

GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 10th July 2017 **in the Pettiward Hall**

Present: Cllr Peter Turner Cllr Robin Fisher Cllr Simon Tarabella
 Cllr Rob Nurton Cllr Archie Gemmell Cllr Martin Burns

Paula Gladwell – Clerk
3 members of public

District Cllr Matthissen
Cllr County Cllr Otton (part)

- 2017/1257 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Sebastian Reeves
- 2017/1258 **Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct and requests for dispensations relating to Discloseable Pecuniary Interests** - None
- 2017/1259 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** - It was proposed by Cllr Tarabella that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved, with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 12th June 2017 were signed as a true record.
- 2017/1260 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Cllr Matthissen reported that the move to Endeavour House is still scheduled for September. Locality budget bids are now open with a total of £6,250 to be shared within the ward. June full council meeting was cancelled due to lack of business. There have still been no expressions of interest from Great Finborough residents in support of a community bus scheme running to Stowmarket station for the early am train, at least 5 people who would regularly use such a service is needed before a scheme of this type is viable. The Local Plan land bids are now being judged on sustainability and the results will be published soon. Draft ideas for future policies within the new Local Plan are starting to filter through however any conclusion of the process is a long way off. The Boundary review for the district is asking for reactions to the proposal to reduce the existing 40 Cllrs to 34, and looking for suggestions in how boundaries might be changed to facilitate this.
- 2017/1261 **Local Government Boundary Commission review of MSDC Ward Boundaries consultation** – It was agreed that the following comment be submitted to the consultation – *"Great Finborough Parish Council are in support of the Onehouse ward continuing in its current five parish form as it is well within the 10% +/- margins however it is understood that the reduction in councillors will mean that many ward boundaries will have to change. Should the Onehouse ward need to increase electorate numbers then it is felt reasonable to include the parishes of Combs and Little Finborough which although together would increase the ward numbers to over the electoral equality ideal these parishes have extensive neighbouring boundaries with Onehouse ward and are similar in rural identity with close ties to the schools and commerce of Stowmarket. This proposal would also result in the reduction of Ringshall ward bringing their electoral numbers closer to the average sought for each councillor."*
- 2017/1262 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report which had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2017/1263 **Public Participation** – Concerns were expressed regarding the safety issues on Combs lane including the lack of maintenance to the verges, hedges and step up. It was confirmed that any erection of convex mirrors to aid visibility for residents leaving their drives would need permission from the Highways Authority and/or landowners. It was confirmed that landowners are obliged to cut back side growth of their hedges overhanging the road and efforts will be made to contact any landowners who are neglecting to do this along Combs Lane. A request for a new dog litter bin at the Combs Lane end of footpath no.277/018/0 was noted.
- 2017/1264 **Clerks Report** – No response has yet been received to the site suitability checks for VAS. It was noted that the application to Awards for All for funding for the Defibrillator had been successful, the transfer documents for the phone box have been completed

and an order for the equipment can now be placed. Training sessions will be arranged soon. The request for repairs to a pothole adjacent to Pilgrims Way received the response that it is low priority at this time.

2017/1265 **Planning** – There were no applications to consider.

2017/1266 The following MSDC decisions were noted; 1703/17 Erection of a two storey side extension, 4 Ash Close – GRANTED

2017/1267 **Finance** – The Finance report for July 2017 was approved

2017/1268 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Tarabella, seconded Cllr Turner, with all in favour, Staff salaries for June 2017

2017/1269 Gipping Press £182.12

2017/1270 Rewts £336.00

2017/1271 Spaldings Signs £119.47

2017/1272 Anglian Water £13.77

2017/1273 ICO renewal £35.00

2017/1274 MSDC Bin Emptying £468.00

2017/1275 **Footpaths** – The Footpath Warden reported that all paths had been cut and there were no problems. The golf club have carried out all promised work and thanks were expressed to them for the improvements.

2017/1276 **Delegation of Powers** - It was resolved to approve the Delegated Powers for the Clerk as drafted, Proposed by Cllr Nurton, sec Cllr Fisher with all in favour.

2017/1277 **Church Road improvements** – It was noted that one quote for surfacing had been received whilst others were still awaited. A reply was still awaited from Highways for their input into the proposals. It was agreed that Cllr Turner would arrange to meet with Zoey Banthorpe at MSDC to seek help with external funding applications for this project. Further consideration of quotes and fundraising was deferred to next meeting.

2017/1278 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.

2017/1279 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – It was noted that parking in the passing places in Valley Lane was obstructing the flow of traffic, and parking in front of the gate at Valley Lane car park was preventing access and egress. Details of the offending vehicles have been recorded and attempts will be made to contact the drivers. It was agreed that notices will be erected at the passing places and also in front of the gate in an effort to prevent this inconsiderate parking in future.

Meeting closed 9.10pm

Next meeting; Monday 4th September 2017 at 7.30pm