

# 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 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 in the Village Hall 8.00pm

Min No		Action
01/24	<p><b>Attendance:</b> Peter Stanton, Alison Nelson, Richard Russell, Peter Mayne, Stewart Summers Linda Mayne (clerk) Jo Gifford (ward)</p> <p><b>Apologies</b> Rupert Frost</p>	
02/24	<b>Declaration of Interests:</b> None	
03/24	<p><b>The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023</b> These were reviewed, proposed by RR seconded by SS, as a correct record; all agreed and signed by PS.</p>	
04/24	<p><b>Matters arising not listed elsewhere</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DHL Development:</b> LM reported that she had received an amendment notification, dated 5<sup>th</sup> January, indicating a proposed new roundabout with access from the A5. It also contained details for the development of Towcester Town Football Club. AN confirmed that the Save Towcester Now Group continues to monitor the progress of these applications. It is understood that the developers are now challenging the existing Local Plan.</li> <li>• <b>Farm Track:</b> There has been a further objection from a concerned resident.</li> <li>• <b>Self-Build:</b> No update is available</li> <li>• <b>Public Lighting:</b> The street light by the Church has been repaired at a cost of £38.20</li> <li>• <b>D-Day:</b> As it is believed there are no direct links between the D-Day landings and residents of the village no special event is planned.</li> <li>• <b>Bay Tree Cottage:</b> LM has informed the planning department that the comment submitted was from The Village Hall Committee and not from The Parish Council. AN confirmed that the record now seems correct.</li> </ul>	
05/24	<p><b>Public Forum:</b> Jo Gifford provided detailed information about the new boundaries. Farthingstone will now be part of Rural South Northamptonshire which covers a very large area. Representatives from WNC will find it difficult to attend all local council meetings in such a wide area. SS expressed his thanks that the roads had now been swept. It would now appear that the next elections will be in 2025, not 2024 as previously understood. This is still awaiting confirmation.</p>	
06/24	<p><b>Finance:</b> LM presented the budget report for the year to date. The balance on the ledger at January 8<sup>th</sup> 2024 is £7130.78; current account £2779.65, deposit account £4351.13. The application for the precept 2024/25, having been agreed at the last meeting, was signed by PS and LM: this will now be submitted to WNC. Cheques to E-ON for the repair of the lamp by the Church and the regular maintenance contract were presented and signed. The Church Clock has recently been serviced; this cheque was also presented and signed. LM will check the service report as there was some concern that the clock was running slow. LM clarified the payment to White&amp;Joyce Funeral Directors. The company had accidentally paid an invoice twice and therefore a cheque was drawn as a refund.</p>	
07/24	<b>Police Liaison:</b> AN tried to contact our liaison officer for an update but there has been no response.	

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08/24	<p><b>Road Maintenance:</b> There is increasing concern about the state of the roads through Farthingstone, despite the information we were given that a new contractor had been appointed and that we could expect improvements. LM had reported the potholes on the section of Everdon Road from Farthingstone House to Willow Cottage, which were quickly repaired. More recently she reported the stretch along Main Street and Manor Gardens. It was agreed that we need to encourage more residents to take responsibility for reporting concerns. This might be achieved through Farthingstone Village News, WhatsApp and/or poster on the Parish Board.</p> <p>The repairs on potholes on Litchborough Road have left a very uneven surface making it an uncomfortable ride and not good for a car's suspension.</p>
09/24	<p><b>Cemetery Matters:</b> There has recently been an interment of ashes in an existing grave</p>
10/24	<p><b>Correspondence:</b> LM has received 2 communications by email:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Asking the PC to consider the purchase of signs to protect hedgehogs crossing the road. PS commented that it would be difficult to decide where to put such notices. It was agreed that this was not a realistic project in this village.</li><li>2. Making the PC aware that it should have a Local Nature Action Plan to conserve and enhance biodiversity. It was suggested that there may be residents who would be like to be involved in this project and that the Annual AGM would be a good opportunity to discuss it.</li></ol>
11/24	<p><b>AOB:</b> LM reported that the flood on Maidford Road opposite the Village Hall is causing considerable concern. RR assured the Council that it was not water from his pond. LM has tried to report it but the system was overloaded with similar issues. She will try again tomorrow.</p> <p>There is also a problem with an uprooted tree blocking the Knightly way. LM ask the Footpath Warden, Steve Sayers, to follow this up.</p> <p>PS asked that a letter be sent to Chris Tate, thanking him for his continuing work in cleaning and maintenance of the cemetery.</p>
	<p><b>Dates of meetings for the year:</b></p> <p>March 18<sup>th</sup> May 20<sup>th</sup> July 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 16<sup>th</sup> Nov 18<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Litter Pick March 16<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Outdoor Theatre July 6<sup>th</sup> James and the Giant Peach</p> <p>Meeting closed 8.47pm</p>

Signed as a true record:

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Date: .....