

GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th November 2019 in the Pettward Hall

Present: Cllr Simon Tarabella (chair) Cllr Sebastian Reeves Cllr Peter Turner
Cllr Simon Waspe Cllr James Spencer Cllr Norman Vendittelli
Paula Gladwell – Clerk County Cllr Penny Otton (part)
0 member of public District Cllr John Matthissen (part)

- 2019/1906 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Dee Dixon
- 2019/1907 **Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct and requests for dispensations relating to Discloseable Pecuniary Interests** - None
- 2019/1908 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** - It was proposed by Cllr Reeves that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved, with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 14th October were signed as a true record.
- 2019/1909 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Deferred
- 2019/1910 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Deferred
- 2019/1911 **Public Participation** – No questions
- 2019/1912 **Clerks Report** - It was noted that Ruby Homes had been made aware of the litter issues from the Pear Tree Place building site and the affected area of Woodpecker Hill had been cleared. It was confirmed that the new SID was up and running with data collection to be handled by the laptop.
The enforcement of the kerb violation at no. 24 has been passed back from Kier to the SCC Highways Service manager, and updates will continue to be regularly sought. The additional parking on the verge will be reported.
- 2019/1913 **Planning** - It was Resolved to submit the following comments to MSDC for applications DC/19/04912 Erection of 9no. dwellings and creation of new access, Land off, Pear Tree Place, Proposed Cllr Turner with a majority 4 - 2 in favour. "*Great Finborough Parish Council are very disappointed to see this application come back with increased dwellings that have still kept the number of dwellings below the level which would necessitate affordables. Our objection to the previous application was based on the loss of any affordable housing as part of this development. With permission already in place for a development at this site Council have no objection to the new proposed mix of properties and support the decrease in the larger 4 bed dwellings however concerns are expressed that the 1 beds will be lost. The additional properties within the site have significantly reduced the garden space per property causing the plan to look very cramped now and although resident and visitor parking allocations claim to meet SCC guidance it is hoped that this is sufficient to ensure no overspill onto the Pear Tree Place entrance road or to the High Road. The Parish Council have concerns regarding the comments from MSDC Public Realm suggesting that the Open Space would be passed over to Great Finborough Parish Council as managers of the existing woodland at Woodpecker Hill. This is not something that the Parish Council have been contacted about by either the applicant, Public Realm nor the planning department. No provision for the future maintenance and responsibility for the Open Space at this site was included in the conditions of DC/18/03710. We know from past experience that Commuted sums that come with the transfer of Open Space from a developer to the people of the village are never enough to cover the costs of long term maintenance and so seek to ensure that if it is suggested that the Parish Council be asked to take this area over commuted sums would need to be in the region of £1000 per year for at least 20 yrs to ensure there would be no requirement to increase the precept for the residents of Great Finborough.*
- 2019/1914 DC/19/05149 Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for 4455/16 without compliance with Condition 5 (External facing materials) Land to south of Union Road, Onehouse - "*Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available*"
- 2019/1915 There were no MSDC decisions to note.
- 2019/1916 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report which had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2019/1917 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Cllr Matthissen gave his report a copy of which is attached to these minutes.
- 2019/1918 **Middlefield Drive Play Area Working Group**- It was Resolved to task the group with reviewing the future provision of improvements and/or replacement of the play equipment at the Middlefield Drive site, including research into; need, funding, public consultation, financial viability etc.
Cllrs Tarabella, Spencer, Turner and Vendittelli were appointed and the Terms of Reference for the working group were approved. It was noted that two residents had expressed an interest in joining the working group and they would be contacted with information regarding the first meeting.

- 2019/1919 **Finance** – The Finance report for November 2019 was approved.
- 2019/1920 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Reeves, Sec Cllr Turner with all in favour, Staff salaries for October
- 2019/1921 Gipping Press £200.12
- 2019/1922 Community Heartbeat Trust £104.40
- 2019/1923 CAS website £60.00
- 2019/1924 It was noted that HSBC had finally confirmed the new mandate had been accepted and Cllrs Tarabella, Turner, Reeves, Spencer and Waspe were cleared as signatories.
- 2019/1925 The first draft of the Budget for 2020-2021 had been circulated. It was noted that the Budget Working Group will convene to consider their recommendations for the next meeting.
- 2019/1926 **Correspondence** –There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2019/1927 **Footpaths** – The Footpath Warden provided a spreadsheet with the beginnings of a list of current issues. This would be used as an ongoing tool to establish a schedule of work going forward.
- 2019/1928 The broken finger post at the Valley Lane end of path 4 will be reported.
- 2019/1929 Footpath Map - Cllr Tarabella confirmed that the draft map was now complete with the back page covering the Countryside Code and photographs approved. It was agreed that Cllr Matthissen be asked to help with the funding for printing from his locality budget.
- 2019/1930 **Annual Playground Report** - It was noted that the Annual Playground report highlighted only a few low risk issues with none above an 8. These recommendations will all be addressed in due course via an action plan with any costings identified.
- 2019/1931 **Loss of Bus Service** - In the absence of Cllr Dixon and with no report received this item was deferred. A holding email will be sent to Ringshall Parish Council with a request that they keep us in the loop for a possible cohesive response to Hadleigh Buses regarding their request to provide funding for the routes 461 and 462.
- 2019/1932 **Village Work Group Notice Board** - It was suggested that an online version of the notice board be set up initially to gauge reaction with an article added to the newsletter and website asking for volunteers to express an interest in helping with village tasks such as; Speedwatch, Bark spreading, Footpath waymarker replacement, Litter picks etc.
- 2019/1932 **White Entrance Gates** - It was agreed that Cllr Vendittelli will create a mock up of a single gate for the Stowmarket end of the village to establish sizes and aesthetics to enable costings to be confirmed.
- 2019/1933 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – It was noted that residents concerns had been expressed about the trees to rear of Middlefield Drive Playarea with requests that these be reduced and maintained to avoid overshadowing of adjacent properties. It was confirmed that many are self seeded and a survey should be actioned. Green Scene will be asked to take a look and quote for any work recommended. Cllr Turner will action quotes.
- 2019/1934 **Motion to exclude temporarily the Public and Press** - It was resolved to exclude the Public and Press pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed concerning staff contracts of employment.
- 2019/1935 **Staff Contract Review** - It was Resolved to increase the Clerks hours by 1 per month. Proposed by Cllr Tarabella with all in favour. It was noted that the Litter Picker wages would need review in April 2020.

Next meeting of the Parish Council - Monday 10th December 2019 at 7.30pm