

## 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 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 in the Village Hall 8.00pm

Min No	Action
35/24	<p><b>Attendance:</b> Peter Stanton, Richard Russell, Stewart Summers, Alison Nelson Linda Mayne (clerk) David Smith</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Peter Mayne, Rupert Frost</p>
36/24	<p><b>Declaration of Interests:</b> None</p>
37/24	<p><b>The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024</b> These were reviewed, proposed by SS, seconded by RR, as a correct record; all agreed and signed by PS.</p>
38/24	<p><b>Matters arising not listed elsewhere</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DHL Development:</b> David Smith confirmed that he is now our contact for planning concerns. He reported that, after a meeting lasting 5 hours, the planning application for the DHL development had been refused. It is likely that DHL will appeal to the Planning Inspectorate, but WNC will defend its position and ensure that they employ a strong legal team, which could be very costly. The time frame is uncertain but it may be many months. The 'Save Towcester Now' headed by Isla Whitcroft-White is to be congratulated on its campaign.</li> <li>• <b>Golf Club:</b> Concern was expressed about the lack of communication from WNC on the 'Non-Material Amendment'. It is understood that the proposed increase in solar provision was reduced to comply with this statement, but it is not clear what the criteria are used to make an amendment 'non-material'. David suggested he would contact Robert Nadler with a view to arranging a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss any updates on the development.</li> <li>• <b>Farm Track:</b> Although the proposed track does pass through part of the parish boundary WNC has not included Farthingstone in the planning notifications. PS showed David a copy of the map showing the route. No further progress has been communicated.</li> <li>• <b>FVN:</b> The resident who had indicated an interest in taking this on has decided against doing so, but PS is following up another possibility. AN explained that she would be able to provide a very smooth transfer of details.</li> <li>• <b>Road Repairs:</b> These are scheduled for early November, but it was thought that recent weather conditions may cause a delay.</li> <li>• <b>Speed Signs:</b> LM reported that she has ordered some 20mph Advisory Speed Signs. It was suggested that these might be placed at the junction of Maidford Road and Everdon Road, at the Weedon Road Junction and along Main Street by the Joy Mead.</li> </ul>
39/24	<p><b>Public Forum.</b> David recommended reading the Parish Bulletin, which is published regularly. A recent report covered a survey of transport in the area. LM expressed her concern about the number of emails received, many of which are irrelevant, making it difficult to identify those of importance.</p>
40/24	<p><b>Finance:</b> LM presented the budget report for the year to date. The balance on the ledger at September 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 is £7618.48; current account £3413.09, deposit account £4398.73, the difference of £193.34 being an uncashed cheque to Farthingstone PCC and a direct debit to SSE yet to be taken</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The statutory notice about public access to the annual accounts was published, but, as in previous years, no enquiries were made.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The new electricity contract is now in force. Council was reminded that the cost has now doubled.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">LM read the report from Mike Barnett advising that the defibrillator may have to be replaced in 2028 as the model has been discontinued and replacement pads are likely to be unavailable.</p>
41/24	<p><b>Police Liaison:</b> The PSO does not work on Mondays so she is unable to attend the meetings. The Police have issued advice to those who walk or cycle on their own to always have a fully charged</p>

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	mobile with them and to inform someone, if at all possible, of their intended route and expected return time. Caution should be taken in wearing headphones as these can prevent the wearer from hearing approaching traffic or other road users.	
<b>42/24</b>	<b>Cemetery Matters:</b> There is a need to purchase some top soil and grass seed to level the surface in parts of the Cemetery which would make mowing easier. Some of the flag stones on the Church path need raising which will require sharp sand. These purchases were agreed. Clear-up dates were agreed: Churchyard      November 3 <sup>rd</sup> 10.00am Cemetery      November 10 <sup>th</sup> 2.30pm	
<b>43/24</b>	<b>Correspondence:</b> None	
<b>44/24</b>	<b>AOB:</b> Concern has been expressed about vehicles parked on the pavement which can force pedestrians into the road which is particularly dangerous for children and the elderly. Residents are asked to be more aware of their responsibility to others. As this problem is a Police matter complaints should be referred to them.	
<b>45/24</b>	<b>Dates of meetings for the year:</b> Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>  Meeting closed 9.00pm	

Signed as a true record:

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Date: .....