

# GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14 November 2016 in the Pettiward Hall**

Present: Cllr. Peter Turner Cllr Sebastian Reeves  
Cllr Archie Gemmell Cllr Rob Nurton  
Cllr. Robin Fisher Cllr Simon Tarabella  
Cllr Martin Burns  
Paula Gladwell – Clerk District Cllr Matthissen (part)  
4 members of public County Cllr Otton (part)

2016/1071 **Apologies for Absence** - None

2016/1072 **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Turner declared a pecuniary interest for Item 6b (minute no. 2016/1079) No requests for dispensation.

2016/1073 **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 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016 were signed as a true record.

Adjournment for:

**County Cllr Penny Otton Report** – Cllr Otton gave her report which will be attached to these minutes.

**Public Participation** – It was suggested that a speed limit be sought for Valley Lane. Council confirmed that this had been looked into previously however the response from SCC highways had not been positive and it was felt that some residents of the lane would not be supportive.

Concern was expressed that there is inadequate signage for Willow Close, Council agreed to ask SCC to assess the junction of Willow Close and Middlefield Drive and provide an additional road sign if possible.

Prior warning was given of a further planning application submission by Finborough Hall School, probably in March 2017 with confirmation that details would be notified to the parish council in due course.

Concerns were expressed regarding the lack of enforcement of the 20's plenty outside the school. It was confirmed that in order to have any hope of having this speed limit authorised for enforcement substantial evidence gathering would be needed of excessive speeds and lack of safety issues.

Concerns were expressed regarding inconsiderate parking at school drop of and pick up.

Meeting resumed:

Item 7 brought forward.

2016/1074 **Car parking issues in Oak Close and the Middlefield Drive car park** – Cllr Otton suggested that a revisit of the travel plan, complied when the school expansion planning application was submitted, was necessary as pupil numbers have increased and the promised follow ups have not been done. Concerns have been expressed regarding impossible access for emergency vehicles when vehicles are parked on both pavements in Oak Close as well as vehicles blocking driveways. The safety of the children is causing concern, some are riding scooters in the car park, other running out into the road between parked cars. Several near misses are reported.

It was agreed that a meeting be called inviting representation from the school by the governors and the head, the police, SCC Highways, Parish and County Cllrs. In order that these issues can be properly addressed and a solution sought.

2016/1075 **Clerks Report** – Concerns have been expressed that events are being planned and held at Finborough Hall School and no planning permission has yet been granted. It was noted that the case officer at MSDC has confirmed no permission has been granted at this time as the drafted S106 has yet to be agreed.

2016/1076 Transparency funding has now been received from SALC for software and 2016/17 website admin.

- 2016/1077 Clearing and construction of the Herb Garden is well under way and thanks go to all those helping to put this project together.
- 2016/1078 **Planning** – It was resolved to submit the following comments to MSDC Planning for applications 4034/16 Proposed detached cart lodge & first floor ancillary accommodation above, Broadlands, Borough Lane – *"Great Finborough Parish Council OBJECT to this application as it is felt that the proposed cart lodge with ancillary accommodation above will create a large and excessively imposing addition to this bungalow plot. The erection of garaging of this size and height, forward of the building line of the property will materially reduce the residential amenity of the adjacent properties and be contrary to H16 of the MSLP. "The Boundary" in particular will be affected, reducing their light and materially altering the front aspect of their property. The proposal to site the cart lodge forward of the property and tight against the front boundary will have a detrimental effect to the current open and rural character of the entire lane."*
- Cllr Turner left the room
- 2016/1079 4129/16 Erection of a two storey extension to residential care home with car park and garden of care home extended to suit, Finborough Court, Pilgrims Way *"Great Finborough Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application in principle as an extension to the valuable care facility at Finborough Court however would like to express some concerns regarding current issues for neighbours and how these might be exacerbated by the proposal. Concerns have been expressed by neighbouring residents that the current car parking facilities are inadequate, staff and visitors have to use the surrounding residential roads to park and it is thought that the addition of 12 more bedrooms will in all practicality create a need for far more than the proposed additional 9 spaces resulting in more offsite parking which can cause inconvenience for those people living close by. Council ask that the provision of more car parking spaces is considered. The current noise level from the existing car parking area created by shift changeovers and early morning (before 5.30am) lorry deliveries is disturbing to nearby residents, concern is expressed that this will intensify with additional staff and higher numbers of residents. The parish council ask that some thought be given to screening the car park with landscaping to minimise the noise created as much as possible. The Parish Council also ask that the provision for foul sewage is carefully considered. The history of this site shows numerous issues with the inadequacy of the sewage system to cope with the existing demand, this expansion will intensify this causing renewed risk that raw sewage will again be overflowing on the surface of surrounding areas."*
- Cllr Turner returned.
- 2016/1080 The following Suffolk County Council decision was noted; SCC\192\16 Installation of a concrete pad adjacent to the school rear yard to provide parking for the school mini bus. Installation of an all weather artificial grass surface to replace natural grass adjacent to this concrete pad. Conversion of redundant vegetable garden to a quiet seating area in include installation of artificial grass and new paving and planting – GRANTED
- 2016/1081 There were no MSDC decisions to note.
- 2016/1082 **Website Hosting** – It was resolved to continue with the Onesuffolk website and approve the £50 per annum charge now levied by Community Action Suffolk. Proposed Cllr Burns with all in favour.
- 2016/1083 **Finance** – The Finance report for November was approved.
- 2016/1084 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Turner, with all in favour, Staff salaries for Sept & Oct 2016
- 2016/1085 HMRC Q2 Payment
- 2016/1086 Rewts £180.00
- 2016/1087 Swing Seats £132.80
- 2016/1088 Gipping Press £159.85 and £193.85
- 2016/1089 Anglian water £17.19

- 2016/1090 Clarkes Fencing £190.65
- 2016/1091 Hitcham PC Speedwatch sign £92.68
- 2016/1092 A report from the Budget Working Group was noted, an additional item will be added for the website and further consideration of the budget for 2017/18 will be taken once the tax base is confirmed.
- 2016/1093 **Annual Playground Report** – The Action Plan drafted from the annual report was noted, it was agreed that all recommendations had now been dealt with and monitoring will continue.
- Adjournment for:
- District Cllr John Matthissen's Report** – Cllr Matthissen report had been circulated and will be attached to these minutes.
- Meeting resumed
- 2016/1094 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2016/1095 **Footpath Report** – Nothing to report
- 2016/1096 **Consultations - Proposed BT public payphone removals**  
It was agreed that no objections would be lodged to the removal of the phone box in Great Finborough as it had not been used at all in recent times. It was agreed that a request be put in to adopt the kiosk if it could be used for a defibrillator.
- 2016/1097 **Government 2018 Boundary Review: Eastern Region Initial Proposals** – It was resolved to submit the following comments:  
*"Great Finborough Parish Council is aware that within the 2018 Boundary Review: Initial Proposals for England the village would be transferred to the constituency of South Suffolk. Currently, it comes under Bury St Edmunds.  
The proposals, if given effect, would mean that Great Finborough has a key change in representation. South Suffolk mainly encompasses towns and villages which have little in common with Great Finborough. Our present constituency includes Mid Suffolk District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Both are the geographical and logical focus for the residents of Great Finborough - especially in terms of service delivery. It is felt that the proposed change would have a negative impact on the village and its surrounding area.  
Representation would rest with an MP whose principal interests, rightly so, would be with the majority of residents in the south of the county who have markedly different interests from those people living and working in the north of the county where Great Finborough is located. This loss of influence would be detrimental to the needs of residents who look to the neighbouring towns of Bury St Edmunds and especially Stowmarket which adjoins the boundary of the village for services and facilities, including the delivery of transport, health services and education.  
It is felt that the proposal to move great Finborough and its close rural village neighbours would leave the village isolated from its obvious and 'natural' town neighbour, Stowmarket and its current relationship to the A14 and adversely affect its ability to have any sort of meaningful say through its MP."*
- 2016/1098 **Suffolk County Council Highways Maintenance Operational Plan** – It was agreed that no response be given
- 2016/1099 **Consultation Questionnaire for electronic newsletter** – The questionnaire will now be delivered by post and thanks go to Finborough Hall School for funding this, analysis of the results was deferred to next meeting.
- 2016/1100 **Valley Lane Facilities** – It was resolved to purchase an additional picnic table for positioning at the wildflower meadow. Estimated cost £400 Proposed Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2016/1101 It was resolved to engage MSDC to weed spray the football pitch area within their contract to give an initial 2 treatments at a cost of £100. Proposed Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2016/1102 Car park fencing – Three quotes have been received for a post and 3 rail fence with field gate and pedestrian gaps ranging from £1120 – £1555. It was resolved to appoint

Phil Chapman to provide and erect the fencing at a quoted cost of £1120 Proposed by Cllr Turner with all in favour.

- 2015/1103 **Public Access Defibrillator** – It was agreed that provision of a public access defibrillator should be pursued. It was suggested that the decommissioning of the public phone box in Oak Close may provide a location in the centre of the village. BT will be asked if this is a possibility. Alternative locations that can provide a power source could possibly be Pettiward Hall or the primary school. Estimated costs for a defibrillator and heated cabinet are £2000 with ongoing costs for electricity and consumables. It was agreed that help for funding the project would be sought from local businesses and public groups initially with request sent once a location could be found.
- 2016/1104 **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.
- 2016/1105 **Review of Staff Contracts** -It was resolved to amend the clerks salary to scale point 24 with immediate effect. Proposed Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2016/1106 It was resolved to increase the Litter Pickers hourly rate. Proposed Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2016/1107 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – None  
Next meeting; Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm