabinet has been installed – awaiting some potential training dates from EMAS.</li> <li>• SH reported that she is still awaiting the quote from RD Landscapes for the stumps in the cemetery – will chase again.</li> <li>• Cemetery working party – agreed Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am. Jobs to include trimming hedge back, cut back elder and general tidy. Noted that Mr Chris Tate usually cuts the hedge by the path and clears the layby – for which the Parish Council is very grateful.</li> </ul>	<p>SC/SH</p> <p>SH</p> <p>RoW SS</p> <p>PS</p> <p>SH</p> <p>SH</p> <p>ALL</p>
77/17	<p><b>Stowe IX Churches Parish Council – Sharing Information regarding Planning and Enforcement:</b></p> <p>JM welcomed Councillor Tony Teague who introduced himself. TT has been a parish councillor for 12 months and has an interest in planning matters. TT reported that Stowe IX Churches have experienced several planning applications where their opposition to the plans have not been effective or listened to, as well as occasions when breaches of planning conditions have not been enforced. He reported a feeling that the officers are not always seen as helpful. As a result, TT has contacted 40 parishes in the area, with a good response but few reporting similar concerns. Four parishes expressed an interest in following up (Yelvertoft, West Haddon, Kilsby and Farthingstone) but only Farthingstone expressed an interest in meeting. TT expressed his frustration at the reluctance of other parishes to participate in any dialogue and requested that he remain in contact with FPC, informally, to exchange views and experiences as there may be areas of overlap where we could provide mutual support. He mentioned Rule 55 particularly where properties of special architectural merit may be built in open countryside – Stowe has experienced this happening, despite strong opposition. TT also noted that Stowe are embarking on a VDS and requested any information we could provide to help them.</p>	

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	<p>JM and others responded reporting similar concerns and frustrations and a willingness to continue to communicate on planning matters. JM proposed that we continue to share information, and this was approved – proposed by Susan Castle and seconded by Stewart Summers.</p>	
<b>78/17</b>	<p><b>PCSO Kev Thompson:</b> Unable to attend on this occasion – will attend January 2018 FPC Meeting.</p>	<b>SH</b>
<b>79/17</b>	<p><b>Highways Matters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycle Event – SC reported that she has identified the organisers of the event – it is held annually with next event on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018. It appeared to be poorly organised with few if any Marshalls keeping cyclists in order, despite the poor behaviour of some participants. SC contacted the police, but it was unclear if they were aware of the event. It was agreed to consider putting in writing our concerns about the behaviour of some cyclists but to wait until after the January FPC meeting and to take a view from PCSO Thompson about the best way to proceed.</li> </ul>	<b>SH next mtg</b>
<b>80/17</b>	<p><b>Finance Report 2017/18:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SH presented the finance report for the year to date – the balance on the ledger is £7,328.11; cash at bank is £9,411.29 (current account £4,455.41 and deposit account £4,955.88), the variance being represented by unrepresented cheques to the value of £2,038.18 not yet shown on the bank statement.</li> <li>• SH requested signatures on the cheque for RD Landscapes for Churchyard and Cemetery mowing for 2017, value £1,260. Signed by JM/SC</li> <li>• SH asked Councillors to review the financial risk assessment for 2017/18, which is based on a BDO template. The matrix was reviewed and approved for use in 2017/18.</li> <li>• Joy Mead Grant – it was proposed that FPC should match fund the grant made by Councillor Robin Brown to Joy Mead for £500.00. The meeting was advised that repairs to Joy Mead continue – most recently paving between the entrance and the temple, with a quotation of £3,500. It was noted that the Empowering grants are likely to cease. The FPC match funding grant was agreed.</li> <li>• The Finance Report, including the financial risk assessment and payment of the grant to Joy Mead was approved - proposed by Stewart Summers and seconded by Jennie Miller.</li> </ul>	
<b>81/17</b>	<p><b>Planning Matters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DA/2017/0804 - Land adjacent to 45 Litchborough Road, Farthingstone – Noted that a further revision to this application has been made and that it had been listed for the 1<sup>st</sup> November DDC Planning Committee meeting but was withdrawn at the last minute. Now listed for 22<sup>nd</sup> November. After considerable discussion the following was agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PS to speak on behalf of FPC</li> <li>○ Submit two photographs and the VDS extract showing the plot highlighted to DDC Planning meeting</li> <li>○ Send an email to DDC Planning committee councillors reiterating our case for refusal, including photos and VDS extract immediately before the meeting.</li> <li>○ JA suggests focus on road safety issues – JA/SH to obtain full Highways report.</li> <li>○ SH draft response to DDC, for agreement, by deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> November</li> <li>○ As many councillors as possible to attend Planning Committee meeting</li> </ul> </li> <li>• DA/2017/0786 – Front Porch, Chestnut Lodge, Everdon Road, Farthingstone – Noted that this application has been approved.</li> <li>• DDC email re planning training of 25<sup>th</sup> September – agreed no interest in chargeable planning training – SH respond accordingly.</li> <li>• JM asked for views on finding a resident with experience of planning issues who could advise FPC if required. After discussion it was agreed that there was no-one that it would be appropriate to ask at present.</li> </ul>	<b>SH</b>          <b>SH</b>
<b>82/17</b>	<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SH reported that all correspondence is forwarded by email.</li> <li>• SH asked if FPC wished to respond to the Trading Standards Consultation as recommended by SNAST – they are likely to see a 43% cut in budget which has implications for Neighbourhood Watch work. Agreed to respond supporting Trading Standards.</li> </ul>	<b>SH</b>

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<b>83/17</b>	<b>Any Other Business:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Casual Vacancy – SH reported that the vacancy left by the resignation of Stuart Danbury will have to be advertised again (for 14 days). Once this is closed – we can co-opt again. Several residents were suggested – to sound out to ascertain if they would be interested.</li></ul>	<b>SC/PS</b>
	<b>Date of the Next Meeting:</b> Parish Council Meeting Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018 8.00pm Farthingstone Village Hall.	
	The Meeting closed at 9.45pm.	

Signed as a true record:

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Date: .....