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 21st November 2022 in the Village Hall 8.00pm

Min		Action
No		
55/22	Attendance:	
-	• Parish Councillors: Peter Stanton, Alison Nelson, Peter Mayne, Richard Russell,	
	Stewart Summers	
	Ward: Rupert Frost	
	Resident: Susan Castle	
	Parish clerk: Linda Mayne	
56/22	Apologies:	
	None received	
57/22	To receive declarations of interest:	
	None received	
58/22	The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18 th July 2022	
	These were reviewed, proposed by AN. and seconded by SS., as a correct record; all agreed	
	and signed by PS.	
59/22	Matters arising from Minutes	
	• Speed Signs: AN has approached our PSCO for advice about obtaining a 'Police Speed	
	Check' sign, who agreed to consult with her colleagues. There has been no response to	
	date. LM will contact the parish clerks of neighbouring villages for information about	LM
	installation and running costs, also possible sources of funding. It was agreed that towards	
	the end of the current financial year the balance in the bank accounts should be reviewed	
	to consider whether there are sufficient funds to proceed.	
	• Telephone Box: Farthingstone Foot Fest has accepted the application for funding the	
	proposed use of the Box. AN is currently reviewing the terms and conditions of the offer.	
	• DHL Development: Apart from an article in Outlook, the magazine produced by CPRE,	
	there is little further news. The article also comments on other proposals south of	
	Towcester.	
	• Defibrillator: Following two recent heart-related medical emergencies in the village LM	LM
	reminded Mike Barnett about the request for training. Mike contacted David at SNCR but	
	no date has yet been arranged. LM will follow this up with a direct approach to David if	
	necessary.	
60/22	Farthingstone Golf Club: Proposed development	
	The Public Consultation Meetings at The Village Hall and at The Golf Club were well	
	attended, with many people staying for a long time to ask questions. PS was, subsequently,	
	invited to meet with Robert Nadler and associates to discuss the responses submitted and the	
	developers' reactions.	
	The Bridle Way: This will be maintained as a public right of way and may be extended to	
	produce a circular route, which, it is understood, riders and horses prefer.	
	Traffic: Visitors will be advised to approach from Everdon via the new road, to minimize the	
	traffic through Farthingstone and other local villages. Whilst this is a reasonable route for	
	those using the M1, traffic from other directions may well be directed by their SatNavs to use	
	other roads.	
	Accommodation: 61 cabins are planned, 5 for groups of 4 and 56 for 2 people making a total	
	of 132 if fully occupied.	
	Staffing : 16 staff will be housed on site, with a total of up to 100 employees. Transport	
	arrangements will be made to pick up staff from central points	
	Rewilding: Concern was expressed that the developers intend to remove trees which are not	
	native and replant with those that are. Given the time it takes for trees to reach maturity it is	
	hoped that this would be a gradual process.	
	Facilities: There is considerable interest in the possibility of local residents being able to use	
	leisure facilities, but, as only pre-booked vehicles will be allowed on site, access may be	
į	restricted to walkers and cyclists.	

Farthingstone Parish Council Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting of Farthingstone Parish Council

	Other Matters: There will not be a new 30mph sign on Everdon road.	
	The estimated cost of the development is £40-£50 million with a completion date in 2025.	
	The company which was interested in investing in the restaurant facility has withdrawn.	
	The developers want to improve the access road from Everdon Road.	
	The formal planning application is expected by the end of the year.	
	RR has spoken to a representative of The Woodland Trust at Everdon Stubbs about the plans,	
	particularly in respect of the traffic proposals. The Trust were completely unaware of these;	
	RR has forwarded the relevant papers.	
61/22	Public Forum: Rupert Frost reported:	
	We can expect budget cuts in some areas of council spending particularly in routine maintenance of roads.	
	Communication problems continue in the planning department and there are significant	
	delays. The Boundary Boulow is likely to reduce the number of councillors ellocated to	
	The Boundary Review is likely to reduce the number of councillors allocated to Farthingstone from 3 to 2.	
	PS and SS expressed their concerns about blocked drains on Everdon Road and Maidford Road.	
	The current contractors say they only have responsibility for the drains within the village	
	boundary and not those in the wider parish boundary. Rupert agreed that this cannot be the	
	case and will follow it up. A formal document of responsibility will be drawn up.	
	Rupert left at 8.40pm	
62/22	Street Lighting: Susan Castle raised the possibility of turning off some of the street lights	
	during peak hours to save energy. E-ON maintain our street lights and the cost of this service	
	has remained unchanged for some years. Any alteration in the provision would need to be	
	referred to the company. We have a fixed price contract for the energy supply with Southern	
	Electric, which runs to July 2024. Concerns were expressed about the safety of pedestrians if	
	lighting were reduced. Whilst Council members recognise the need to be energy conscious it	
	was decided not to change the present system.	
63/22	Finance report:	
	LM presented the budget report for the year to date. The balance on the ledger at 21 st	
	November 2022 is £7263.74: current account £3008.08, deposit account £4298.84, the	
	difference being represented by an uncashed cheque of £43.18.	
	The largest expenditure in this period was the annual cost of mowing the cemetery and	
	graveyard. We are indebted to RD Landscapes that there has been no increase for a number of	
	years. It is also worth noting that a significant proportion of the VAT refund comes from this	
	bill.	
64/22	Clerk's Wages:	
	PS had asked LM to provide details. In 2018 when LM became clerk the rate of pay was £9.34	
	per hour and this has not been updated. The new scales recently published give £11.21 back-	
	dated to April. Council agreed that the new scale should be implemented.	
65/22	Police Liaison:	
	AN expressed her concern that the current arrangements were not adequate. Information	
	about criminal activity specific to our area does not appear to be coming through on the	
	Northamptonshire Alert Service and contact with our PCSO is poor. AN intends to raise these	
	issues with Sophie Harding who administrates the PLR scheme.	
	She also spoke about the WhatsApp recently set up which enables immediate messages to be	
	sent out by members, for example missing pets. There are currently 19 subscribers; she will	
	promote this facility in the next FVN	
	PM spoke about the continuing delay of the renewing of firearms licences. He has now been	
:	sent a temporary licence which permits ownership and use, but he would not be allowed to	
E1/22	sell if he wanted to.	
51/22	sell if he wanted to. Cemetery/ Graveyard Matters: PS reported that the hedge between Willow Cottage and the Churchyard had been trimmed;	

Farthingstone Parish Council Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting of Farthingstone Parish Council

	commented on the growth of weeds due to the mild autumn. RD Landscapes have now mown for the last time this year and PS commented that once again they have been conscientious and diligent in their work.	
52/22	Correspondence: None	
53/22	AOB: AN reported that the village road sign on Maidford Road has been damaged, probably by a vehicle. PS said he would investigate and report it to Highways/ Fix My Street if necessary. Susan Castle provided information about a collection of clothes and batteries in Towcester for the Ukraine on Wednesday 23 rd November. The collection point is Chantry House.	
54/22	Dates of future meetings Monday January 16 th at 8pm Meeting closed 9.15pm	

Signed as a true record:

.....

Date: