

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in the Village Hall 8.00pm

| Min No | Action   |
|--------|--|
| 72/23  | <p><b>Attendance:</b> Peter Stanton, Alison Nelson, Richard Russell, Peter Mayne, Stewart Summers<br/>Linda Mayne (clerk)<br/>Jo Gifford (ward)</p>  |
| 73/23  | <p><b>Declaration of Interests:</b> None</p>   |
| 74/23  | <p><b>The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September</b><br/>These were reviewed, proposed by AN seconded by RR, as a correct record; all agreed and signed by PS.</p>  |
| 75/23  | <p><b>Matters arising not listed elsewhere</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DHL Development:</b> AN reported that there have been continuing discussions about the traffic concerns which are now being taken more seriously and that there is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. This coincides with the end of the 3- month hold on the development. There are 4 possible outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The application is refused</li> <li>There is another 3-month hold agreed</li> <li>The application is approved</li> <li>The application is approved with conditions.</li> </ul> Members of the Action Group have worked very hard and it is understood they are pleased that their views are being given a proper hearing. </li> <li>• <b>Farm Track:</b> A more detailed plan shows that the track would pass through the top of Knightly Wood. The application is still pending.</li> <li>• <b>Self-Build:</b> The regulations surrounding self -build are open to interpretation and vary from one authority to another. The land/building plot is still up for sale.</li> <li>• <b>Public Lighting:</b> The street light at Weedon Road junction has now been repaired at a cost of £300+. LM expressed concern that should another lamp fail there could be a similar cost. Council agreed that the future problems need to be monitored.</li> <li>• <b>D-Day:</b> None of the councillors are aware of any direct connections in the village with the D-Day landings. It was agreed that any discussions could wait until the new year, when a wider view of war-time involvement might be considered.</li> <li>• <b>Bay Tree Cottage:</b> The planning application has been approved. There is an objection on the portal wrongly attributed to the Parish Council. LM will try to rectify this as a breach of GDPR</li> <li>• <b>Maidford Road Mirror:</b> LM investigated the regulations for instillation through a number of contacts and eventually received a comprehensive reply. It is against WNC policy to allow mirrors on the highway. Details of the reply are attached to these minutes.</li> </ul> |
| 76/23  | <p><b>Public Forum:</b> Jo Gifford had nothing specific to Farthingstone to report. The change of boundaries is still uncertain.</p>   |
| 77/23  | <p><b>Finance:</b> LM presented the budget report for the year to date. The balance on the ledger at November 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 is £9146.35; current account £4800.40, deposit account £4345.95.</p> <p>With reference to the Precept for 2024/25, LM has estimated further expenditure of £3000 in the current financial year. This would result in a balance of £6146 to carry forward into the next year, compared with £6355 from 2022/23. In the current year there was, of course, expenditure related to the Coronation. The current contract for electricity expires on July 31<sup>st</sup> 2024; it is likely that the cost will increase. Maintenance of street lighting may also incur extra expenditure.</p> <p>Council decided that despite these uncertainties the balance is very healthy and that no increase on the Precept for 2024/25 should be requested. When the necessary form is published LM will arrange for PS to sign it and submit to WNC.</p>  |
| 78/23  | <p><b>Police Liaison:</b> AN reported the increase in theft of cars with keyless entry. It is recommended that owners use a Faraday Bag. Further information can be found on</p>   |

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|              | <p>www.Defendersecurityproducts.co.uk.</p>   |    |
| <b>79/23</b> | <p><b>Cemetery Matters:</b> The notice board in the cemetery now has a laminated up-dated plan of the plots which will assist visitors in locating family graves.</p> <p>There has been a request from environmental agencies that we should consider No May Mow in respect of the cemetery and grave yard. Although the Council appreciated the reasons for this proposal it was decided not to adopt the plan. The grass can grow very quickly in these areas and visitors to family graves need to have reasonable access. The area to the left of the church porch can be left to protect the wild flowers.</p>  |    |
| <b>80/23</b> | <p><b>Correspondence:</b> CPRE have requested that we increase our annual subscription to allow further development of their activities in protecting our green spaces. Council agreed to a rise from £36 to £48.</p> <p>A letter from NatWest suggests there was a problem over the payment of the invoice for the Coronation mugs. The cheque has cleared the bank, so unless there is further communication, the letter will be ignored.</p>  |    |
| <b>81/23</b> | <p>AOB: SS raised the issue of road sweeping as the accumulation of leaves can block drains and make pavements dangerous for pedestrians. Jo Gifford offered to find out the details of the schedules so that residents can move parked cars to enable a more effective service.</p> <p>AN suggested that we should approach Robert Nadler/Sam Edwards for an update on the installation of speed-signs as proposed at the meeting held in Towcester Forum. LM will contact them.</p> <p>AN had received a complaint, though WhatsApp, about the speed sign on Litchborough Road which needs repainting. The resident was advised to use Fix My Street to register the problem.</p> <p>PS has received a list of new contacts in connection with footpaths, which he will forward to Steve Sayers.</p> | LM |
|              | <p><b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> Monday January 8<sup>th</sup>. Please note this change of original date.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting closed 9.00pm</p>  |    |

Signed as a true record:

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Date: .....