

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 20th March 2017 at 8.00pm

Min No		Action
12/17	<p>Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present: Peter Stanton, Jennie Miller, John Church, Stephen Batterby, Stewart Summers and Sarah Hyatt • Also in attendance: Councillor Robin Brown and Councillor Johnnie Amos 	
13/17	<p>Apologies and Approval of Absence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apologies were received and accepted from Susan Castle 	
14/17	<p>Members Disclosable Pecuniary and other Disposable Declarations of Interest in agenda items: None declared.</p>	
15/17	<p>Minutes of the last Meeting: The Minutes of the Farthingstone Parish Council Meeting of 16th January 2017 were reviewed for accuracy. The Minutes were then signed by the Chair (Peter Stanton as the acting Chair at that meeting) as a true and accurate record. Proposed Stewart Summers and seconded John Church.</p>	
16/17	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways Matters: SH reported that, despite reporting and chasing up, no action has been taken on any of the highways matters identified within the village. The road edge on the Litchborough Road and the white lining of the Weedon Road/Main Street junction remain of significant concern because of safety issues. Councillor Brown advised that where potholes are marked for repair and car damage occurs NCC can be sued for the damage. If potholes have been marked and the marking has worn off – we should report them again. Councillor Brown requested that he and Councillor Ian Morris (Highways lead) be copied into any further correspondence re highways matters. SH to chase again including Councillors Brown and Morris in the emails. • Sharing of Information for Planning and Enforcement – SH reported that there had been no feedback from Stowe IX Churches Parish Council following our supportive response. SB reported that CPRE consider that it is not reasonable to ask DDC to respond to each individual who comments on planning applications, but that Parish Councils should expect some response as representatives of the local community. A report is produced for each application and it should be very easy to make this available to Parish Councils with no additional effort – this would make clear how Parish Council comments had been considered when reaching a decision on an application. Councillor Amos was asked for his view on this and agreed to take the idea back to DDC. • Community Enhancement Gangs – councillors noted the request that had been submitted to KIERWSP on behalf of Farthingstone. • Litter Pick – completed very successfully and a great effort by about 20 village volunteers. • Annual Parish Meeting – all noted the statutory requirements for the Annual Parish Meeting. SH to invite Joy Mead, Village Hall, Knightley and Shepherd Trusts, NCC, NOMADS and Farthingstone PCC to attend and provide/present information on Saturday 13th May between 10.30 and 11.30am. There will need to be a short Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 15th May before the Parish Council Meeting to meet the statutory requirements (i.e. that the meeting cannot start before 6.00pm). 	<p>SH</p> <p>JA</p> <p>SH</p>
17/17	<p>Lambfold Benefice Newsletter:</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lambfold Benefice Newsletter has requested a donation from each parish to cover a shortfall in funding for the newsletter for 2017 – for Farthingstone this is £100. The PCC have requested that the Parish Council consider funding this as the newsletter is now much more of a community newsletter rather than specifically a church newsletter. During the discussion, the following points were noted or made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In 2017, advertising income will not cover the cost of production of the newsletter – hence the shortfall requested to be funded by parishes; ○ Blakesley PC have granted £200 pa for several years; ○ Some advertisers have not paid their bill – it is too expensive to take them through the Small Claims Court to recover money; ○ We don't want to set a precedent – we have made a smaller donation in the past when the newsletter found itself in a similar position, we don't want to end up in an open-ended arrangement; ○ Could there be a different way of splitting the deficit – by a population share for example? ○ Are there any other businesses in Farthingstone that might advertise to increase the advertising income? ○ Could a representative attend the Annual Parish Meeting to try and recruit more advertisers from the village? Kate Nash to be invited. ○ The newsletter is valued by the parish residents and has value for the village. • It was agreed that Farthingstone Parish Council would provide £100 to support the production of the newsletter in 2017 but that this was for one year only. SH to draft a letter outlining our concerns and the conditions for the provision of funding for 2017 only. Proposed by Stephen Batterby and seconded by John Church. 	SH						
18/17	<p>Litter Picking DDC Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors considered the proposal by DDC that Parishes might wish to take on litter picking duties within the parish with some accompanying funding to support this. There is to be a change in the provider of environmental services for DDC in June 2018 and this provides the opportunity for parishes to take on litter picking more formally from that date. Parishes would be required to meet a set of requirements including management of health and safety and insurance. We would also need to find a site for a 240-litre wheelie bin for the rubbish – potentially behind the Village Hall – SH to ask VH Committee. Farthingstone's potential funding would be £177 pa. • It was agreed that SH would check the insurance position and report back before making a final decision which has to be made by 31st March 2017. 	SH SH						
19/17	<p>Finance Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Accounts 2016/17 – SH asked councillors to note that the Annual Return Submission date for 2016/17 will be 26th June, with the public inspection period running from 16th June to 27th July 2017. It was agreed to ask Dr John Mole if he will undertake the internal audit aspect for 2016/17. • SH presented a budget report showing the position as at 20th March 2017. Cash at bank is £6,440.53 (Current Account £1,484.94; Deposit Account £4,955.59). The balance on the ledger is £6,369.28 – the variance being unrepresented cheques totalling £71.25 (Cheque number 763 below not included as arrived after report forwarded to councillors). • The following cheques were approved for payment and signed: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">Cheque No 761</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">Hall Hire January 2017</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">£12.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Farthingstone Village Hall</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Cheque No 761	Hall Hire January 2017	£12.00	Farthingstone Village Hall			SH
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	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Cheque No 762 Mrs Sarah Hyatt</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Clerks Expenses 2016/17</td> <td style="width: 33%;">£59.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cheque No 763 E-On</td> <td>Street Light Maintenance 1/01/17 – 31/03/17</td> <td>£43.18</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The question of reserves was discussed and it was agreed that Farthingstone Parish Council will identify specific as well as general reserves to include within the accounts (for example to contribute to funding the defibrillator item 20/17 below) <p>The Finance Report was approved by all councillors – proposed by Jennie Miller, seconded by John Church.</p>	Cheque No 762 Mrs Sarah Hyatt	Clerks Expenses 2016/17	£59.25	Cheque No 763 E-On	Street Light Maintenance 1/01/17 – 31/03/17	£43.18	
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20/17	<p>Community Defibrillator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SH presented a paper outlining the costs of purchasing and installing a defibrillator in Farthingstone. The cost will be £1,362.99 plus VAT (recoverable) to install and fit a defibrillator in a locked heated cabinet, via an EMAS (East Midlands Ambulance Service) procurement arrangement which is at significantly reduced cost. EMAS will provide, free of charge, a basic life support and defibrillator training session for the village. There will be running costs of about £25 pa for electricity, plus any consumables – the electrodes need replacing when used (£74.40), and every 2 years if not used. It is proposed that the defibrillator is installed on the Village Hall wall close to the front door, however the Village Hall Committee have not yet been asked to agree to this. SH to ask at the AGM on 21st March. The BT Phone Box was an alternative but there is an additional cost of £250 plus VAT because a Class 2 Cabinet is required by BT, and accessibility within the phone box would be difficult. The cabinet is locked – when someone dials 999 – EMAS direct them to the defibrillator and give them the code to access the cabinet and EMAS mark the defibrillator “out of service” until advised otherwise. A “guardian” is required to be nominated as the single point of contact for EMAS – usually the Parish Clerk. SH agreed to take on this role. The defibrillator needs checking against a simple checklist weekly. <p>Councillors noted that as part of the survey in 2016 residents had volunteered to make donations to the purchase and it was agreed to do an update with a request for donations; with the Parish Council making up any shortfall in funding. Councillors also agreed to fund the ongoing annual running costs. Proposed Peter Stanton and seconded Stewart Summers.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">SH</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SH</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SH</p>						
21/17	<p>Planning Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DA/2017/0090 – Field View Cottage, Main Street, Farthingstone: Councillors noted the response submitted to DDC. No decision available at the time of the meeting. 							
22/17	<p>Miscellaneous Matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KIERWSP – SH asked councillors to note the response to the Annual Parish Survey by KIERWSP which highlights the lack of action on any highways matters. 							
23/17	<p>Correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SH reported that all correspondence is forwarded by email. 							
24/17	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superfast Broadband: SB reported that he is being asked about progress. The latest situation is that BT are contracted to deliver before the end of 2017 – 	<p style="text-align: right;">SB</p>						

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	<p>hopefully earlier. SB will contact the SFB team to try and get a firmer date for delivery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing White Paper – Civic Voice Survey: SB reported that CPRE are reviewing this White Paper and he may be able to give a better response after this is concluded (shortly). • SS noted that the street light outside 45 Litchborough Road is out, and the light outside Field View Cottage is flashing. SH advised that the Litchborough Road light has been reported and she will check and report the light outside Field View Cottage 	<p>SB</p> <p>SH</p>
	<p>Date of the Next Meeting: Annual Parish Meeting Monday 15th May 2017 7.45pm Farthingstone Village Hall Parish Council Meeting Monday 15th May 2017 8.00pm Farthingstone Village Hall.</p>	
	<p>The Meeting closed at 9.15pm.</p>	

Signed as a true record:

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Date: