

# GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017** **in the Pettiward Hall**

Present: Cllr. Peter Turner  
Cllr Rob Nurton  
Cllr Simon Tarabella  
Cllr Archie Gemmell  
Paula Gladwell – Clerk  
8 members of public

Cllr Sebastian Reeves  
Cllr. Robin Fisher  
Cllr Martin Burns

County Cllr Otton (part)

2016/1154 **Apologies for Absence** - District Cllr Matthissen.

2016/1155 **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Burns declared a non pecuniary interest in Item 6a (min no. 2016/1158)

2016/1156 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** - It was proposed by Cllr Burns, that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 were signed as a true record.

Adjournment for:

**Public Participation** – Concerns were expressed that flooding was still apparent on the footpath from Woodpecker Hill regardless of the recent addition of membrane and chippings. It was confirmed that clearing of the adjacent ditch was planned which would alleviate this problem.

Concerns were expressed regarding the continued problem of owners failing to pick up after their dogs. Complaints that dogs were roaming uncontrolled over gardens in Pettiward Close were noted and it was confirmed that footpaths adjacent to Valley Lane were exceptionally bad. It was suggested that a leaflet be included with the Newsletter drop to encourage active evidence gathering against owners failing to pick up after their dogs together with further education of the risks to public health.

The Garden Club have generously offered a donation towards the provision of a further picnic bench. Consideration of purchase of a picnic table will be added to the next agenda.

The Allotment Association and the Garden Club have requested a water bowser for use by allotment tenants with donations promised towards the costs. Consideration of purchase of a water bowser will be added to the next agenda.

Following changes to the procedure of insurance companies regarding membership of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme it has been suggested that an information notice be included in the newsletter together with a sticker for display in a home window, this will hopefully help homeowners to obtain any discounts offered for membership of a scheme.

It was noted that Finborough Hall School intend to submit a planning application for a new senior school block together with floodlights etc, the Parish Council accepted the invitation to visit the school for a pre application meeting.

Cllr Otton was asked about the possibility of a larger bus to alleviate the overcrowding of the current service. Cllr Otton confirmed that the contract was currently being looked at and a request for a larger bus had been lodged, if successful this would hopefully encourage the possibility of using bus passes again.

**County Cllr Penny Otton Report** – Cllr Otton gave her report which will be attached to these minutes and confirmed that she has reported the extensive pothole issues at The Chestnuts junction. It was noted that the Boundary Commission have begun a second consultation on the proposal to move Great Finborough and other parishes into another parliamentary area. If councillors wish to comment further on this proposal then the clerk will place consideration on the next agenda.

**District Cllr John Matthissen** – No report

Meeting resumed:

- 2016/1157 **Clerks Report** – Anglian Water have confirmed that following Government recommendations, business customers will soon be able to choose an alternative supplier for their water utility provision. They have also issued a warning that work to connect the new housing developments will take several months however they do not foresee any disruption to existing supplies.  
The new road sign for Middlefield Drive has been ordered.  
It has been confirmed that the S137 level per elector has been increased by 2% to £7.57 for 2017/18  
It was noted that a training course for playground inspectors is available. Cllr Burns confirmed that he did not wish to attend at this time.  
It has been confirmed by MSDC Infrastructure Team, following legal advice, that council may vary the commuted sums awarded under the S106 agreement throughout the four areas. This will ensure that the remaining funds can be lumped together and allocated throughout the four budget headings of Play Area, Car Park, Football Pitch and Amenity areas.
- 2016/1158 **Planning** – It was agreed that an extension for comments on application 886/17 and 887/17 be requested in order to give sufficient time to consider this proposal. There were no other applications to consider.
- 2016/1159 The following MSDC decisions were noted: Application; 4829/16 Erection of a 2 bay dog kennels and 3 bay cart lodge following demolition of existing stables, Croft House, Valley Lane – GRANTED and
- 2016/1160 4937/16 Erection of a general agricultural building, Jackbridge Farm, Jack's Lane – GRANTED.
- 2016/1161 **Finance** – The Finance report for March 2017 was approved.
- 2016/1162 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Tarabella, with all in favour, Staff salaries for Jan & Feb 2016
- 2016/1163 SCC Street Lighting £541.69
- 2016/1164 Speed Gun calibration £62.66
- 2016/1165 Gipping Press Ltd £170.12 and £158.12
- 2016/1166 MSDC Grass Cutting £748.80
- 2016/1167 It was resolved to accept the quote for removing ivy from the wall in Church Road, the work will be actioned at a cost of £222.00 Proposed Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2016/1168 It was resolved to contribute 50% to cost of clerks attendance at SALC Planning Conference at a cost of £37.50. Proposed Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2016/1169 It was noted that from next year SCC will no longer replenish Salt Grit piles. It was proposed that a new bin should be provided for the pile at the Primary School with an acknowledgement that other sites that currently have no bin will not be replenished. These sites will be monitored over next winter. It was resolved to purchase one new grit bin to replace the grit pile adjacent to the Primary School, if external funding can be secured from the County Councillors locality budget after May. Proposed Cllr Fisher, Cllr Tarabella with all in favour. It was confirmed that current best value cost per bin is £86.50 plus vat.
- 2016/1170 It was resolved to appoint Heelis & Lodge to carry out the Internal Audit for 2016/17. The Terms of Engagement and Audit Plan were approved. Proposed by Cllr Reeves, sec Cllr Fisher with all in favour.
- 2016/1171 **Request to divert surface water** – a request from Thurlow Architects on behalf of Pilgrim Homes to divert surface water from the Finborough Court site into the Parish Council ditch was noted. Cllrs Turner and Tarabella have met with the architects on site to discuss their needs and report that with some work to clear the ditch at the entry point and confirmation that an adequate flow will be maintained this should not cause any problems. It was agreed that Great Finborough Parish Council have no objection to Finborough Court Residential Home discharging surface water into the ditch as requested with the proviso that the detritus along the banks, left by the gardeners at Finborough Court, is removed and in future the entry point to the ditch is kept clear and

the water flowing adequately. Proposed Cllr Turner with all in favour, the clerk will send written consent to Thurlow Architects.

- 2016/1172 **Clearing of ditch** – Two quotes have been received to clear the ditch between Pilgrim Homes and Woodpecker Hill. It was confirmed that once this area is cleared and water is flowing adequately this will relieve the flooding of the footpath. It was Resolved to accept the quote of £1,500 to clear the ditch plus £20 per hour, for approximately 3 days, to cut back hedge line and trees to enable access to the ditch with the digger. Cllr Turner will action the work. Proposed by Cllr Nurton, sec Cllr Gemmell with all in favour. It was noted that a portable toilet may be needed at additional cost. It was agreed that a work party be mobilised to help with clearing and stacking once a date with the contractor is confirmed.
- 2016/1173 **Footpath Report** – Cllr Gemmell confirmed that there were no issues to report.
- 2016/1174 **Herb Garden** – Cllr Turner confirmed that work on the Herb Garden was ongoing, the edgings have been constructed and the drainage and soil will be installed in the next couple of weeks. Planting quotes are being sought and any additional costs over and above the Parish Councils committed £250 will be covered by donations. Thanks were extended to all those volunteering their time and expertise to bring this project to fruition.
- 2016/1175 **Trees for Village Green** – It was resolved to approve the planting of two flowering cherry trees on the village green area adjacent to the car park and Middlefield Drive. Proposed by Cllr Turner with all in favour. Thanks were extended to the resident offering to donate the trees.
- 2016/1176 **Annual Parish Meeting** – It was agreed that the format and invitations for the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May replicate last year, with the village meeting this time held in the main hall. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will start at 6.45pm upstairs before the Annual Parish Meeting which will commence at 7.30pm.
- 2016/1177 **Nomination of Trustee to Pettward Hall Management Committee** – It was noted that Mary Preece the Parish Council Nominated Trustee had reached the end of her four year term of office and had indicated that she was willing to stand again if the Parish Council so wished. No other candidates had expressed a wish to stand as the Nominated Trustee. It was resolved to nominate Cllr Preece for a further four years as the Parish Council Nominated Trustee, proposed by Cllr Tarabella, sec Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2016/1178 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2016/1179 **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 personal information.
- 2016/1180 **Parking issues, permissions and controls for Village Green open space** – Consideration was given to residents requests, existing parking, future parking provision, damage to Village Green areas and any future enforcement of no parking. It was Resolved to prohibit resident parking on any Village Green Open Space, except for the current designated parking in Church Road, in order to preserve these assets. Proposed by Cllr Turner with all in favour. Appropriate letters will be issued and permanent signage considered.
- 2016/1181 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – None

Next meeting; Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7.30pm