Minutes of the Meeting of Farthingstone Parish Council held in the Village Hall on

Wednesday 25th September 2019 at 8.00pm

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| **Min No** |  | **Action** |
| **47/19** | **Attendance**:* Present: Jennie Miller, John Church, Stewart Summers, Peter Stanton, Peter Mayne and Richard Russell.
* Clerk: Linda Mayne
* Councillors: Jonnie Amos
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| **48/19** | **Apologies and Approval of Absence:*** Councillor Robin Brown
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| **49/19** | **Members Disclosable Pecuniary and other Disposable Declarations of Interest in agenda items**:* No declarations made
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| **50/19** | **Minutes of the last Meeting**:* The Minutes of the Farthingstone Parish Council Meeting of 22nd July 2019 were reviewed; Jennie Miller proposed these be accepted as a true record, seconded by Richard Russell and signed by Peter Stanton.
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| **51/19** | **Matters arising*** Defibrillator Training: This was provided on Thursday 19th September. 11 villagers attended.
* Electricity Contracts: The new contract is in place. We would expect to receive a final bill from EON in due course.
* Telephone Box/ Library: There has been some progress over the summer; we await further developments.
* Exercise of Public Rights: Following the completion of the Annual Audit notice was given to the residents about their right to inspect the books. The period set aside for this has now expired; no requests were received.
* Dog Waste: The bin has arrived and PS is arranging the installation. SS offered to lend the necessary equipment.
* Road Signage: LM read the letter she had written to the Highways Authority about this and the state of the road between Farthingstone and Litchborough (see next item). There has been no response to date.
* Pot Holes: PS reported that he had discussed the issue with Tim Sykes, Chair of Litchborough Parish Council but their residents do not have a problem with the road as they rarely drive towards Farthingstone. PM commented that the holes are becoming increasingly deep.

It was agreed that we should encourage individual residents to report their concerns through ‘Fix my street’; a note to this effect will be put on the Village Website. PM mentioned that a letter from a resident of a nearby village about similar concerns had resulted in swift action.  | **LM****LM****LM****PS** **LM** |
| **52/19** | * Jonnie Amos reported that subject to parliamentary approval The Shadow Unitary Authority will operate from April 2020 and the full Authority from April 2021. As previously discussed, there will be fewer councillors and the Council will be largely based in Northampton; it is felt that our local issues may have low priority.

The future use of the Daventry County Council Offices is uncertain despite recent expensive refurbishment. * The rescheduled date for the Annual Good Neighbour Event is 18th March 2020 at Moulton Community Centre 10am to 2 pm; further details will be published in due course.
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| **53/19** | **Finance Report YTD 2019/2020*** LM presented the budget report for the year to date-the balance on the ledger at 25th September 2019 is £6419.36; cash at bank £6679.55 (current account £1712.32, deposit account £4967.23), the variance being represented by unpresented cheques to the value of £260.19. JC proposed the accounts be accepted, seconded by PS: all agreed.
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| 54/19 | **Cemetery Matters:*** PS has spoken to Susan Castle and the empty plots will be marked so that in due course existing rows are used before starting new ones.
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| **55/19** | **Correspondence: None received**  |  |
| 56/19 | **Any Other Business:*** Hurley corner: Following the removal of the fallen branches grass seed has been sown in this area of the churchyard to cover the bare ground.PM expressed his thanks to PS for the work carried out.
* The hedge on the wall adjoining Willow Cottage needs pruning. JC agreed to attend to this.
* Richard Russell reported that there is a significant growth of ivy on the wall adjoining his property which he is attempting to remove but he is concerned about the stability of the wall.
* The garden area adjacent to 45 Litchborough Road is becoming an eyesore with overgrown briars and weeds. It was agreed that we should ask DDC if we can tidy the area, particularly as it is believed there are notifiable weeds on the plot.
* Church Clock: The clock stopped 2 days after the annual service. LM called the company, who on their second visit, diagnosed that a new battery was required. This has now been priced at £295 + VAT. It was agreed that LM should go ahead with this repair.
* SS reported that he has received 3 complaints about trees overhanging the road towards Maidford and that he is trying to contact James Bryce to arrange the trimming.
* PS produced some very old Minute books for Parish Council Meetings which he had found. SS and PM expressed the wish to borrow them before they are sent to Northampton Record Office. This was agreed.
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|  | **Date of the Next Meeting**:* Parish Council Meeting Monday 18th November 2019 at 8.00pm Farthingstone Village Hall.
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|  | The Meeting closed at 8.50pm |  |

Signed as a true record:

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Date: ………………………………………………