

# GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th October 2019 in the Pettward Hall

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

- 2019/1871 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Norman Vendittelli, Cllr Dee Dixon
- 2019/1872 **Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct and requests for dispensations relating to Discloseable Pecuniary Interests** - None
- 2019/1873 **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 9th September 2019 were signed as a true record.
- 2019/1874 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Deferred
- 2019/1875 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Deferred
- 2019/1876 **Public Participation** – No questions
- Item 8a brought forward
- 2019/1877 **Planning** - It was Resolved to submit the following comments to MSDC for application DC/18/04491 Amended application for 28 dwellings, Land adjacent to Buxhall Lodge, Buxhall Road - *Comments attached as Appendix A*
- 2019/1878 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report which had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2019/1879 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Cllr Matthissen gave his report which had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2019/1880 **Clerks Report** - It was noted that MSDC had made an error with previously received invoices for bin emptying and an additional invoice will be issued. It was confirmed that the new SID had been delivered. Cllrs Vendittelli and Reeves will take responsibility for the installation and movement of this machine. It was agreed that contact be made with the housing developers Ruby Homes to ask that they remove the rubbish including insulation boards now collecting on the public areas around the Pear Tree Place site before damage is caused to watercourses. It was agreed that quotes be sought for grass cutting for 2020 season. Concerns have been expressed regarding vegetation from residential gardens overhanging pedestrian pavements. Residents will be asked via an article in the newsletter to ensure their trees and hedges do not obstruct the pavements.
- 2019/1881 **Planning** – It was Resolved to submit the following comments to MSDC for application DC/19/04460 Outline Planning Application (all matters reserved) Erection of 1 no. dwelling including access, Land to the west of High Road - *"Great Finborough Parish Council OBJECT to this application based on the following; This is not a sustainable development in terms of the Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008, the emerging Joint Babergh & Mid Suffolk Local Plan or the National Planning Policy Framework NPPF. It is understood that MSDC can now demonstrate a housing land supply exceeding 5 years and the applicants referral to the 2018 appeal at Woolpit is considered out of date. This site is outside the existing settlement boundary for Great Finborough and should be refused. The applicant refers to accessible amenities in its claims for sustainability however the village has no shop or PO, an intermittently open pub and a now a non existent bus service. Any residents at this site will have to use cars to access any sort of amenities which directly contravenes the NPPF Economic, Social and Environmental objectives of sustainable development. Concerns are also expressed at the restricted scale of the site, even with a small 2 - 3 bed dwelling the scope for parking and turning of vehicles to ensure safe egress onto the High Road would seem impossible. Great Finborough Parish Council are supportive of growth in the village and fully understand the reasons for encouraging it but this has to be sustainable and of good design and it is felt that this proposal does not meet these criteria."*
- 2019/1882 There were no MSDC decisions to note.
- 2019/1883 **Traffic Issues in Valley Lane and High Road** - Discussion took place regarding various concerns expressed to the Parish Council involving inconsiderate parking which is causing some safety concerns for other road users. Although some improvement has been noted further concerns have been expressed and therefore Suffolk Police have been asked to monitor parking on the blind bends on the High Road and take any enforcement action deemed necessary. Damage to properties by large vehicles entering and exiting Valley Lane was noted. It was agreed that parking adjacent to Pettward Hall may contribute to the difficulties for vehicles using Valley Lane. In the first instance, in an effort to mitigate these issues, an article in the Newsletter

- will highlight these concerns and ask drivers for their consideration of other road users when parking.
- 2019/1884 **Middlefield Drive Play Area** - It was agreed that improvement and or replacement of the play equipment would be necessary in the near future. Some deterioration of play items is now becoming apparent with the life expectancy of these now evident. It was suggested that a Working Group be established to take a project of replacement forward, this will be added to the next agenda. It was agreed that some consultation would be needed to gauge residents thoughts and needs together with funding and designs. Volunteers will be sought to join the Working Group.
- 2019/1885 **Finance** – The Finance report for October 2019 was approved.
- 2019/1886 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Tarabella, Sec Cllr Turner with all in favour, Staff salaries for September
- 2019/1887 HMRC Q2 payment
- 2019/1888 Gipping Press £175.12
- 2019/1889 Westcotec £3780.00
- 2019/1890 CAS insurance £246.40
- 2019/1891 Wave £20.57
- 2019/1891 Heelis & Lodge External Audit £143.00
- 2019/1892 MSDC bin emptying £86.40
- 2019/1893 Following HSBC's claim that an incorrect mandate had been submitted it was Resolved to complete the new one they have sent with all councillors present completing the signatory page. The clerk will submit once our HSBC business manager has confirmed that all is in order.
- 2019/1894 **Risk Assessment** - It was Resolved to approve the amendment to the Risk Assessment to cover movement of the SID machines. Prop Cllr Tarabella with AIF.
- 2019/1895 **Correspondence** –There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2019/1896 **Footpaths** – The Footpath Warden reported that a finger post is missing for the Valley Lane end of path 22, the clerk will report this.
- 2019/1897 It was noted that the Schedule of work to replace and improve signage had not yet been completed.
- 2019/1898 Footpath Map - Photos of paths were now needed to complete the leaflet together with a possible circular route recommendation. Funding streams would now be sought together with an update of the quote for printing.
- 2019/1899 **Loss of Bus Service** - In the absence of Cllr Dixon and with no report received this item was deferred.
- 2019/1900 **White Entrance Gates** - Deferred
- 2019/1901 **Consultations** - Following consideration it was Resolved to send the following comments to the consultation from Suffolk County Council for Proposals for new council division boundaries and numbers of councillors and as part of an Electoral Review. *"Great Finborough Parish Council support the current ward boundaries, it is hoped that the 10 councillors for the Mid Suffolk area of Suffolk will remain with no amendments made. Any reduction in numbers would result in an increase in pressure on our County Councillor's time, we rely on their attendance at our parish council meetings and appreciate their commitment to engage with us and through us to our residents so they can effectively represent us. Any reduction in their ability to attend our meetings and act on our concerns would be extremely detrimental. We would have serious objections to any boundary amendments that involved extending across district borders in order to reduce councillor numbers."*
- 2019/1902 Following consideration it was agreed that no comments be submitted at this time to the Suffolk Minerals & Waste Local Plan Modifications Consultation.
- 2019/1903 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – It was noted that the footpath along Woodpecker Hill had yet to be re barked. It was confirmed that bark may be available without the need to purchase and a work party would be arranged to lay it soon. It was agreed that the creation of a Village Work Group notice board as suggested by Cllr Dixon at a previous meeting should be progressed, this would have been ideal to seek volunteers to help lay the bark. It was confirmed that Debbie Lloyd had taken on the Neighbourhood Watch Co ordinator position and Councillors expressed their thanks to Debbie for volunteering to take this important role forward.
- 2019/1904 **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.
- 2019/1905 **Litter Picker** - It was Resolved to employ William Hines as our new Litter Picker with immediate effect. Proposed Cllr Tarabella with all in favour. Terms and conditions were agreed. Next meeting of the Parish Council - Monday 11th November 2019 at 7.30pm