

FARRINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Held at FARRINGDON Village Hall, Church Road, Upper Farringdon on 4th June, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

Present:-

Cllr Oakley (in the Chair)

Cllr. Cowan

Cllr. Cubitt

Cllr Durrant

One Member of the Public; Ms. Emma Dillnutt (Parish Clerk) and Mr. Edwin Macknamara (Acting Clerk)

76/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. C. Roe, C. Elderton, H. Garrard and D. Williams. Mr. D. Horton (Village Hall Manager) had also sent apologies.

77/14 MINUTES

Members **APPROVED** the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 7th May, 2014.

78/14 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS: None

79/14 PETITIONS/STATEMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- i) Goal Posts for Shirnall Meadow: A local resident had asked that the following question be raised at the meeting:
“In view of the fact that the existing goal posts are damaged due to children swinging on the crossbar, is it a good use of taxpayers’ money to replace them? As the Parish Council seems keen to turn Shirnall Meadow into a football play area, has a study been undertaken to ascertain how many children there are in the Village who want and would regularly use the goalposts, thereby justifying the expense, and are the results available for public inspection?”

The resident was present at the meeting and outlined his views on the matter.

80/14 RECEIPT OF OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i) Consultation on Developer Contributions Details for Alton Sports Centre: The Acting Clerk had circulated details of this consultation being carried out by East Hampshire District Councils. The report circulated with the agenda set out 3 Options:

- Option 1 – As approved by the District Council – An area within a 10 minute drive time from the Alton Sports Centre;
- Option 2 – An area within a 15 minute drive time from the Alton Sports Centre; or
- Option 3 - Any other suggestions if Options 1 and 2 were not considered appropriate.

Options 1 and 2 would attract a rate of contribution of £10,000 per dwelling for sites with more than 10 dwellings. Having considered the report and the case for selecting an area within a 10 mile drive of the Sports Centre it was:

RESOLVED: That Option 1 be supported by Farringdon Parish Council.

81/14 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

The vacancy caused by the resignation of John Jacob had been duly advertised and could now be filled by cooption. It was moved and seconded that Mr. Roger Ison be coopted to fill the vacancy. No other nominations were made and on being put to the vote it was unanimously:

RESOLVED: That Mr. Roger Ison be coopted onto Farringdon Parish Council to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Ison then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Councillor of Farringdon Parish Council and joined the meeting.

82/14 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE VILLAGE HALL MANAGER

The report of the Village Hall Manager was presented in his absence by Cllr. Oakley.

83/14 ACCOUNTS PAID SINCE LAST MEETING AND SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Acting RFO reported that the following payments had been made since the last meeting:

Wettone Matthews	Payroll	£240.00
Came and Company	Annual Insurance	£476.33
Wettone Matthews	Year End Accounts	£720.00
Edwin Macknamara	Acting Clerk (Salary)	£218.40
Edwin Macknamara	Acting Clerk (Expenses)	£81.00

All payments had been made in line with the agreed budget or other resolutions of the Council

The benefit of membership of the Hampshire Playing Fields Association was then discussed and it was agreed that payment of the Membership Fee of £40 would be in the Parish Council's interests and would be beneficial when seeking additional grant support.

The Acting RFO also reported that an underpayment of tax and NI was being investigated following the receipt of correspondence from HMRC. Wettone Matthews had been asked to clarify the situation as they administered the Parish Council's payroll. The matter would then be discussed again at the next meeting.

It was Moved and Seconded and:-

RESOLVED: i) That the report be received and that the Chairman sign the schedule of payments listed.

- ii) That the Annual Membership Payment of £40 be made to the Hampshire Playing Fields Association.

84/14 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

RESOLVED: That this matter be deferred until the next meeting and that 3 quotations be obtained for consideration.

85/14 ASSET REGISTER

The Acting RFO had discussed this matter with the Council's Insurers who had reported that they had no information regarding the Assets of the Parish Council and that the opportunity should now be taken to clarify this situation. Details of land maintained by the Parish Council had been included in the Grass Cutting Maintenance Schedule and the Council's Solicitors would be asked to quote for carrying out a Land Registry Search to ascertain whether title was registered.

RESOLVED: That this matter be discussed at the next meeting.

86/14 GOAL POSTS AT SHIRNALL MEADOW

The Acting RFO had circulated details of the quotations received for the replacement of the existing goal posts at Shirnall Meadow. He explained that he had discussed this matter with an independent Playground Inspector and that all equipment supplied would need to meet the current standards required for insurance purposes.

Cllr. Cowan suggested that, in view of the comments received from a local resident, a discussion on the justification of supplying the equipment should be had. The rationale behind the scheme was to provide additional facilities for the teenagers in addition to the existing equipment for the up to 11 year age group. A petition had been received from local users asking for more robust goal posts. The equipment would also be available for users from surrounding Villages. At present there were no facilities available for this older age group.

The equipment suggested would also provide additional protection for neighbouring properties.

The meeting agreed that there was sufficient justification to proceed and also noted that with the financial support available there would be no impact on current Precept levels.

One other point would also need to be considered bearing in mind the possible effect of flooding at the Meadow and only equipment covered by the manufacturer's warranty could be used. There were 9 options set out in the quotations circulated and the Acting RFO pointed out that the best value option would be AMV quote no. 4: Goal Unit 126 at a cost of £5066 plus the additional wings for this goal unit at a cost of £1681 if purchased together. This equipment would also provide cricket wickets and 3 metre side protection and also carried a warranty which would not be affected by any future flooding.

The potential funds available were:

Existing Grant	£135.00
EHDC Developers Contributions	£2460.00
SDNPA Developers Contributions	£2554.00
POTENTIAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	£5194.00

POTENTIAL BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE

Existing Grant	£135.00
Developers Contribution Fund	£4900.00 (Agreed in Principle)
Parish Council Funds	£31.00

The remaining shortfall would be met entirely from funds already held by the Parish Council received from the Developers Bond for the ongoing maintenance of the area. This Bond had also attracted additional bank interest which would cover most of the cost of the additional wings.

Standing Orders were suspended to permit the local resident to comment further on this matter and he was given an assurance that the actual siting of the unit would be discussed with him prior to delivery. Safety issues had also been considered and the insurance implications had also been discussed.

RESOLVED: That Quote No. 4 AMV Goal Unit be purchased at a cost of £5066 the AMV Wings at a further cost of £1681 and that the funding arrangements be approved.

87/14 PURCHASE OF A LAMINATOR

The purchase of a laminator so that public notices displayed on the Notice Board could be protected from the weather was discussed. A number of notices had been damaged by weather.

RESOLVED: That a GBC Fusion 3000L A3 Laminator be purchased for use by the Council

88/14 BUS SHELTER – MAINTENANCE

The Bus Shelter at Gosport Road had been recently inspected and the roof structure appeared to be in need of structural repair. It was, therefore, agreed, that advice should be obtained immediately from a local contractor with a view to short term safety work being undertaken and three quotations obtained for any necessary long term repairs. The shelter would be closed if the roof was considered to be unsafe.

89/14 DISPOSAL OF TREE BRANCHES AND SMALL TREE IN PLAY AREAS – SHIRNALL MEADOW AND PARSONAGE CLOSE.

The existing Contractor had quoted a sum of £60 to £100 to clear tree debris from these play areas.

RESOLVED: That the Contractor be requested to carry out this work.

90/14 FARRINGDON VISION 2030 – UPDATES

- i) Roads, Footways, Byways and Trees: Cllr. Williams had circulated his report prior to the meeting and in his absence the report was received. The Clerk had received a request for a section of FP 12 (Parsonage Close to Shirnall Hill) to be added to the Parish Council's existing grass cutting contract as Hampshire County Council had stated that they would not mow this area until August. The resident was concerned that the path would become unpassable. However, in view of the current financial situation of the Council it was agreed that the request should not be adopted. The following items were also noted: Repair to stile at Stank Lane (inspection required). Tree blocking Old Railway Lane (Right of way).
- ii) Traffic and Roads: No further items to report.
- iii) Crime and Safety: No items to report.
- iv) Energy: No items to report
- v) Administration and Finance: No items to report.
- vi) Social and Community: No matters were reported
- vii) Housing and Built Environment: Cllr. Cowan reported that a request had been received from AR Design Studio to discuss the design brief for a possible development at Crow Lane and had now indicated that they would hold a public exhibition in the Village Hall on the 18th June, 2014. A public meeting of the Planning Committee would also take place that evening. Representatives of the Developers at Marefields had also been invited to attend this meeting. A representative of Lightsource would also be in attendance at the meeting to discuss construction arrangements

for the Solar farm.

EHDC had now agreed their Joint Core Strategy and details were available on their website. In conclusion Cllr. Cowan outlined the current situation regarding the proposed Community Benefit Deed currently under discussion with Lightsource, The Solicitors representing the Parish Council were currently attempting to finalise the details which would be acceptable to both parties. The Parish Council had raised no objections to recent planning applications including the Certificate of Lawful Development for the Livery Stables at Stable Cottage.

- viii) Business Matters: Cllr. Cubitt reported that he had contacted local businesses by email seeking their comments on issues. The main issue appeared to be parking outside the Motor Cycle Shop.
- ix) Coordinating Responsibility, Accountability and Authority for Implementation: The Chairman agreed that the updates given under the Farringdon Vision 2030 headings should reflect the agreed Plan.

91/14 STAFFING:

- i) Parish Clerk: The meeting welcomed Ms. Emma Dillnutt who had been appointed as Parish Clerk with effect from 1st June, 2014. The Acting Clerk would continue to support the new Clerk and the situation reviewed at the next meeting.
- ii) Equipment: Consideration was given to the equipment needed to support the work of the Clerk. A PAYG Mobile phone would be provided initially with a dedicated number for the Parish Council. Stationary and Office supplies could be purchased from Viking or other suitable supplier. Any other support needed would be considered in due course.

92/14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 2nd July, 2014

93/14 CONFIDENTIAL

RESOLVED: That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

KEY MESSAGES:

- i) It was announced that the vacancy for a Clerk to Farringdon Parish Council has now been filled by Ms. Emma Dillnut. Her contact details will be available soon.
- ii) Roger Ison was unanimously coopted onto the Parish Council to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Jacobs.
- iii) Quotations have now been agreed for the replacement of the goal posts at Shirnall Meadow providing a much needed facility for teenagers. The cost will have no impact on the Parish Councils Precept following successful grant bids.
- iv) Lightsource, developers of the Solar Farm at Gaston Lane have introduced the Project Manager to facilitate discussions during the construction phase which is expected to start shortly. The first meeting with the Parish Council will take place on the 18th June, 2014
- v) The East Hants District Council (EHDC) Joint Core Strategy has now been adopted and full details are available on their website.

- vi)** Quotes agreed for clearing up the playground in Shirnall Meadow and Parsonage Close following the flooding.
- vii)** Roger Ison has been coopted onto the Parish Council to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Jacobs.

Signed.....(Chairman)
Dated: 2nd July, 2014.