

GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th September 2020 held remotely via Zoom platform

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

- 2020/2117 **Apologies for Absence** - None
- 2020/2118 It was noted that Dee Dixon had tendered her resignation from the Parish Council. Thanks were extended to Dee for her contribution to the village and its residents during her short time on the council.
- 2020/2119 **Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct and requests for dispensations relating to Discloseable Pecuniary Interests** - None.
- 2020/2120 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** - It was proposed by Cllr Turner that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meetings were approved, with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 13th July 2020 and 3rd August will be signed as a true record.
- 2020/2121 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Deferred
- 2020/2122 **District Cllr Matthissen** - Deferred
- 2020/2123 **Public Participation** – None
- 2020/2124 **Clerks Report** - The current vacancy on the council has been notified to Mid Suffolk District Council who have commenced the 14 day period for electors to seek an election. If no election is called the Parish Council will seek to co opt to fill the vacancy with a closing date for applications of 14th November 2020.
It was confirmed that the patch of grass adjacent to Pettward Hall is now being cut.
It was noted that at peak times the play area is very busy but social distancing is being observed in most cases. A review of the Risk Assessment will be carried out and numbers using the equipment will be monitored to ensure the maximum set is not exceeded.
It was agreed that further investigation of the Quiet Lanes Scheme be carried out with a view to establishing any benefit for Valley Lane.
It was noted that no quote for a chipper for use by the Woodpecker Hill volunteers had been received to date.
It was noted that both Cllr Otton and Cllr Matthissen have locality money still available.
A quote has been received to refurbish the notice board. It was agreed that a maximum of £400 be budgeted for the repairs and materials. The work will be actioned as per the quote. It was noted that should a new back board be required this would be an additional cost.
Website - New regulations require the website to be accessible for all users, including disabled people and we must be compliant by 24th September. One Suffolk have now confirmed that they are confident our website meets the latest standards.
- 2020/2125 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report which has been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2020/2126 **Planning** - It was RESOLVED to submit the following comments to MSDC for applications; DC/20/03556 & DC/20/03144 Erection of a single storey extension to dining hall (Retention of), Finborough School, The Hall, Finborough Park - "*Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available*"
- 2020/2127 DC/20/03393 & DC/20/03394 Erection of first floor rear extension and construction of internal staircase. Chestnut Cottage, High Road - "*Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available*"
- 2020/2128 DC/20/03929 Erection of home office outbuilding with studio, Old Police House, High Road - "*Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available*"
- 2020/2129 The following MSDC decisions were noted; DC/20/02130 Erection of single storey rear extension and storm porch. Chestnut Horse, High Road - GRANTED
DC/20/02726 Erection of 1 no. dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling) Hill Farm, Valley Lane - WITHDRAWN
- 2020/2130 **Finance** – The Finance report for September 2020 was approved.
- 2020/2131 The following payments were approved, Proposed Cllr Turner, with all in favour; Clerks salary July & August
- 2020/2132 Litter Pickers wages August
- 2020/2133 Gipping Press £175.12 & £45.60
- 2020/2134 Green Scene £154.32

- 2020/2135 Wickes ST £19.50
- 2020/2136 Following a review of the asset register and insurance cover it was agreed that a further quote be obtained from Came and Company. If this was not competitive it was resolved to accept the renewal quote from CAS and Royal Sun at £302.00 proposed by Cllr Tarabella with all in favour.
- 2020/2137 2020 -2021 National Salary awards have been agreed by the joint council for Local Government it was agreed that these be applied to the clerk salary in line with the Contract of Employment.
- 2020/2138 **To review Internal Controls** - Standing Orders and Financial Regulations together with all policies and procedures were reviewed with amendments made to Standing Orders. It was resolved to approve the reviewed and amended documents. Proposed Cllr Tarabella, sec Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2020/2139 The Risk Assessments were reviewed with amendments suggested to include Street Light inspections. It was resolved to approve the review and amendment of the Risk Assessment, proposed by Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2020/2140 **Effectiveness of Internal Control** – A review of the effectiveness of councils governing arrangements and systems of internal control was carried out. All controls in place were felt to be effective. Minor areas for development were identified, recorded and implemented.
- 2020/2141 **District Cllr Matthissen** - Cllr Matthissen gave his report which has been circulated and is attached to these minutes
- 2020/2141 **Footpaths** – Cllr Spencer - Discussions with the Golf Club have taken place regarding their concerns around waymarking. Cllr Spencer has arranged to meet them on site to discuss where if anywhere we may need to improve signage.
The new email is working well and the following issues have been reported;
The handrail on the footbridge FP23/FP31 is loose and stile is slippery. This will be reported to ROW. It was noted that the stile is on a permissive path.
FP45 at the Valley Lane end is very overgrown. Cllr Spencer will provide photos for a report to ROW
FP9 serious damage to both ends of the bridge, this will be reported again and Buxhall Clerk informed.
FP10 a fallen branch has damaged the fence line. It was noted that this will be a landowner responsibility. There is no obstruction to the footpath.
- 2020/2142 **Correspondence** – The letter from a resident expressing concerns regarding pedestrian safety in Church Road was considered. It was noted that a 10 mph limit was not a legitimate speed enforcement and is only used on private land. The suggestion of making a pathway along the grass was noted and this will be revisited if budgets allow in November. In the meantime Green Scene will be asked to evaluate this option.
- 2020/2143 There were no comments to other tabled correspondence.
- 2020/2144 **Wildflower Garden Information Board** - The quote from Osis Display was considered. To provide a metal A1 sign with designs and illustration together with delivery is £1744. Cllr Matthissen agreed to fund 50% from his locality budget and suggested that contact be made with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Cllr Otton for further help with funding. Further consideration was deferred to next meeting.
- 2020/2145 **To consider the replacement/upgrade of the Street Lights** - It was confirmed that this project would meet criteria for a Green Suffolk grant to their maximum of £2000. It was suggested that Chris Knock at MSDC be contacted to seek further funding together with investigation into the Virador scheme.
- 2020/2146 **Consultations** - It was agreed that no comments be submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council Updated 2020 draft five year housing land supply position statement consultation.
- 2020/2147 It was agreed that no comments be submitted to Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Council Statement of Licensing Policy (revision) consultation.
- 2020/2148 **White Entrance Gates** - Further consideration was deferred.
- 2020/2149 **Middlefield Drive Play Area Working Group** - Further consideration was deferred
- 2020/2150 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – It was noted that the Speed Indicator Device post that had been pushed over is now unstable in its base and not safe to move the SID to. SCC will be asked to re site the post.
Concerns were expressed regarding parking on the road by pub patrons whilst the car park is used for seating to comply with Covid distancing. Vehicles parked on the High Street and in Valley Lane are causing issues for residents and safety concerns for drivers. Cllr Matthissen will report this to the PCSO asking if they might visit for educational chats during the next event. The landlords will be asked to announce something at the next event asking if visitors will use the car park a few meters away rather than park unsafely on the road.

Next meeting of the Parish Council - Monday 12th October 2020 at 7.30pm