

# GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015** **in the Pettiward Hall**

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

2015/822 **Apologies for Absence** - None

2015/823 **Declarations of Interest** – None

2015/824 **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 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 and 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were signed as a true record.

Adjournment for:

**County Councillor Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton's gave her report which has been circulated.

**District Councillor John Matthissen** – Cllr Matthissen gave his report and confirmed that the Devolution bid is now being prepared across the two counties and has a heavy economic focus which is concerning as the area already has the Norfolk Suffolk Enterprise Liaison Group. MSDC are still sitting on a considerable pot of money but seem to have no ideas or will to deliver anything. Cllr Matthissen suggested that an application to his £5000 locality budget and to Cllr Otton's County Locality could raise 50% of the estimated cost of the play area surface repairs.

**Public Participation** – Concerns regarding speeding on High Road were again expressed. Various options to address this were discussed including the possibility of getting back onto the rota for Speedwatch and asking the police to carry out more speed checks. It was suggested that some information and data gathering may further the cause of any future speed reduction project. An expression of interest in the councillor vacancy was warmly welcomed and co option of the position will be added to the next agenda.

Meeting resumed:

2015/825 **Clerks Report** – It was noted that the annual Community Achievement awards were open for nominations with a 31<sup>st</sup> December deadline.

2015/826 Concerns were expressed regarding the recent issues with the council bank accounts. It was agreed that Councillors would visit Stowmarket branch HSBC in order to open a new account if necessary. The outcome of the formal complaint to the HSBC was awaited. All creditors would be contacted with an explanation of the delay in the payment of invoices.

2015/827 **Planning** – It was resolved to submit the following response to application no. 3808/15 Change of use of land for the siting of a mobile home to supervise the equestrian enterprise at Mill Hill Farm, High Road "Great Finborough parish Council have NO *OBJECTION to this application based on the information available however do ask that if possible Hitcham Parish Council be consulted as this property is very close to the border between the two villages.*"

2015/828 The following MSDC decisions were noted; 2735/15 Erection of side conservatory extension, 4 Pettiward Close – GRANTED,  
3566/15 Erection of two storey extension to side extension; Insertion of roof lights to existing front and rear elevation; Re rendering of existing walls. 3 Boundary Cottages, Buxhall Road – GRANTED

2015/829 **Finance** – The clerk's financial report for November 2015 was approved.

2015/830 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Turner with all in favour, Staff salaries for September & October,

- 2015/831 HMRC Q2
- 2015/832 Gipping Press £159.85
- 2015/833 Rewts £349.00 & £228.00
- 2015/834 Heelis & Lodge Internal Audit £108.00
- 2015/835 The Budget Working Group recommended that council consider the draft budget for 2016/17 which at this point in time would result in a need for an approx 11% rise in the precept. The actual tax base for 2016/17 was yet to be received and it was noted that review of the budget was possible up until the precept request deadline in January 2016.
- 2015/836 Cllr Tarabella declared a non pecuniary interest in Item 7d (Min nos. 2015/837 and 2015/838)
- 2015/837 It was agreed that the donation of £500 made to the Great Finborough PCC last year could be diverted from the fund to repair to the boundary wall towards the costs for tree maintenance.
- 2015/838 It was resolved to award a further donation of £200 to the Great Finborough PCC to also be used towards the tree maintenance costs. Proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Nurton with majority in favour.
- 2015/839 It was resolved to award donations of £200 to East Anglian Ambulance and £200 to Mid Suffolk CAB, proposed Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Nurton with all in favour.
- 2015/840 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2015/841 **Village Maintenance** – Various quotes had been received for the repairs to surfacing beneath the play equipment ranging from £4600 - £6500 covering individual items through to complete resurfacing for all play items. It was agreed that the quote from Soft Surfacing for a full replacement of most areas represented best value and it was suggested that a revised quote be sought from them to include the see saw area together with provision of a mixed colour surface before further consideration of a work order at the next meeting.
- 2015/842 It was resolved to approve the invoice from Chapple Signs for three new car park signs with anti graffiti film at £464.81 Proposed Cllr Turner with all in favour.
- 2015/843 The tree survey for 2015 was considered which gave recommendations for work to tree Nos. 12 and 18. Consideration was also given to the request from a resident to carry out some remedial work to Tree No 12. It was agreed to seek quotes for the work recommended by Rewts for consideration of a work order at the next meeting.
- 2015/844 There were no further matters reported.
- 2015/845 **Asset of Community Value** – It was agreed to submit an application to have the Post Office Stores listed as an Asset of Community Value. Cllr Turner will explain the process to the proprietors prior to the submission.
- 2015/846 **Additional Operational Policies** – Consideration of additional policies was deferred to the next meeting. It was suggested that a review of risk associated with the Litter Pickers duties and the clerk's work place should be carried out.
- 2015/847 **Village Event** – Several people have expressed a willingness to contribute to an initial start up group, Cllr Gemmell will arrange a first meeting to take this project forward.
- 2015/848 **Production of an Emergency Plan** – Deferred.
- 2015/849 **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.
- 2014/850 **Review of Staff Contracts** -It was resolved to amend the clerks salary to scale point 23 with immediate effect. Proposed Cllr Burns, seconded Cllr Tarabella with all in favour.
- 2014/851 It was agreed that the Litter Pickers hourly rate will remain the same.
- 2015/852 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – None

Next meeting Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 7.30pm