

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 18th July 2022 in the Village Hall 8.00pm

Min No		Action
45/22	<p>Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Councillors: Peter Stanton, Alison Nelson, Peter Mayne, Richard Russell, Stewart Summers • Ward: David Smith • New owners of Farthingstone Golf Club: Robert Nadler and associates • 19 Farthingstone residents/visitors • Parish clerk: Linda Mayne 	
46/22	<p>Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wards: Jo Gifford, Rupert Frost 	
47/22	<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th May 2022 These were reviewed, proposed by AN. and seconded by SS., as a correct record; all agreed and signed by PS.</p>	
48/22	<p>Matters arising from Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election: PS. signed the Acceptance of Office as Chair. Steve Sayers has agreed to continue as The Footpath Warden. • Speed Signs: This matter is on-going. PM. commented that all the local villages he had driven through recently have electronic speed signs and Litchborough has a Police Speed Check sign. He suggested an approach be made to our PCSO(Police Community Support Officer) in view of our continuing concern. • Hedges: The tenant responded to the letter from LM. explaining that she was unable to cut the hedge herself but was happy for others to do so. PS. assisted by Malcolm Coulson and Debbie Mason carried out the work; their efforts are greatly appreciated. Robbie George has kindly offered to keep it trimmed in the future. • Telephone Box: AN. has made a formal application to Farthingstone Foot Fest for funds to refurbish the box as a village resource. • DHL Development: AN. informed the meeting that there is to be a Public Consultation on August 8th and there is an informal 'drop-in session' at Towcester Forum this coming Wednesday (20th July). The 'Save Towcester Now' campaign has a website with details of their activities, including a demand for a full traffic survey in the area. • Defibrillator: New batteries have been purchased, but Mike Barnett has been informed that the machine is becoming obsolete and that a replacement may have to be purchased at the next servicing. Tony Millyard added that if the batteries are of the type which don't degrade if not charged extra sets could be purchased now while still available. LM. will contact Mike about this possibility. There has been no progress in arranging further training in the use of the equipment. LM. will contact Mike to discuss. 	<p style="text-align: center;">LM/AN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LM</p>
49/22	<p>Farthingstone Golf Club: Proposed development</p> <p>Robert Nadler gave a presentation outlining the development which will include what he referred to as 're-wilding' parts of the land with native plants and trees to create a sustainable and attractive environment for visitors to enjoy alongside recreational activities such as a gym, spa, swimming pool and tennis courts. Accommodation will be provided in a number of cabins, each with its own space. Although these will be equipped with a kettle and microwave it is not intended that guests will primarily self-cater; a restaurant will be provided in the main building.</p> <p>The development will provide a range of job opportunities and it is hoped that links will be made with local schools, colleges and universities.</p> <p>The target is for Public Consultation in September 2022, followed by the submission of a Planning Application by the end of the year with an overall completion date in 2024.</p> <p>Peter Stanton then asked for questions from Parish Councillors and the floor. These covered a range of concerns.</p>	

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	<p>The Bridle Way: This will be maintained as a public right of way, but users will be expected to keep to the path. The development will not be fenced off.</p> <p>Traffic: Visitors will be advised to approach from Everdon via the new road, to minimize the traffic through Farthingstone. Further concern was expressed about the current infrastructure of the roads in this area which is already under stress and poorly maintained. There will inevitably be an increase in traffic during the actual development of the site and in delivery vehicles once it is operational. Robert Nadler expressed the view that there would be less traffic than a successful and flourishing golf club would generate.</p> <p>Accommodation: It is anticipated that 50-60 cabins will be built for visitors, providing short-term stays for a total of around 140 people. These will be maintained by the company and will not be for long-term lease or private ownership.</p> <p>Water: The village already has a problem with adequate water supply. The company will be investigating bore holes to serve its needs.</p> <p>Financial Appraisal: The company will be making a detailed appraisal after it has had an initial meeting with the Planning Department and there has been an opportunity for a Public Consultation. This is expected to take place in September/October.</p> <p>Current Building: This may be enlarged and refurbished, but if this proves to be unsuitable it will be demolished and a new building constructed in keeping with the environment.</p> <p>Light pollution/Noise: There is no intention to offer the facilities for weddings, parties, etc which might lead to these problems.</p> <p>Staffing: A proportion of staff would live on site; others may be offered a pick-up service from a convenient collection point.</p> <p>Questioned about his involvement in the hospitality business Robert Nadler gave details of hotels in London and Liverpool, businesses he has now sold, but he agreed that he has not embarked on this type of development before.</p> <p>He added that it is hoped to make the leisure facilities and restaurant available to local residents.</p> <p>David Smith, Ward for Farthingstone from West Northants Council was then invited to speak.</p> <p>He introduced himself with a brief description of his background and current role. He explained that he, with the other two wards, represent our views and concerns at meetings of West Northants Council and that he would be fully involved in the discussion of this development.</p> <p>Peter Stanton thanked Robert and his associates for coming. We now had a better idea of the proposed development and looked forward to the Public Consultation and subsequent Planning Application.</p> <p>At this point many of the residents gathered at the rear of the hall to continue discussions and PS. reminded them that this was a Parish Council Meeting and there were further items on the agenda. The majority then left.</p>	
50/22	<p>Police Liaison: The PCSO was not able to be present as she is on sick leave. AN. expressed her concerns about the lack of communication from the police and the difficulties of informing the village of potential problems. She is investigating setting up a WhatsApp group which residents could join. LM. commented on the short notice given by the police of the date of the visit of the 'mobile bus' which was mentioned at the last meeting. AN. agreed and had made this point to the police.</p>	
51/22	<p>Cemetery Matters: SS. asked about the layering of the hedge at the cemetery. PS. explained that this would be undertaken next autumn.</p>	
52/22	<p>Correspondence: None</p>	
53/22	<p>AOB: PS. commented on the success of the Joy Mead 100th Birthday weekend. LM. will write to The Committee to thank them for all their hard work which had resulted in a splendid celebration</p>	LM

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	for the village. Debbie Mason asked The Parish Council to look at the Village web-site and up-date where necessary.	LM
54/22	Dates of future meetings Monday 19 th September Monday 21 st November Meeting closed 10.00pm	

Signed as a true record:

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Date: