

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 September 2023 in the Village Hall 8.00pm

Min No		Action
57/23	<p>Attendance: Peter Stanton, Alison Nelson, Richard Russell Linda Mayne(clerk) Andrew Bayliss(resident)</p> <p>Apologies: Peter Mayne Rupert Frost arriving late</p>	
58/23	Declaration of Interests: None	
59/23	<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17th July 2023. These were reviewed, proposed by RR seconded by AN, as a correct record; all agreed and signed by PS.</p>	
60/23	<p>Matters arising not listed elsewhere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHL Development: The plans are on-hold at present, awaiting a report on the increased level of traffic which would result. Additionally, a local plan has been published proposing to restrict the height of new buildings. These factors may influence the decision to proceed. • Golf Club: It is understood that there will be little progress until the spring. • Farm Track: There are comments from The Ramblers Association and Riders Group on the portal. A request has been made for more detailed drawings as the current plan does not show clearly the proposed track. AN has registered for up-dates on the application. LM contacted The Ramblers Association about the apparent lack of communication and has received a copy of the email they sent earlier. She has apologised for not picking this up. • Self-Build: After the application was approved the land was put up for sale and a 'sold' sign appeared almost immediately. It is now back on the market. PS has written to David Smith for clarification on the regulations for self-build planning applications as it our understanding that residents of such properties should have a connection with the village. 	
61/23	<p>Public Forum: Andrew Bayliss reported a nuisance of a scrambler motor bike in a field near his house. The rider has permission from the land owner so there does not appear to be any misdemeanour committed. However, Andrew claims to have video evidence of a road infringement which he has reported to the police.</p>	
62/23	<p>Finance: LM presented the budget report for the year to date. The balance on the ledger at September 18th 2023 is £6946.84; current account £2653.40, deposit account £4335.44, the difference is represented by uncashed cheques to the amount £42.00. This cheque is the replacement for the cheque cancelled by ACRE which had been invoiced incorrectly. LM will contact ACRE to find out why it has not been cashed.</p> <p>£265.36 has been received from HMRC as VAT refund. This is largely from the invoice for annual cutting of the graveyard and cemetery.</p> <p>In view of the increasing difficulties of paying for goods by cheque, for example green bin subscriptions, LM suggested that The Council explore the possibility of obtaining a debit or credit card. PS agreed to investigate.</p>	PS
63/23	<p>Police Liaison: AN reported that the group formally called Neighbourhood Alert has been renamed Northamptonshire Talking. This has not resulted in any improvement to communication which is still very poor. There have been reports of a white van with two young men in the village; they appear to be parking off the road and probably sleeping there overnight.</p> <p>She also said that she has not yet received the minutes of the meeting she attended on-line some weeks ago.</p>	
64/23	<p>Telephone Kiosk: There are 2 lead statues of mediaeval knights which were formally housed in the cloisters of The Joy Mead Gardens. These have been repaired by Tony Millyard and PS proposed that these would be more securely displayed in the telephone kiosk which could be locked. This was agreed.</p>	
65/23	<p>Fly-tipping: There have been complaints about Andrew Bayliss fly-tipping of garden waste on the grass verge opposite his house. Andrew explained that the grass cuttings are not from his own</p>	

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	garden, but from the area outside his property which he likes to cut more regularly than the council. Nevertheless, taking these to the other side of the road leaves an unsightly mess which is not acceptable. Andrew agreed to rake the cuttings in future.	
66/23	Public Lighting: AN had reported that the street light at the Weedon Road Junction was not working. LM contacted E-ON on Monday 11 th September, adding that this was the same defective light advised earlier in the year. She has had no response and AN confirmed that it was still not functioning. LM will follow this up.	
67/23	D Day June 2024: The local organisation, NALC, has requested that local councils discuss at their next meeting possible plans for the 80 th anniversary. AN suggested posting this on FVN for residents to consider what they might want to do. This was agreed.	
68/23	Cemetery Matters: LM has updated the cemetery lists; one gives the information by plot number, the other is in alphabetical order. These are to be laminated and displayed on the cemetery board. She has also drawn up a plan of the plots which shows those which are vacant for future interment. It should be noted that rows A, B and C are numbered 1-15 right to left and rows D onward 1-15 left to right. LM suggested that The Council should consider purchasing small plaques with letters A-N inscribed to be placed in the ground alongside each row. This was agreed. PS thanked LM for her work on updating the plans.	
69/23	Correspondence: LM has received a Planning Application, 2023/6790/FULL, in respect of work at Bay Tree Cottage. PS commented that The Village Hall Committee is aware of the application and has a meeting this evening when the members will discuss the implications of the proposal. The Parish Council will await their comments.	
70/23	Rupert Frost: Rupert reported on recent planning issues. The onus is on the applicant to display any notice of a proposal, which is clearly not to the advantage of those who may be affected. There is now a weekly list giving details of the progress of planning applications, but it covers a very wide area and pertinent proposals can easily be missed; LM confirmed this. AN has found the new portal for tracing on-going applications quite helpful. Rupert agreed that the regulations for Self-Build are very loosely worded and it would seem that there is no time limit as to how long the applicant must live in the new property before selling and moving on. He reminded The Council of the difficulties that can arise when a pub is sold if it has not been open for some time: this has occurred in Badby. Road signs should be cleaned in the next month or two, but if they are damaged it should be reported through Fix-MY-Street. Councillors are asked to inspect and report if necessary. The pot holes on Litchborough Road have been repaired but the surface is very uneven; it would have been better to do the whole area for a longer lasting repair and comfortable ride. New boundaries proposed for parishes will mean that Farthingstone will come under the Silverstone/ Towcester Ward which will be reflected in the Council Elections next year.	
71/23	AOB: Andrew Bayliss expressed his concern about the bend on Maidford Road by The Village Hall where it is difficult to see on-coming traffic. He suggested that a mirror might help. LM will investigate.	LM
	Date of Next Meeting: Monday 20th November	
	Meeting closed 9.00pm	

Signed as a true record:

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Date: