

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 8.00pm

Min No		Action
1/18	<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>• In attendance: David Cosby, Councillor Johnnie Amos (part), Andrew Bayliss (part) and Nathalie McGloin (part)</li> </ul>	
2/18	<p><b>Apologies and Approval of Absence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Robin Brown</li> </ul>	
3/18	<p><b>Members Disclosable Pecuniary and other Disposable Declarations of Interest in agenda items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No declarations made</li> </ul>	
4/18	<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 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 were reviewed for accuracy. One inaccuracy was noted in minute no 76/17 where first bullet point reads "SC and AH" should read "SC and SH". The Minutes were then signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record. Proposed John Church and seconded Stewart Summers.</li> </ul>	
5/18	<p><b>Matters Arising:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Village Design Statement Mapping update – SC and SH had met with Tom James at DDC on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. He referred us to Parish Online, where Parish Councils can generate their own maps. He also stated that DDC could produce a map for us but that there would be a cost associated with this. SH reported that she has registered for Parish Online and tabled a copy of a map produced which is not yet completed. SH to continue to work on the map.</li> <li>• SLOW Signs – repainted on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January.</li> <li>• Electric fencing – walkers access completed across Cow Ground.</li> <li>• Church Farm Paddock footpath – SS will top the paddock when appropriate. PS to repair the stile.</li> <li>• Defibrillator – SH reported that the training was very successful with 24 residents attending a very entertaining and information session. A second session is to be organised. SH reported that the defibrillator is now up and running and registered on the EMAS system ready for use. SH advised that the donations received totalled £1,565.00 and the costs (excluding VAT which we can reclaim) totalled £1,348.99. SH recommended that the unspent donations should be ringfenced to fund the ongoing costs of replacement of pads etc for the defibrillator. This was agreed by councillors.</li> <li>• SH reported that she has received the quote from RD Landscapes for the removal of the stumps in the cemetery. This is for £320.00 plus VAT. Councillors approved the quote and requested RDL to proceed with the work when appropriate.</li> <li>• Cemetery working party – agreed to set a date in April (at the March meeting). PS noted that Mr Chris Tate has cut the hedge and cleared the layby. SH to write to thank him for this work.</li> </ul>	SH  SS/PS  SH  SH
6/18	<p><b>Parish Council Casual Vacancy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chair reported that no parishioner has requested an election, so we are able to proceed with co-option.</li> <li>• Mr David Cosby has been approached and has agreed to join the Parish Council. His co-option was proposed by John Church and seconded by Peter Stanton.</li> <li>• The Chair welcomed David to the Parish Council.</li> </ul>	
7/18	<p><b>PCSO Kev Thompson:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unable to attend on this occasion as unwell – SH to advise him of the March meeting date.</li> <li>• Carry forward the cycle event matter to March.</li> </ul>	SH
8/18	<p><b>Littlecourt House, Maidford Road, Farthingstone:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chair welcomed Andrew Bayliss and Nathalie McGloin and offered them the opportunity to present the current situation with the building project at Littlecourt House.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AM and NG explained that they feel that they have been let down by both the builder and architect in terms of the planning applications and revisions and how the work has progressed. Their builder has now gone into administration and they have been left with a part finished house with much of the work seemingly not done to the original specifications.</li> <li>• The most recent DDC Planning Committee decision allows them to partly timber clad some elevations of the house, but with render on the front elevation. DDC have advised them that this must be painted white.</li> <li>• AM and NG explained that they are not happy with this outcome and their preferred option would be to clad the whole house in timber (Siberian larch which weathers to a grey colour). The cladding would be vertical tongue and groove. They do not want part cladding and part render, nor do they want white render.</li> <li>• They would very much like to find a solution quickly to enable them to complete the work and make the house watertight and fully habitable.</li> <li>• The Chair thanked AB and NM for their attendance at the meeting and for the opportunity for the Parish Council to understand what their situation is and expressed sympathy for the difficult circumstances that they are facing.</li> <li>• She explained that the Parish Council would consider the points that have been raised and respond to them by the end of the week (Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January)</li> </ul>	<b>FPC</b>
<b>9/18</b>	<p><b>Highways Matters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potholes on Main Street – SH has reported these on Street Doctor and PS reported that they have been marked and he has been advised that they will be repaired within 5 working days.</li> <li>• SS reported a pothole at the bottom of the bends leaving the village on the Litchborough Road – SH to report.</li> </ul>	
<b>10/18</b>	<p><b>Village Tidy Up:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A date was agreed of Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 10.00am.</li> <li>• The question was asked about front gardens which encroach onto the pavement and about cars parking partly on pavements both of which hinder buggies/wheelchairs etc.</li> <li>• It was agreed to publicise the tidy up and request residents to ensure that the pavements are fully accessible to anyone using a buggy or wheelchair and not overgrown across the pavement.</li> </ul>	<b>SH</b>
<b>11/18</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 £6,210.02; cash at bank is £6,357.59 (current account £1,401.30 and deposit account £4,956.29), the variance being represented by un-presented cheques to the value of £147.57 not yet shown on the bank statement.</li> <li>• SH requested signatures on three cheques:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ E-ON – Street light maintenance for the quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 for £43.18</li> <li>○ Farthingstone Village Hall – Hall hire for November 2017 for £12.00</li> <li>○ E-ON Electricity Charges for the quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 for £92.39</li> <li>○ These were approved for signature and signed by SC/JM</li> </ul> </li> <li>• SH presented a VAT return for 2016/17 reclaiming VAT of £277.70. This was approved for submission to HMRC.</li> <li>• Parish Precept: SH presented a budget forecast for 2018/19, with narrative about the assumptions made about income and expenditure. This demonstrated that retaining the current precept of £3,250.00 would give a small surplus of circa £300.00 in 2018/19. It was agreed by councillors to continue with a Parish Precept of £3,250.00 for 2018/19. This was proposed by Susan Castle and seconded by John Church.</li> <li>• Annual Return process for 2017/18: SH reported that the Annual Return is now the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). PKF Littlejohn are now the external auditors for Northamptonshire Parish and Town Councils (replacing BDO). An audit pack will be sent out in March. It is now possible for councils with an annual turnover of less than £25,000 to declare themselves exempt from external audit. The internal audit process will continue as before.</li> </ul>	<b>SH</b> <b>SH</b>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Finance Report was approved - proposed by Jennie Miller and seconded by Susan Castle.</li> </ul>	
<b>12/18</b>	<p><b>Planning Matters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DA/2017/0804 - Land adjacent to 45 Litchborough Road, Farthingstone – to note that this application was refused by DDC Planning Committee.</li> <li>Settlements and Countryside Local Plan Part – SH reported that the consultation on this plan closes on 26<sup>th</sup> January. SH reported that the Plan is scheduled for adoption in July 2019, and together with the West Northants Joint Core Strategy (adopted December 2014) will form the planning framework for DDC. The adoption of the Plan will replace all the previous saved 1997 DDC Local Plan policies. SH highlighted several points from the Plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The introduction of a classification of settlements (villages) into a hierarchy of Primary Service Villages, Secondary Service Villages, Other Villages and Small Settlements/Hamlets. The classification relates to the level of services and facilities within each village. Farthingstone is classified “Other Villages”.</li> <li>Primary and Secondary Service Villages have had their village confines mapped and these maps form part of the Plan appendices.</li> <li>Other Villages and Small Settlements have not had their confines mapped, nor will they be mapped by DDC; however, the Plan includes criteria for defining confines for “Other Villages” which will prove helpful in considering any planning matters.</li> <li>The Plan recognises Village Design Statements as being equivalent to Neighbourhood Plans for planning purposes.</li> <li>The Plan recognises aspects such as open countryside and heritage assets and includes policies designed to protect these.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>It was agreed that no response to the consultation would be made by Farthingstone Parish Council.</p>	
<b>13/18</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 raised a letter received from The Daventry &amp; District Citizens Advice Bureau requesting a donation towards the work done by that organisation. They have written to all Parish Councils requesting a contribution of £250.00. No clients have contacted the service from Farthingstone. It was agreed that no donation would be made on this occasion.</li> </ul>	<b>SH</b>
<b>14/18</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor Amos left the meeting at 9.00am but prior to this reported that Daventry District’s Local Lotto is to be implemented soon. There is a launch event on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 6.30pm at the Daventry Rugby Club.</li> <li>SC asked Councillor Amos if he knew how much the brown bin recycling cost will be when the new service commences in June. JA reported that he believed that it would be about £35.00/bin per year. Charitable organisations/churches etc would continue to be exempt from such charges he believed.</li> <li>PS requested permission to repair a hole in the cemetery hedge which has been made by the local hunt with a post and rail fence. This was agreed by all councillors.</li> <li>The Parish Council thanked Debbie Mason and SC for clearing the leaves around the corner between The Old Rectory and the Village Hall.</li> <li>It was agreed that councillors would remain for a short Planning Meeting to discuss the issues raised at 8/18 above.</li> </ul>	<b>PS</b>
	<p><b>Date of the Next Meeting:</b> Parish Council Meeting Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 8.00pm Farthingstone Village Hall.</p>	
	<p>The Meeting closed at 9.33pm.</p>	

Min No	Farthingstone Parish Council Extraordinary Planning Meeting	Action
<b>15/18</b>	<p><b>Attendance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present: Jennie Miller, Susan Castle, Stewart Summers, Peter Stanton, David Cosby and Sarah Hyatt</li> </ul>	

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16/18	<b>Apologies and Approval of Absence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• John Church</li></ul>	
17/18	<b>Members Disclosable Pecuniary and other Disposable Declarations of Interest in the item under discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No declarations made</li></ul>	
18/18	<b>Littlecourt House, Maidford Road, Farthingstone:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JM requested views from all councillors on the points raised by the owners of Littlecourt House during the meeting and detailed at 8/18 of the Parish Council Minutes. After considerable discussion the following was agreed:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ That the Parish Council is very sympathetic to the situation that has arisen and wishes to try and support a solution that enables Littlecourt House to be completed as soon as possible;</li><li>○ That the Parish Council cannot support a request to clad the whole house in Siberian larch, as this is completely contrary to the nature of any buildings in Farthingstone, and to the guidelines contained within the Village Design Statement and this would set an unacceptable precedent;</li><li>○ That our preference would be for the front elevation to be rendered in a sympathetic neutral colour, rather than white as apparently agreed with Daventry District Council.</li><li>○ A letter of response to be drafted in accordance with the above.</li></ul></li><li>• JM asked for a proposer for this course of action – Susan Castle proposed, and Stewart Summers seconded the proposal. A vote was taken on this matter with 5 councillors in favour and one councillor abstaining from the vote.</li><li>• SH to draft a letter to Andrew Bayliss and Nathalie McGloin for councillor approval.</li><li>• The Meeting closed at 10.10pm.</li></ul>	

Signed as a true record:

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Date: .....