

GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th September 2022 in Pettward Hall

Present: Cllr Simon Tarabella (chair) Cllr Sebastian Reeves Cllr Lee Morgan
Cllr Peter Turner
Paula Gladwell – Clerk Cllr Penny Otton
2 member of public

- 2022/2729 **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Simon Waspe, Cllr James Spencer, Cllr John Matthissen
- 2022/2730 **Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct and requests for dispensations relating to Discloseable Pecuniary Interests** – None
- 2022/2731 **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 11th July 2022 and the 8th August 2022 were signed as a true record.
- 2022/2732 **Public Participation** – No questions
- 2022/2733 **County Councillor Otton's Report** – Cllr Otton gave her report a copy of which is attached to these minutes.
- 2022/2734 **District Councillor Matthissen's Report** – Cllr Matthissen's report had been circulated and a copy is attached to these minutes.
- 2022/2735 **Woodpecker Hill Group** – Consideration of the requests for equipment and tree works at Woodpecker Hill were deferred until the group volunteers could attend a meeting.
- 2022/2736 **Clerks Report** – It was noted that the new notice board had been delivered and would be installed soon. Thanks were extended to Cllr Otton for her donation of £600 and Councillor Matthissen has pledged at least £500.
It was noted that the free tree and hedge packs are available again for planting on any publicly accessible land.
It was confirmed that the Bomber Plaque unveiling took place on 24th September and Cllrs Turner and Tarabella attended to represent the Council.
It was confirmed that the work to the field maple in Valley Lane had been commissioned and an invoice will be raised for the resident contribution.
Graffiti on the play park equipment was noted. Thanks to Cllr Turner for removing it promptly. Discussion took place around the provision of more regular monitoring and cctv should this happen again.
It was noted that SCC had funding available for the install of electric charging points in villages. Consideration of this would be added to the next agenda.
- 2022/2737 **Planning** – It was RESOLVED to submit the following comments to applications; DC/22/04246 Use of land for stationing of 1 no. Holiday lodge, Land at Valley Lane – *"Great Finborough Parish Council OBJECT to this application. This site is outside of the settlement boundary and is defined as countryside. Concerns are expressed that the development of this site would be detrimental to the area. The contemporary box design of this holiday accommodation would be visually intrusive from community amenity areas into the landscape and not in keeping with the rural character of the area. This design would be contrary to RT19 of the existing Mid Suffolk Local Plan that seeks to prevent adverse effects of tourist accommodation on the surrounding environment, as a new build it does not respect the form, nature and setting of the adjacent area. The proposal does not demonstrate an identified need for holiday accommodation and the suggestion that a train to Stowmarket and then a bus to the village would be used to access the site is totally unrealistic. This and the need for frequent motor vehicle travel to local tourist attractions once holidaymakers are here is not a sustainable development in terms of the Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008, the emerging Joint Babergh & Mid Suffolk Local Plan or P8 of the National Planning Policy Framework NPPF."*
- 2022/2738 DC/22/04427 Change of use of paddock to equestrian use, construction of stable block and manege. Boarded Barn Farm, High Road. *"Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available"*
- 2022/2739 DC/22/04109 Erection of single storey rear extension. East House, High Road *"Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available"*
- 2022/2740 The following MSDC decisions were noted; DC/22/03225 Erection of building for new performing arts centre, Finborough School, The Hall, Finborough Park. GRANTED and DC/22/03124 Erection of porch extension (following removal of existing) raise part of rear roof to enlarge bedroom including alterations to fenestration. Poplar Cottage, High Road. GRANTED DC/22/03691 Erection of detached Cartlodge/store and extend driveway, Over the Hill, Valley Lane – GRANTED DC/22/03569 Erection of timber framed joinery workshop (Use Class E(g)(iii)) Oakdene, High Road – REFUSED

- 2022/2741 **Finance** – The Finance report for September 2022 was approved.
- 2022/2742 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Tarabella, sec Cllr Turner with all in favour, Staff salaries for Aug & Sept
- 2022/2743 Robinson Arnold £141.48 & £404.04
- 2022/2744 Greenbarnes £2766.42
- 2022/2745 Gipping Press £213.00
- 2022/2746 Wave Water £15.42
- 2022/2747 Following a review of the asset register and the insurance renewal it was Resolved to approve the renewal under the Long Term Agreement with Came and Company at £619.98. Proposed Cllr Tarabella, sec Cllr Turner with all in favour. A quote to add the Wildflower Board and the notice board to all risks on the policy would be requested.
- 2022/2748 **To review Internal Controls** – The Internal Control Statement, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations together with all policies and procedures were reviewed with no amendments suggested. It was resolved to approve the reviewed documents. Proposed Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Tarabella with all in favour. It was suggested that the Council have a Grants Policy to support future consideration of grant funding. The clerk will draft one for approval at the next meeting.
- 2022/2749 The Risk Assessments were reviewed with no amendments proposed. It was resolved to approve the review of the Risk Assessment, proposed Cllr Tarabella with all in favour.
- 2022/2750 **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 and no areas for development were identified.
- 2022/2751 **Village maintenance** – It was agreed that the replacement posts for Church Road Village Green be ordered at a cost of £114.90.
- 2022/2752 Tree Survey & Tree and Hedge Management plan – Following consideration of the Tree Survey received from Robinson Arnold it was agreed that a Working Group be set up to create a 5 year forward plan for tree and hedge maintenance with a view to providing a financial plan for submission to the Budget process. Terms of Reference would be drafted and members would include Councillors Tarabella, Morgan and Turner.
- 2022/2753 It was noted that felling of the Ash Tree in Church Road had also been highlighted by the Tree Survey and a further quote for this work was awaited.
- 2022/2754 Car park signage – It was noted that no reply had been received from SCC to the request for permission to site the signs. Cllr Otton agreed to chase this up.
- 2022/2755 **Footpaths** – No report received from Cllr Spencer. It was noted that the bridge on FP22 had finally been replaced. A way marker missing on FP2 would be reported.
- 2022/2711 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2022/2713 **Local Needs Housing** – The LNH Working Group reported that meetings with both Orwell Housing and Hastoe Homes went very well. MSDC Planning officers had returned their comments on the site appraisals however confirmation of a site meeting with planners was still awaited. The working group recommendation was to go with Orwell Housing as Isobel Wright was known to be leaving Hastoe and there were concerns around the continuity of working with them. Orwell Housing are very local and councillors are urged to go and look at some of their housing developments in the area. It was RESOLVED to engage Orwell Housing to work with the Parish Council on taking forward a project. Proposed Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Tarabella with all in favour. Gregg Dodd will be asked to arrange a site visit with MSDC Planners and Housing as soon as possible.
- 2022/2756 **Street Lights** – The SL Working Group reported concerns that any grant application to the SCC match funding was being made extremely difficult. It was noted that in order to be successful we would have to prove that 50% of the funding had come directly from community fundraising specifically for the street lighting project. It was agreed that this was not achievable therefore other funding streams need to be investigated. Following consideration of the other quotes it was RESOLVED to go with the Suffolk County Council option at £21,150.00. Proposed Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Tarabella with all in favour. It was noted that a new application to Green Suffolk would be needed to update their offer of £2000 and that the parish councils ring fenced funds so far included the play park savings of £6173 plus Platinum Jubilee fund raising of £437 this means at least £12K further funding is required. It was confirmed that CIL monies could be used for this project. Cllrs Otton and Matthissen would be asked for grant help for this project.
- 2022/2757 **Village Entrance Gates** – There has still been no reply from SCC Highways to the license application for the white gates. Cllr Otton agreed to chase this up for us. Further consideration deferred.
- 2022/2758 **Litter Picker** – Thanks were extended to Rufus for his great contribution to the village and the Parish Council expressed with sadness that he is leaving the post and best wishes for his future education. The vacancy for Litter Picker will be advertised in the newsletter and on the notice board and website.

- 2022/2759 **Co Option of Vacancy** - It was RESOLVED to co opt Isabelle Campbell to fill the vacancy. Proposed by Cllr Tarabella, seconded by Cllr Turner with all in favour. Isabelle will complete a Declaration of Office and Register of Interests and be welcomed to the table at the next meeting.
- 2022/2760 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – Suggestions were raised regarding the provision of a Rose Garden for the Queen opposite the Herb Garden. It was noted that the cotoneaster would need to be removed and some English Roses planted in an area approx 4m x 2m not in a raised bed and with a plaque of some sort in commemoration. The Garden Club have kindly offered to purchase the roses. Consideration of this project would be added to the next agenda.

Next meeting will be held in Petteward Hall on Monday 10th October 2022 at 7.30pm