

GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th January 2020 in the Pettward Hall

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

- 2019/1964 **Apologies for Absence** - None
- 2019/1965 **Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct and requests for dispensations relating to Discloseable Pecuniary Interests** - None
- 2019/1966 **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 9th December 2019 were signed as a true record.
- 2019/1967 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Deferred.
- 2019/1968 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Deferred.
- 2019/1969 **Public Participation** – Council were told that residents in Combs Lane had received notification from Hopkins Homes regarding work to a rainfall outlet into the river from the housing development. Concerns were expressed regarding the impact of this on flood problems. Concerns were discussed around the existing flood issues along Combs Lane, it was noted that although the worst of the problems were outside Great Finborough the road conditions affected everyone with concerns that freezing weather could cause real safety issues. It was noted work to dig out the ditches has not worked and the management of the water meadows by the Museum has caused further problems. Cllr Matthissen reported that he had yet to arrange a meeting of stakeholders to discuss ways to stop the flooding and that he would ensure this was facilitated whilst the evidence was in place.
- Cllr Spencer entered the meeting.
- It was confirmed that the request for a 30mph limit along Combs Lane had been refused by Suffolk County Council Highways.
- 2019/1970 **Clerks Report** - It was noted that no progress report had been received regarding the enforcement action at no.24. Cllr Otton requested copies of the email threads with a view to investigating why enforcement action had not been carried out. MSDC planning would also be asked to enforce the refused planning application.
- The first meeting of the Middlefield Drive Play Area Improvement Working Group was set for Saturday 25th January 2020 at 9.30am.
- It was noted that MSDC would be asked for a site meeting to discuss the issues with last year's grass cutting. It was suggested 6 cuts was inadequate and MSDC would be asked to confirm that 10 -12 cuts would be carried out next season before any further contract be agreed.
- It was confirmed that applications had been lodged with Cllr Matthissen' locality budget for £650 towards SID and £265 for Footpath maps. Cllr Matthissen indicated that he would look on both favourably.
- 2019/1971 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report which had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2019/1972 **Planning** - There were no applications to consider.
- 2019/1973 There were no MSDC decisions to note.
- 2019/1974 **Finance** – The Finance report for January 2020 was approved.
- 2019/1975 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Tarabella, Sec Cllr Turner with all in favour, Staff salaries for December
- 2019/1976 HMRC Q3 payment
- 2019/1977 Gipping Press £187.62
- 2019/1978 MSDC Play inspection £60.22
- 2019/1979 Wave Water £20.30
- 2019/1980 Quotes for tree work in Middlefield Drive were considered, it was Resolved to appoint The Earthwood Tree Company to carry out lift and thin of trees and shrubs as per quote for £475.00. Prop by Cllr Tarabella with all in favour. Cllr Turner will liaise.
- 2019/1981 There were no further amendments proposed to the budget. It was resolved to approve the budget for 2020/2021, Proposed by Cllr Tarabella, seconded Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2019/1982 It was noted that the precept requirement raised by the budget process of £13048.00 showed a slight increase over the previous year resulting in an additional £1.34 per Band D household for

- the year. It was resolved to set the precept for 2020/2021 at £13048 and the request forms were duly completed and signed. Proposed Cllr Tarabella, sec Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2019/1983 **Correspondence** –There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2019/1984 **Footpaths** – The Footpath Warden suggested that social media was used to get feedback from residents regarding footpath issues. Concerns were expressed regarding monitoring and admin of any social media sites that were created in the name of the parish council.
The clerk will report finger post missing at start of FP 18.
- 2019/1985 It was noted that a Schedule of Work could be established from the Footpath Schedule circulated by Cllr Spencer and work parties would be arranged for the Spring to start replacing missing waymarkers.
- 2019/1986 Footpath Map - Final draft was approved with agreement that the back page remain as is with maps. The requote using laminated paper was £265 which now fit the criteria for Cllr Matthissen's locality budget. It was resolved to order 500 copies. Proposed Cllr Reeves, sec Cllr Spencer with all in favour. Copies would be distributed to all households with extras available in the pub and church.
- 2019/1987 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Cllr Matthissen gave his report a copy of which is attached to these minutes.
- 2019/1988 **White Entrance Gates** - It was noted that approval had been received from Matthew Fox, SCC engineer to site the entrance gates beyond the gateway as discussed. Doubts were expressed regarding the comment from Matthew Fox that the name sign and 30mph signs could be reused as this would involve moving the speed limit, the clerk will clarify this with Matthew. Quotes will be sought for four bar, 1500mm wide white gates for consideration at next meeting.
- 2019/1989 **Parish Notice Board** - It was noted that no quotes had been received following requests from local advertisers in newsletter, further quotes will need to be sought for waterproofing and re stain the notice board.
- 2019/1990 **Village Tennis Club** - Following the generous offer from Finborough Hall School for a Tennis Club to use the courts at the school feedback was sought from residents on the interest and feasibility of setting up a village Tennis Club. It was noted that with the proximity of Stowmarket Tennis Club and the facilities enjoyed there that it was unlikely a club in the village would be highly supported enough to fulfil the criteria of the Lawn Tennis Association rules for a club. Setting up a club is complex and would involve welfare officers, management committee, insurance etc. It was noted that nobody had come forward volunteering for this and therefore it was agreed not to pursue the setting up of a Village Tennis Club at this time. It was hoped that this would not discourage Finborough Hall School from opening up the courts for residents use in an alternative way.
- 2019/1991 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – The Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator position has become vacant again. Cllr Spencer will take over temporarily whilst seeking a new co ordinator.
Cllr Dixon confirmed that she would be attending the Councillor training booked for her in February.
The clerk will report a failed bulb in street light no 64.

Next meeting of the Parish Council - Monday 9th March 2020 at 7.30pm