

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 17th January 2022 in the Village Hall 8.00pm

Min No		Action
01/22	<p>Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Councillors: Peter Stanton, Peter Mayne, Alison Nelson, Stewart Summers, Richard Russell • Ward: Jo Gifford • Clerk: Linda Mayne 	
02/22	<p>Apologies and Approval of Absence: Wards: Rupert Frost, David Smith</p>	
03/22	<p>Members Disclosable Pecuniary and other Disposable Declarations of Interest in agenda items None.</p>	
04/22	<p>Minutes of the last Meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minutes of the Farthingstone Parish Council Meeting of Monday 15th November 2021 were reviewed; Stewart Summers proposed these be accepted as a true record, seconded by Peter Mayne and signed by Peter Stanton. 	
05/22	<p>Matters arising;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed Signs: PS emailed the company for further details but there has been no response to date. Research into the possibility will continue. • Church Tower: The pinnacles have been removed but as they were constructed in sandstone they were falling apart. The remains are now stored on the floor of the tower and will, in due course, be cleared away. They had been held in place by wooden dowels. The stonemasons re-pointed some of the stone work at the top of the tower. The cost of this work, £780, was met by the Church. • Overgrown hedges: The hedge at Hinton Cottage is still restricting access to the pavement, causing pedestrians to step into the road, which is particularly dangerous for children and other vulnerable walkers. LM will contact the resident. • Fire Service: The recent incident has been reviewed, though accounts differ in some details. It is now clear that it is better to use landlines to report emergencies if at all possible as records of telephone calls can then be retrieved 	LM
06/22	<p>Report from Jo Gifford:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools are invited to take advantage of training for cyclists • Digital help is available for small businesses • The draft budget for WestNorthants is available on-line for consultation • A comprehensive list of contacts for the council was provided • The draft budget for Policing services is also on-line • NALC has a very helpful website for issues affecting local councils • Community grants are available for voluntary groups which have been affected by Covid restrictions. PS commented on plans that The Joy Mead Gardens has to celebrate its Jubilee and asked if this might qualify for a grant. Jo Gifford agreed that it was worth investigating, particularly as it met the need for 'green space' activities 	
07/22	<p>Finance report:</p> <p>(a)LM presented the budget report for the year-to date. The balance on the ledger at 17th January 2022 is £5925.14: current account £1774.35, deposit account £4294.79, the difference being represented by an uncashed cheque of £144.</p> <p>(c)The Precept for the current year is £4000. SS expressed concern about the expected substantial rise in electricity. PM proposed that the application for 2022/23 should be £4500, this was seconded by SS and agreed. LM will submit by the due date 18th January.</p> <p>(d)AN has been working with PS to progress the matter of on-line banking and PM provided a signature as required by the bank.</p> <p>(b) PS raised the question of giving assistance to The Joy Mead Charity to help with the cost of insurance (£1400) and the planned celebrations. PM proposed that a donation of £500 be made</p>	LM

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	now and consideration given to a further sum at the Council's next meeting, this was seconded by RR and agreed.	
08/22	<p>Police Liaison Report: AN has received a News Letter about recent discussions which she will attach to the next edition of FVN, Farthingstone Village News. Rural crime, at present, is targeting farms and yards rather than residential property.</p> <p>PM highlighted the problem of renewal of shot gun licences as medical practices are no longer willing to provide references, given new regulations on liability, and that the Fire Arms Department is so overwhelmed with work that no calls will be answered until March. Jo Gifford confirmed the problems, but added that individuals were entitled to their medical records without charge.</p>	
09/22	<p>DHL Development: PM spoke of the increasing concern about this proposed development just outside Towcester which will lead to a significant increase in traffic on the A5 and A43, causing inevitable congestion and pollution. A very active group has been set up to oppose the plans; 20% of Towcester residents have already signed the petition and a number of local Councils have added their support. Jo Gifford said she had attended a meeting last Saturday and spoken with Councillors from Towcester. It was agreed that</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">LM would write on behalf of Farthingstone Parish Council</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">AN would publish the details on FVN</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Residents should be encouraged to sign the petition as the objection is more likely to be successful if supported by a large number of signatories.</p>	
10/22	Cemetery Matters: None to report	
11/22	Litter Pick: Saturday 19 th March was agreed. This date will be published on FVN	
12/22	Correspondence: None	
13/22	<p>AOB: AN commented on the need to clean and repaint the telephone box and to investigate again possible use. She will write a piece for FVN</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A loaded double-barrelled shot gun was found on the grass verge on the Weedon Road on Tuesday 11th January. The gun was collected by the Police Firearms Response Team.</p>	
14/22	<p>Dates of future meetings : Monday 21st March Monday 16th May Monday 18th July Monday 19th September Monday 21st November</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting closed 9.30pm</p>	

Signed as a true record:

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Date: