

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 Monday 20th September 2021 in the Village Hall 8.00pm

Min No		Action
59/21	<p>Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Councillors: Peter Stanton, Peter Mayne, Richard Russell, Alison Nelson, Stewart Summers (arrived 8.15) • Ward: Rupert Frost • Parishioners: Amanda Payne, Tony Millyard • Clerk: Linda Mayne 	
60/21	<p>Apologies and Approval of Absence: Wards: Jo Gifford, David Smith</p>	
61/21	<p>Members Disclosable Pecuniary and other Disposable Declarations of Interest in agenda items Richard Russell declared his interest in the last item under matters arising.</p>	
62/21	<p>Minutes of the last Meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minutes of the Farthingstone Parish Council Meeting of Monday 19th July were reviewed; Richard Russell proposed these be accepted as a true record, seconded by Alison Nelson and signed by Peter Stanton. 	
63/21	<p>Matters arising;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed Signs: LM and PS have received information from Elan City, though with slightly different quotes of around £1500+VAT. LM reported that the response from Westnorthants about a grant was not encouraging. As there have been no reported accidents funding is very unlikely. She will explore other possibilities. • Church Tower: The Archdeacon has asked for a more detailed Method Statement. LM has discussed this with the Stonemason, who agreed to submit this. There has been a delay in either this being sent or received; LM is investigating. • Main Street and Anglia Water: Anglia Water have visited the site several times over the last couple of months, with little progress; the footpath was closed for number of weeks. LM telephoned on Thursday 16th September and engineers appeared on Friday 17th to complete the work. • Pot Holes on Litchborough Road: This situation will continue to be monitored. • Incursion on the Churchyard: The concrete posts have been removed and a bar inserted through the barn to pull the walls together, the exterior part will be painted black. The corner of the barn may need further repair but this will not incur work in the churchyard. • Overgrown hedges: The hedge at Willow Cottage was quickly cut back following an approach by PM to the resident. Some work has been done at Hinton Cottage but it is still not possible to walk along the entire stretch of pavement; pedestrians have to walk in the road which is particularly dangerous for children returning from school. Several neighbours have offered to help the resident. LM to follow up. 	<p>LM</p> <p>LM</p> <p>LM</p> <p>LM</p>
64/21	<p>Report from Rupert Frost:</p> <p>Rupert informed the Council that District Councillors are now to be known as Wards. He then referred to item 7(i) about changes to procedures for planning applications. Objections from a Parish Council must give detailed reasons related to valid planning issues and forwarded to a Ward, who will 'Call it in'. The opportunity for a representative from the Parish to speak for 3 minutes remains.</p> <p>Rupert then asked for feedback on The Authorities running of the Council. Tony Milliard asked about the 'cap' on increases. Rupert agreed that villages like Farthingstone will have to pay more and subsidise areas like Northampton Town.</p> <p>PS also pointed out that the Chair of West Northampton Authority had announced on the radio that he would 'level up' the districts and 'even-out' the running costs. This has not happened: the differences have increased. The new Authority has stopped subsidising green refuse bins for charities like the Church, Cemetery and the Joy Mead. This has increased our costs by £140 spread over 80+ households which will come out of the village precept.</p> <p>Parishioner, Tony Millyard: Tony expressed his concern about the slow response of the Fire</p>	

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	<p>Brigade in attending a recent incident on Weedon Road. There was a substantial fire in a workshop containing paint and other inflammable products close to houses which were in a very vulnerable position. The fire engine from Towcester took 35 minutes to arrive. The Towcester Station has no permanent crew and the engine is not allowed to leave until the full crew of 7 is on board; on this occasion one of the crew had to come from Silverstone Race Track. Engines from Banbury and Daventry joined the scene and the blaze was brought under control. Rupert Frost informed us that we should address our concern to Stephen Mole. Rupert left the meeting at 8.40pm.</p>	
65/21	<p>Finance report: (a)LM presented the budget report for the year-to date. The balance on the ledger at 20/09/2021 is £5792.20: current account £1633.77, deposit account £4294.64; the variance represented by uncashed cheques to the value of £136.21. The invoice for £90 from Westnorthants for costs related to the recent elections has been paid. LM reminded The Council that costs of £1000 or more could have been charged had the election been contested. (b)Bank Account Resolutions (i)Removal of past bank signatories. This resolution was proposed by Peter Stanton, seconded by Stewart Summers and unanimously agreed. (ii)Council's wish to apply for on-line banking. This resolution was proposed by Alison Nelson, seconded by Peter Mayne and unanimously agreed. Peter Stanton will now contact NatWest to implement these resolutions.</p>	<p>LM</p> <p>PS</p>
66/21	<p>Planning Issues: (i)Planning Application Procedures. Covered above in 64/21 (ii)Retrospective Planning Home Barn WND/2021/0405: This application was received by the Council on July 29th and required any observations to be submitted by August 19th. A letter was received by the Council on September 6th from Anthony and Amanda Payne raising several issues about the development. In particular they are concerned about the height of the boundary fence and the summer house which they feel overlooks their property and invades their privacy. Amanda Payne spoke about their concerns. PS had visited Home Barn and said he could only see the ridge of the Payne's roof from Home Barn summerhouse. When asked, Susan Castle, owner of Home Barn, had said she had not appreciated that she needed planning permission. It was agreed that Peter Stanton and Stewart Summers would visit Park Farm, property of Mr and Mrs Payne, in order that a balanced view of the situation could be obtained from the properties of both parties. The timings of the notice given by Westnorthants was then raised. Amanda referred to the date on the notice as August 25th but that received by the Council required observations by August 19th. LM to investigate. (iii)Fernhill Lodge DA/2021/0313: PS wrote to the planning officer with details of The Council's objections to this application, but we have not been informed of the decision. LM will investigate.</p>	<p>PS/SS</p> <p>LM</p> <p>LM</p>
67/21	<p>Police Liaison Report: AN is now officially our appointed officer. She hopes there will be a newsletter by the end of the year outlining how the liaison will operate and that Tara Cooksammy, PCSO, will be able to attend our next meeting.</p>	
68/21	<p>Cemetery Matters: Dates were agreed for Autumn tidy-ups Saturday 16th October 10-12 Cemetery Saturday 23rd October 10-12 Churchyard AN will publish these dates on FVN asking for volunteers.</p>	<p>AN</p>
69/21	<p>Correspondence: None</p>	
70/21	<p>AOB: SS reported that the hedge just past Fernhill Lodge needs trimming. Chris Tate will be asked to do this.</p>	
71/21	<p>Date of next meeting: Monday 15th November Meeting closed 9.10pm</p>	

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Signed as a true record:

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Date: