

MINUTES OF THE FINNINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE ON TUESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER AT 7PM

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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 – Councillors J Clarke and J Kong

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

Councillor R Castle declared an interest in Item 12

Councillor R Johnson declared an interest in Item 9

Councillor W Bedford declared an interest in Item 10

3. POLICING ISSUES

Doncaster Central and South Neighbourhood Newsletter circulated to members; speeding and nuisance vehicles were noted.

4. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLORS/DMBC REPRESENTATIVES

It was noted that Ward Councillor Steve Cox was still awaiting a response from Peel regarding the issues raised previously i.e. 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.

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

No issues raised via the Parish Council website and no members of the public requested an invitation to the remote meeting.

6. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 21.07.20
RESOLVED the minutes be approved as a true record.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM ABOVE MEETING FOR INFORMATION/NOTING – No issues raised

8. VILLAGE ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

Update on progress with 106 Officer Decision Request (ODR) – No further update

Existing projects

Councillor W Bedford reported on the meeting with Ink Architecture to discuss the increased specifications and costs (Councillors W Bedford, J Clarke and Councillor R Johnson in attendance).

Pond

The main increase in the pond proposal includes piling around the pond through to the clay layer and backfilling for the path and benches which will significantly increase the pond project costs.

Blenheim Drive and Chapel Lane/Wroot Road open space

Councillor Bedford proposed that due to the increase in the pond project costs the Parish Council should consider reverting back to the original specification and costings for the seating and pathway to ensure that some S106 funding is left to use on improvements to the Village Hall gardens.

The Parish Council discussed the costings at length and it was agreed that as Councillor J Clarke was not present at the meeting no decision would be made.

It was also noted that members could consider the Parish Council funding any deficit for the Village Hall gardens improvements.

RESOLVED to delegate responsibility to Councillors W Bedford, J Clarke and R Johnson to agree the specifications for the Pond, Blenheim Drive and Chapel Lane/Wroot Road open space projects. It was also agreed to include improvements to the Village Hall gardens on the October agenda for further discussion.

The clerk read out correspondence received from Gillies Landscapes requesting permission to lower the height of the holly hedge by 2 metres (free of charge) and this was unanimously agreed. It was also agreed that to request a quote from Gillies Landscapes to reduce the width of the holly hedge by cutting it back to the original trunk line.

CLERK

9. ISSUES RELATING TO JOINT PLAYING FIELD

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

Councillor R Johnson reiterated that with the agreement of both Blaxton and Finningley Parish Council the Joint Playing Fields S106 money will be administered by Blaxton Parish Council.

Lockdown Report

Councillor R Johnson reported that the Pavilion has still not been reopened but the cricket teams have been given access to the outside toilets.

The football teams also have access to the outside toilets and have requested use of the kitchen; PFA to complete a risk assessment for this.

It was also noted that the Parish Council had received an insurance claim from a member of the public following an incident of the Playing Fields; the claim was passed on to the Playing Field Association who are dealing with this and will keep the Parish Council informed.

10. ISSUES RELATING TO VILLAGE HALL

Reopening Update

Councillor W Bedford advised that the Village Hall has now reopened following completion of Covid 19 Risk Assessment.

Review Risk Assessment

Councillor Bedford advised that the Village Hall is only open to groups who have completed their own risk assessment which must be approved by the Village Hall Management Committee.

The Parish Council considered the NALC statement (circulated to members) regarding Parish Council meetings and 'the rule of six'.

It was noted that although the Principal Regulations permit local Councils to hold meetings (now as an exemption to the six person gatherings limit) in Covid 19 secure premises, NALC and the SLCC strongly advise local Councils to continue to meet remotely.

It was also noted that local Councils have a duty to allow members of the public to observe Council meetings without placing restrictions on numbers.

Outside Decoration

The Chairman reported that Bonsers have carried out a site visit to access the outside decoration but a quote has still not been received; to be followed up.

CHAIRMAN

It was also agreed to ask a local joiner to look at the work required on the side door.

CLERK

Councillor W Bedford reported that the Village Hall Committee AGM is due to be held in October subject to Government guidance and that Elaine McNulty is to resign as secretary of the Village Hall Committee.

11. POND ISSUES

Water Supply Project Update

Councillor R Johnson expressed concern regarding the state of the pond i.e. water level and floating islands.

Members had a discussion regarding the water supply project and the village pond enhancement project and it was agreed to move forward with the connection.

Councillor W Bedford advised that he has 2 x 25ltr of barley straw extract to be put into the pond at a later date.

Councillor Bedford also queried if the proposed piling around the pond could be carried out until the willow trees are pollarded.

RESOLVED to speak to Viking Trees regarding the tree work required around the pond and to arrange a village walkabout to look at any other tree work that may be necessary around the village.

CLLR R JOHNSON (Cllrs W Bedford, J Hill and R Johnson agreed to attend the walkabout)

12. ALLOTMENTS PROVISION

Appoint two representatives to the Allotment Society

Councillors R Castle and C Creighton were appointed as representatives; clerk to inform the Allotment Society.

Progress Report

Councillor R Johnson raised concern that a new tenant may have broken the occupancy rules and the Chairman agreed to look into this.

13. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Pre-Approved BIB transactions

£ 10,000.00	V/Hall Business Grant	BIB 560
£ 399.92	W Bedford (Barley Straw Reimbursement)	BIB 561
£ 335.94	Clerk August Salary	BIB 562
£ 84.00	HMRC (PAYE)	BIB 563
£ 445.94	Clerk September Salary (Including Quarterly Office Allowance)	BIB 564
£ 84.00	HMRC (PAYE)	BIB 565

Payments for approval

£ 250.00	Gillies Landscapes (Grass Cutting/Maintenance)	BIB.566
£ 151.24	Npower (Pond Electricity)	BIB.567

Members approved payments.

Receive Annual Accounts 2019/2020

The annual accounts 2019/2020 circulated to members were reviewed and accepted

Receive Internal Auditors Report 2019/2020

Receipt of the Internal Auditors Report 2019/2020 was noted

a) Annual Governance Statement 2019/2020

The Annual Governance Statement 2019/2020 was reviewed and accepted; to be signed off by the Chairman.

b) Accounting Statement 2019/2020

The Accounting Statement 2019/2020 was reviewed and accepted; to be signed off by the Chairman.

Parish Council Insurance

The Parish Council discussed and agreed the renewal quote from Zurich Municipal (£1505.66)

NALC National Salary Award

The Parish Council discussed and agreed the 2020-2021 award backdated to 1st April 2020. Members also agreed to discuss backdating the 2019-2020 salary award which was not implemented due to an error; to be considered at the October meeting.

14. PLANNING ISSUES

a) Planning Applications Received: None

b) Planning Updates

Councillor W Bedford spoke about several affordable housing proposals which are currently being considered by DMBC.

The Parish Council also discussed the recent DMBC Planning Committee Peer Challenge Report which has outlined dysfunction between Officers and Members.

15. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Update on Definitive Map Order Application – No further update

Lego Bricks – Refer to Item 4

Councillor W Bedford reported that a resident had raised concern that a lamp post outside the former garage requires repainting.

Councillor R Johnson advised that the lamp post is on DMBC Highways land but that it was adopted by Finningley Parish Council some years ago and it was agreed to look at the work required

CHAIRMAN & CLLR C CREIGHTON

16. COMMUNICATION

Parish Council Website

Councillor W Bedford advised that he has updated the Village Hall tab on the Parish Council website.

It was also noted that the "Your Parish Councillors" page on the website has been updated with Councillor responsibilities.

RESOLVED to ask the webmaster to update the page to include the two new Allotment Society Representatives **CHAIRMAN**

Social Media

The Chairman noted a steady increase in site traffic.

Ward Councillor Steve Cox joined the meeting.

Newsletter

Councillor R Johnson noted that the next newsletter was now due but due to the ongoing uncertainty surrounding Covid 19 it was agreed that the editorial team would start to put a draft newsletter together for publication in October.

Members discussed circulation of the newsletter and it was noted that due to social distancing the June newsletter was not delivered door to door but was put on the Parish Council Website, Social Media Site and Noticeboards and copies were also left in the Post Office.

17. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE CORRESPONDENCE

Holy Trinity & St Oswalds Church (previously circulated to members)

Correspondence received from Reverend Neil Redeyoff concerning this year's Remembrance Sunday was discussed and it was noted that due to Covid 19 Finningley Church will not be able to hold the usual service.

It was noted that Councillor R Johnson has ordered a wreath on behalf of Finningley Parish Council to be laid if a service goes ahead.

Councillor Johnson also advised that Blaxton Parish Council are yet to make a decision on the service usually held at the War Memorial and reported that the British Legion will not have any collection boxes this year but poppies will still be available in the supermarkets.

Misson Parish Council

Members discussed the correspondence received regarding large lorries travelling through Misson and requesting information regarding any restrictions on the crossroads at the Blue Bell Inn, Blaxton.

RESOLVED to respond advising that the Parish Council have no knowledge of any restrictions. **CLERK**

18. TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 20th October 2020 at 7pm via videoconferencing (resuming of face to face meetings to be reviewed at the October meeting subject to any Government guidance/rules).