

# GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th January 2019 in the Pettiward Hall

Present: Cllr Peter Turner (chair) Cllr Simon Tarabella Cllr Archie Gemmell  
Cllr Rob Nurton  
County Cllr Penny Otton (part) District Cllr John Matthissen (part)  
Paula Gladwell – Clerk 4 members of public

- 2018/1684 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Sebastian Reeves
- 2018/1685 **Co option of vacancy** – It was resolved to co opt James Spencer and Dee Dixon to fill the councillor vacancies. Proposed by Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Nurton with all in favour. Cllrs Dixon and Spencer completed their Declaration of Office and were welcomed to the table.
- 2018/1686 **Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council’s Code of Conduct and requests for dispensations relating to Discloseable Pecuniary Interests** - None
- 2018/1687 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** - It was proposed by Cllr Nurton that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved, with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 10th December 2018 were signed as a true record.
- 2018/1688 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Cllr Matthissen gave his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.
- 2018/1689 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The SCC consultation on CAB cuts was noted.
- 2018/1690 **Public Participation** – Discussion took place regarding the planning application for Tinklers Meadow. Thanks were extended to members of the Action Group for their information on the proposed development.
- Item 9d brought forward
- 2018/1691 It was Resolved to submit the following comments to MSDC for application DC/18/05570 Outline Planning Application - Erection of 4 no. dwellings, garaging and pedestrian and vehicular access, Land south of, Finborough Road, Stowmarket. *“Great Finborough Parish Council OBJECT to this application as this site is a Special Landscape Area outside the development boundary and any plan to take it for development into residential use would be an unacceptable loss and contrary to Policies CS1 of the Mid Suffolk Core Strategy (2008). The site is not allocated for residential development in either the adopted or emerging Local Plans.*  
*In the District Councils call for sites Tinklers Meadow, identified as STOW 16, STOW17/ SS0062, in every submission was discounted by Mid Suffolk District Council due to its poor relationship to settlement, services and facilities confirming that it is not suitable for contribution to the 5-yr. housing supply.*  
*The previous application for 56 houses (DC/18/01217) on this site was withdrawn due to unresolved adverse impacts and all these concerns remain with the new application which changes nothing apart from scale.*  
*Any residential development in this Special Landscape Area will have a significant and damaging effect on the character, landscape and wildlife. This proposal would result in harm to the open countryside, failing to protect, preserve or enhance the character and appearance of this valued landscape and be Contrary to NPPF paragraph 170.*  
*NPPF paragraph 171 states allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value --- take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure. This proposal will destroy the diverse habitats along this linear river valley, which narrows to a ‘pinch point’ between the river, road (B1115) and farm buildings at the Tinklers Meadow. Any fragmentation will directly contravene NPPF by failing to protect this heritage landscape asset.*  
*Concerns are expressed at the proximity to a large-scale poultry farm on this site. Objections raised by the Environment Agency on the previous application ‘there is an unacceptable situation given the proximity of the proposed housing to a permitted and regulated large-scale poultry farm’ are equally relevant to this application.*  
*This proposal would directly contravene The Stowmarket Area Action Plan’s aim to safeguard the strategic gap between Stowmarket and Onehouse. Protection of the Rattlesden River valley must be looked at as a whole and not be allowed to fragment. It is felt that this development will cause considerable harm to the character and appearance of this Special Landscape Area and should be refused.”*
- 2018/1692 **Clerks Report** - It was noted that welcome packs would be send to both newly co opted councillors.  
The new mobile post office timetable and information had been received and details will be circulated.  
A new register of electors for 2019 has been received.

No 24 The Chestnuts, no decision on the application has been received to date. SCC Highways have objected on safety grounds so it is expected to be refused. MP Jo Churchill's request for a site visit has been declined at this time awaiting a decision on the planning application. A précis of the Playground Inspection has revealed one or two minor recommendations which will be addressed at the next monthly check.

- 2018/1693 **Planning** – It was Resolved to submit the following comments to MSDC for applications; DC/18/05208 Erection of 1no. dwelling and annex, Dutch Dressage, Finborough Road, Hitcham. *"Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTIONS to this application based on the information available"*
- 2018/1694 DC/18/05412 Continued use of land for the temporary siting of a mobile home to supervise the equestrian enterprise at Mill Hill Farm to extend planning permission 3808/15, Dutch Dressage, High Road. *"Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTIONS to this application based on the information available"*
- 2018/1695 DC/18/05541 Erection of 1 no. dwelling and access (resubmission of refused application DC/18/03112) Willowmere, Combs Lane *"Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTIONS to this application based on the information available"*
- 2018/1696 DC/18/00033 Erection of single storey rear extension and raised decking. Demolition of garage and erection of replacement detached double garage, The Leys, Borough Lane. *"Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTIONS to this application based on the information available"*
- 2018/1697 The following MSDC decisions were noted; Appeal Ref APP/W3520/W/18/3203705, Land to north of Combs Lane - GRANTED UNDER APPEAL.
- 2018/1698 **Finance** – The Finance report for January 2018 was approved.
- 2018/1699 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Turner, Sec Cllr Nurton with all in favour, Staff salaries for Dec 2018
- 2018/1700 HMRC Q3 payment
- 2018/1701 Wave Water £36.34
- 2018/1702 MSDC Play Inspection £58.45
- 2018/1703 MSDC Grass Cutting £787.20
- 2018/1704 It was Resolved to purchase two new VAS batteries at £38.99 each, Proposed Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2018/1705 There were no further amendments proposed to the budget. It was resolved to approve the budget for 2019/2020, Proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded Cllr Tarabella with all in favour.
- 2018/1706 It was noted that the precept requirement raised by the budget process of £12393 showed a slight increase over the previous year resulting in an additional £1.53 per Band D household for the year. It was resolved to set the precept for 2019/2020 at £12393 and the request forms were duly completed and signed. Proposed Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Nurton with all in favour.
- 2018/1707 **Correspondence** –There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2018/1708 **Footpaths** – Cllr Gemmell reported that most of the west side of the parish had been checked for missing or damaged marker posts and that he was working towards a total needed for the village network. No further matters were reported.
- 2018/1709 It was agreed that the Parish Council would be willing to take on the installation of missing way marker posts. As soon as it is known how many will be needed to replace all broken or missing ones Charlotte Ditchburn at RofW will be asked to provide the new posts and the relevant volunteer forms will be completed to cover the installations.
- 2018/1710 Footpath Map - It was agreed that a project to provide a Footpath Map for residents and visitors to the village should be pursued. Designs and costs would be sought with suggestions that someone be found to create the maps with short descriptions of a few circular walks together with map and pictures. Further discussion on the process would be taken at next meeting.
- 2018/1711 **Book Exchange** - It was agreed that further investigation into a project to provide a book exchange be undertaken. Site suggested is Church Road on the grass verge with some sort of structure that will protect the books from the elements and give a pleasant place to peruse what is on offer. Costings and designs sought for consideration at the next meeting together with possible funding streams.
- 2018/1712 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – It was noted that vandalism at the Allotments was of concern. Damage to netting and produce by a knife being drawn along the site boundaries has been reported and extra vigilance will be undertaken to prevent further problems.

Next meeting of the Parish Council - Monday 11th March 2019 at 7.30pm