

MINUTES OF THE FINNINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE ON TUESDAY 16TH JUNE AT 7PM

PRESENT: Councillors W Bedford (Vice Chairman), R Castle, J Clarke, C Creighton, J Hill, R Johnson and J Kong

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ward Councillors Steve and Jane Cox
One member of the public

In the meeting notice (posted on noticeboards), the Parish Council website (www.finningley.org) and its Social Media page (Finningley Parish Council Facebook site), members of the public were invited to raise questions or concerns in person at the remote meeting (by request) or by email to the clerk via the Parish Council website.

1. TO RECEIVE/ACCEPT APOLOGIES – All members present

2. DECLARATIONS OF OTHER INTERESTS AND ANY UPDATES TO EXISTING MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor R Castle declared an interest in Item 12
Councillor J Clarke declared an interest in Item 10
Councillor R Johnson declared an interest in Item 9

3. POLICING ISSUES

Ward Councillors Weekly Reports – Circulated to members

The clerk reported that she was awaiting confirmation that the Ward Councillors Weekly Reports can be posted on the Parish Council Social Media site.

Concern was raised regarding the increased use of the Playing Field as a meeting point for youths many of which are from outside the village and do not respect the facility.

This has resulted in an increase in anti-social behaviour and has been reported to the local PCSO Kathryn Martin.

A guide to reporting anti-social behaviour has been posted onto the Finningley Parish Council website.

Councillor R Johnson agreed to raise the concerns at the forthcoming Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) Meeting which is being held remotely on 24/06.

4. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLORS/DMBC REPRESENTATIVES

Ward Councillor Steve Cox advised that he had spoken to Peel regarding the influx of plane spotters in the village due to the current viewing access restrictions and the possibility of moving the lego bricks as a temporary measure to alleviate the problem.

Councillor Cox also advised that DMBC are looking at supplying hand gel dispensers for public places such as village halls and community buildings and it was agreed that Councillor Cox would look at providing Ward Councillor funding for a dispenser at the pavilion and at the village hall. Councillor Cox to also contact the vicar re providing a dispenser for the church.

Councillor Cox reported that DMBC grass cutting had restarted 08/06 and green bin collections will be starting again on 23/06.

It was noted that the gypsy and traveller community horse drive had passed through the village 14/06 without incident.

5. TO DISCUSS ANY ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC VIA THE COUNCILS WEBSITE OR BY PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT THE MEETING

One member of the public joined the remote meeting but did not wish to raise any issues.

Issues raised via the Parish Council website (circulated to members)

The Chairman reported that a resident had raised concern regarding the height of trees at the back of Gatesbrige Park which are currently over 17m high.

It was noted that this matter had previously been raised by the resident in January 2019 and that the Parish Council had met with Jonathan Tesh – DMBC Trees and Hedgerows Officer on site who had provided the following response which was passed onto the resident:-

"DMBC has adopted a policy not to fell or excessively prune trees for merely exhibiting natural events; therefore no action will be taken by DMBC. The resident could however call DMBC on 736000 if he wanted to discuss the matter further".

It was agreed that although the Parish Council sympathise with the resident they need to follow the advice given in February 2019 and contact DMBC in the first instance but if they are not satisfied with the response from DMBC the Parish Council will look into further; Chairman to speak to the resident.

6. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 19.05.20

RESOLVED the minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Vice Chairman.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM ABOVE MEETING FOR INFORMATION/NOTING - None

8. VILLAGE ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

Update on progress with 106 Officer Decision Request (ODR) – any change since last meeting

Councillor R Johnson advised that he was very unhappy with DMBC combining the Section 106 grants for both the Playing Field and Village Enhancement Projects and outlined his reasons for this:-

The Playing Field S106 is overseen by both Finningley and Blaxton Parish Councils and requires scrutiny from both Councils and these proposals are very well researched, quite mature in scope and detail, ready to go and now outstanding on delivery. The Playing Fields project has been developed by members of Finningley and Blaxton Playing Fields Association and will be administered through Finningley Parish Council with oversight from Blaxton Parish Council over the next 3 years.

The Village Enhancement S106 is still in development by Finningley Parish Council with several options still to be resolved. This project is to be managed by FPC via a project manager (INK Architecture), and will be delivered in this Financial year.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council require two separate Section 106 agreements, one for the Playing Field and one for the Village Enhancement Project and that the grants are **not** combined.

Project update

Councillor W Bedford reported that due to his expertise Councillor J Clarke had been asked to review the three village enhancement project plans and specifications (seating on the Blenheim Drive open space, seating on the Chapel Lane/Wroot Road open space and an upgrade to the walkway & seating around the pond) to ensure the best possible outcome.

Councillor Clarke to speak to John Mason – Ink Architecture with regards to potential improvements (surfacing at the pond/seating areas and benches) and circulate revised specifications to all members.

Additional projects update

Councillor Bedford advised that he was awaiting quotes for the possible additional projects including enhancements to the side of the village hall and remedial footpath work (Darkey Lane & Lindley Road to the railway).

RESOLVED to liaise with John Mason – Ink Architecture with regards to the additional projects.

It was also noted that a piece of land opposite Rectory Lane is very overgrown and the Parish Council would like to restore this as part of the Village Enhancement Project.

RESOLVED to contact the landowner with regards to potentially purchasing the land.

CLLRS W BEDFORD & R JOHNSON

9. ISSUES RELATING TO JOINT PLAYING FIELD

Update on progress with 106 Officer Decision Request (ODR) – any change since last meeting

Councillor R Johnson advised that the Joint Playing Field Project has now been ongoing for two years due to DMBC delays which had resulted in the quotes previously received going out of date; he hoped to receive the new quotes by the end of the week.

It was noted that separating the two projects would be a major benefit and it was agreed that Councillor Johnson will liaise with Donna Flicker – DMBC regarding the Joint Playing Field project and that Councillor W Bedford will liaise with Donna Flicker – DMBC regarding the Village Enhancement Projects.

Lockdown Report

Councillor Johnson gave an update on the tennis courts which are due to be reopened on 4th July in line with the easing of Government lockdown rules.

It was also noted that Finningley Harriers are now back training on the Playing Fields at the weekends whilst observing social distancing measures.

Councillor Johnson also advised that the Playing Field Association had been successful in securing a £10,000 Covid 19 Support – Small Business and Retail, hospitality and leisure Grant from DMBC for the Pavilion.

10. ISSUES RELATING TO VILLAGE HALL

Village Hall Management Committee Report

Councillor W Bedford advised that no further Committee meetings have been held.

It was noted that the clerk with assistance from Councillor R Johnson and in consultation with Hilda Levine and Elaine McNulty had also been successful in securing a £10,000 Covid 19 Support Grant for the Village Hall who have suffered a significant loss of income due to the pandemic.

Councillor Johnson stressed that in handing over the grant the Parish Council need to be mindful of its designated use which is to meet the ongoing expenses that would normally have been covered by their income and the Parish Council discussed this at length.

RESOLVED to transfer the grant to the Village Hall Committee subject to receiving regular updates and accounts from the Committee.

11. POND ISSUES

The Chairman expressed concern that there may be a leak at the pond and advised that he wants to agree a resolution for topping up the water levels.

RESOLVED to circulate a proposal with costings to all members for consideration which will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

12. ALLOTMENTS PROVISION

Progress Update

The Chairman reported that the fencing has now been completed with the hedging still to be done.

Water provision to site

The Chairman advised that the water connection has been delayed and Anglian Water is now due to complete their work on 25/06.

The Chairman advised that further correspondence had been received from the Allotment Society and the questions raised were discussed:-

1) Is the project subject to a trial period?

There is no trial period but occupation of the land is subject to compliance with the Land Management Plan, if the plan is not adhered to then Peel could revoke the agreement.

2) Is the PC still putting funds to one side from the Parish Precept?

The Parish Council will consider whether to make provision for next year when they set the budget, this is usually done at the December meeting.

3) Are there any funds left in the pot?

No, all the funding has been spent/allocated in order to establish the allotments.

Councillor R Johnson stressed that he was unhappy that neither the Chairman nor himself had been invited to attend the recent remote Allotment Society meeting.

RESOLVED to request that Councillor R Castle (as Chairman of the Parish Council) is invited to attend any meetings.

Councillor J Clarke raised a query regarding the Allotment Society Accounts and Councillor R Johnson provided a comprehensive summary of the following bodies: - Allotment Society, Pavilion/Playing Fields and Village Hall.

13. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Pre-Approved BIB transactions

£ 50.00	PFA – Roy Hattersley Donation	BIB.546
£ 182.40	Metro Locksmiths Ltd (Allotments)	BIB.547
£ 445.94	Clerks Salary / Quarterly Office Allowance	BIB.548
£ 84.00	HMRC (PAYE)	BIB.549

Payments for approval

£ 155.00	Gillies Landscapes (shrubs & beds maintenance)	BIB.550
£ 2956.80	Bentley Fencing (Allotments)	BIB.551
£ 62.16	Mr R Castle (Allotment Valve Reimbursement)	BIB.552
£ 131.85	Npower (Pond Electricity)	BIB.553

Members approved payments.

14. PLANNING ISSUES

a) Planning Applications Received: None Received

The Chairman noted a planning application for a campsite at the Yorkshire Wildlife Park but the Parish Council has not been formally consulted.

b) Planning Consent Compliance – Land off Wroot Road Update

The Chairman advised that he had tried to speak to the tenant about the planning conditions and the need for compliance with the DMBC Decision Notice but as the tenant was unfortunately unwilling to discuss it, this had now been referred to DMBC.

Councillor J Clarke gave an update on the Aggregates R Us proposals and it was agreed that Councillor Clarke would send out a summary to members.

15. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Update on Definitive Map Order Application – No further update

Lego Bricks - Refer to Item 4

The Parish Council spoke briefly about new gates that have been installed on Rectory Lane and it was agreed that this would be referred to Malcolm Thomas (DMBC Conservation Officer). **CLERK**

16. COMMUNICATION

Parish Council Website

It was noted that the Parish Council website needs updating to reflect all the Parish Council members responsibilities.

RESOLVED to defer until after the Annual Meeting of the Council where Councillors are appointed to various Committees and then update accordingly.

Social Media

Current posting clarification

It was agreed that the meeting agenda, approved minutes, newsletter and any other Parish Council information that may be useful to residents (once approved) can be posted on to the Parish Council Social Media site.

Agree process to approve postings

RESOLVED that if members want any information to be posted on the Parish Council Social Media site this must be agreed by the **Chairman, Councillor J Kong and the clerk.**

17. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from resident regarding Christmas tree lights

Councillor W Bedford spoke about correspondence received from a resident expressing concern that the Christmas tree lights are still on the tree.

Councillor Bedford explained that when the volunteers put up the lights last year it was a struggle to reach the top of the tree so a decision was made to leave the top lights on the tree and just take the lower lights off to prevent damage and vandalism.

RESOLVED to test the lights in the first instance and re-evaluate the options after Christmas.

CLLRS W BEDFORD, J CLARKE & J HILL

18. TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 21st July 2020 at 7pm via videoconferencing subject to any change to lockdown guidance/rules.