

# GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017** **in the Pettiward Hall**

Present: Cllr Peter Turner                      Cllr Simon Tarabella                      Cllr Robin Fisher  
            Cllr Martin Burns                      Cllr Rob Nurton

Paula Gladwell – Clerk

1 members of public

District Cllr Matthissen (part)

- 2017/1325 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Archie Gemmell, Cllr Sebastian Reeves, Cllr County Cllr Otton
- 2017/1326 **Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct and requests for dispensations relating to Discloseable Pecuniary Interests** - None
- 2017/1327 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** - It was proposed by Cllr Fisher that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved, with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were signed as a true record.
- 2017/1328 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Cllr Matthissen gave his report which is attached to these minutes.
- 2017/1329 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton's report had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2017/1330 **Public Participation** – It was suggested that the PC use the new local email network to engage with residents.
- 2017/1331 **Clerks Report** – It was confirmed that to add the Defib and VAS to insurance policy for all risks will be an additional premium of £38.51. The total premium to add all other assets on the register would total £486.86.
- It was noted that in previous years the Government has threatened to impose precept referendums on local councils who increase their precept demand over and above a certain %. Last year they restricted this to "larger "councils. This year they are saying "Last year, the Government issued a challenge to town and parish councils to demonstrate restraint when setting precepts" and that this year the continuation of their position into 2018/19 is reliant on Government receiving clear evidence that the sector is responding to this challenge.
- There is no mention in this years consultation that any decision to impose referendums will be restricted to a particular size of council so ALL COUNCILS are potentially affected by the outcome of the consultation. At the present time, in the lead up to the setting of the precept in Jan 2018, no precept referendum is in force however we await the Governments decision this time around.
- The Local Government Boundary Commission draft recommendations show that Onehouse Ward remains with one councillor and consists of the same parishes as currently but with Little Finborough and Combs added. This is exactly what the parish council proposed in their response and this has been acknowledged however any further comments on the recommendations are welcomed now.
- A Press release has been received regarding MSDC & Babergh Joint Cabinet Session to consider a Potential Merger. There will be Town and Parish Liaison meetings to cover these proposals which representatives from the PC would be advised to attend if possible.
- It was noted that the incorrect positioning of two of the VAS posts had been reported, one will be moved to the correct site and the other will be tested with the machine to check for any visibility issues before a decision is made on whether to remove it. It was confirmed that the VAS machine has arrived and once calibrated will be ready for installation. We are still awaiting a report on the suitability of PC owned lampposts and the Solar sign has been confirmed as irreparable by SCC.

Concerns have been expressed regarding the multiple diversions for road closures.

Anyone not knowing the area is easily diverted onto the Harleston diversion instead of just the Combs Lane one and with Rattlesden too it is very confusing, Cllr Otton will be asked if she can highlight the issues to the relevant officers.

The Defibrillator has been installed and once registered with the Ambulance Authority it can be commissioned for use. Training sessions will need to be arranged for the near future.

- 2017/1332 **Planning** – There were no applications to consider.
- 2017/1333 The following MSDC decisions were noted; DC/17/003788 Erection of a new porch, Thatched Cottage, High Road – GRANTED
- 2017/1334 **Finance** – The Finance report for October 2017 was approved
- 2017/1335 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Turner, seconded Cllr Fisher, with all in favour, Staff salaries for Sept 2017
- 2017/1336 Gipping Press £182.12
- 2017/1337 Radarlux VAS Machine PT £3149.58
- 2017/1338 Glasdon Dog Bin £103.82
- 2017/1339 Earthwood Tree £500.00
- 2017/1340 CAS insurance premium £38.51
- 2017/1341 It was Resolved to authorise the additional cost of £254.00 to complete the kerbing in Church Road, Proposed Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Fisher with all in favour.
- 2017/1342 It was Resolved to purchase one set of new swing chains at approx £40 to replace the worn ones. Proposed by Cllr Tarabella with all in favour. It was noted that this did not come up on the Annual Playground Report.
- 2017/1343 It was suggested that the two scratched panels in the phone box were replaced at an estimated cost of £100. It was agreed to defer a decision on this until all the signage for the defibrillator had been put up.
- 2017/1344 It was noted that the Speed Gun did not always work properly due to the old batteries no longer holding a proper charge. It has been difficult to source new ones for the old Radar machine. It was agreed to defer purchase of new batteries until they can be sourced and priced. Bildeston PC and the police will be contacted for advice.
- 2017/1345 **Annual Playground Report** – It was noted that the overall report concluded a “Low Risk” with no immediate actions recommended.
- 2017/1346 **Footpaths** – There were no issues reported.
- 2017/1347 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2017/1348 **To consider the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan Consultation** – Following discussion on the various recommendations within the draft consultation it was agreed that a further meeting be arranged before the deadline date to complete the questionnaire as per the discussions.
- 2017/1349 **Litter Pick** – The next community litter pick was confirmed for 26th November 2017, meet at 10am in Middlefield Drive Car Park.
- 2017/1350 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – None

Next meeting; Monday 13th November 2017 at 7.30pm