

FINNINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday, 16 November 2021 at the Village Hall, Finningley, at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors R Castle (Chairman), C Creighton, J Kong, A Martin, J Tuff, J Clarke, I Batunas, G Nicol and five members of the public.

1. To receive and note apologies for absence and consider any reasons given for absence  
No apologies. The absence of Sheena Spence was noted.

Public Participation

- a. Resident 1- Christmas lights. Currently in Finningley there's only one tree lit however if more lights were installed these could be used all year round, not only for Christmas. They would benefit all villagers. She posed the question as to whether there is a provision for festive lighting in the Village Enhancement Grant? Or could the precept be increased to pay for the lighting, stating the cost per house would not be that much. Asked if we could crowdfund or ask local businesses to donate money for the lights. They could be used for multiple events such as Remembrance day, Halloween, Diwali and Christmas.
  - b. Resident 2- Oppose planning to build stable block. The land is protected under policy 2 and 26. Changing the use of 3.79 hectares of land is classed as a major development project. Policy 26 states that a development must deliver a benefit to the local village. This development would reduce food growing opportunities to nil, be of benefit only to private owners, 30 years of hedgerows removed for parking, already had to remove 13 bee hives due to disturbed tranquility, there's no green corridor and would result in loss of habitat. There's currently building material on the land which could merge onto the new site where planning is being sought. In no way does the planning satisfy policy 26.
2. To receive declarations of interest, updates to existing interests of Councillors and decide upon applications for dispensation.  
No changes or updates.
  3. To receive an update on policing issues  
There was no report from the police. Police newsletter to be distributed on social media.
  4. To receive a verbal report from DMBC ward councillors  
There was no report from the ward councillors.
  5. To discuss any issues raised by the public via the Council's website or by public participation at the meeting  
Clarified that public participation must be requested before the meeting.
  6. Approval of Minutes  
RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 19 October 2021 be approved as a correct record.
  7. Finningley Village Hall matters



- 7.1 Lease found between FPC and VHC inferred subsequent years therefore no imminent need to renew. Lease from the Church to FPC expired in 1987. Cllr Castle working with the Vicar to renew.
- 7.2 The work to remove the ivy and roots will commence when the weather clears. Bonsers have been contacted to agree quote. Deposit to be sent.
- 7.3 Bentley Fencing has been contacted to receive a quote to fix the fence. Stated that there may be little point in spending a lot of money to repair the fence if the whole garden is going to be redesigned in the near future.
- 7.4 Isabella Batunas appointed as the second representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.

8. Finningley PFA matters

PFA meeting was held remotely and was very challenging. A 'clear the air' meeting was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> November at the Pavilion and was attended by Cllrs Castle, Kong and Clarke. Forged a better line of communication however still awaiting legal advice from NALC to move forward with issues. Suggested that formal mediation should be voted upon by Council. Cllr Tuff asked why it is taking so long to resolve. Council informed her that we must wait for NALC advice before proceeding and that significant costs would be incurred if outside legal help was sought. This would need to be voted upon.

9. To receive information/an update on the pond construction

Cllr Creighton and Clarke met with a consultant last week to look at the drawings previously drafted. 3 quotes are being sought, from local companies if possible.

Pond is being net on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November. To be posted on social media inviting people to come to the pond to watch and can take a fish for their own pond.

Cllr Martin requested that the drawing for the pond restoration to be shown again. Cllr Creighton and Clarke plan to hold another meeting with the village to address any queries. A consultant was asked regarding the ducks as it is thought that they will disappear during the restoration work. This matter will be approached with caution going forward.

Cllr Kong raised a query regarding pest/disease control during the project. Cllr Creighton will ask Craig for advice.

Noted that when the pond is refilled, signs prohibiting the introduction of people's goldfish into it may be put up as goldfish overbreed. Only native species to be reintroduced.

10. Allotment matters

Weeding around the hedge is planned. Cllr Creighton to check the date. To be posted on social media.

11. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary

*DMBC CCTV network roll out update*

Part of the cost would be to join the DMBC camera network. The cameras, mounts, lenses and other associated materials for the cameras would cost £6795.00 for the first two locations. A further £7200.00 would be for the second two locations. If monitoring of the cameras was required a further cost would be charged. Cllr Kong reported that there is an upfront cost of £1500 to test the suitability of the lampposts and the cameras can be moved. Cllr Kong had contacted Branton who said they support the scheme but could not get a quote from Secas. Contact has been made with Auckley where a camera has already been installed. Feedback from them has been requested.

A maintenance plan of £769.00+ VAT each year was suggested. It was noted that the full 10 year maintenance package of the cameras does not need to be taken.

*Section 106 village enhancement consultation*  
Update in point 9.

**12. Financial matters**

12.1 Payment of Aubergine invoice ratified.

12.2 Donation to British Legion decided at £110.

**Proposed Cllr Castle, Seconded Cllr Creighton.**

12.3 **The consideration of the computer policy is to be brought forward. Cllr Martin and Tuff meeting to discuss. Any draft policies to be sent to S Spence.**

12.4 **Defer to next meeting. GN to email Sheena with urgency regarding completing the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.**

12.5 **Purchase of Microsoft suite to be addressed when Computer policy is set out.**

**13. Planning Applications/Decisions**

13.1 **Erection of 33 dwellings and associated infrastructure. Church Lane. Original objection still stands.**

13.2 **Erection of an additional storey above existing bungalow, car port with room above to the side, Two storey rear extension and porch to front and construction of a plinth wall. 55 Wroot Road. Neutral comment.**

13.3 **Erection of stables and change of use of field to equestrian use. Land on N side of Bawtry road. 8 public written objections sent to Council. Cllrs Creighton and Martin to meet to read all objections and formulate a response. Council agrees to object and encourages individuals to make comments also.**

13.4 **Outline application for the erection of a detached dormer bungalow with all matters reserved. 28 Wroot Road. Cllr Martin commented that his feelings are that planning will be granted however his concerns are whether the dormer windows will overlook the neighbouring properties. Council agree to raise an objection.**

13.5 **Erection of a two storey side and single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory. 7 Ashley Court. Council agree on a neutral comment.**

**14. Highway Matters**

Signs have been put up. These will stay up for 3 months. If no objections occur then public right of way will be granted.

***Parish Council walkabout***

**Village walkabout commenced with Steve Racjan from DMBC in attendance and a ward councillor. Matters arising were the grass verges, waterlogging, concrete 'lego bricks', better lighting and pot holes, in particular the one near the doctors. It was noted that the public bins are all being updated. It was also noted that the benches around the pond will be moved to different locations in the Village during the restoration of the pond. The plaques on these benches will be preserved and put on the new benches that are around the pond after works have been completed.**

**Communication and relationship is improving.**

**15. Website and Communication matters**

Website can be launched when it is ready. Council need to decide what information needs transferring from the old website. Proposed Cllr Kong. Seconded Cllr Castle.

**Cllr Martin proposed a meeting of Cllrs Castle, Kong and Georgina to discuss. If the transfer of information is deemed too large of a job then can get a quote to do the work from Aubergine.**

*To receive information and update (if any) on the Parish Council Facebook page*

**Cllr Kong reported that the Council are posting more than ever and engagement and post reach is at its highest.**

Cllr Martin stated that some villagers don't have social media therefore proposed the idea that a half page 'advert' in the Arrow newsletter every few months could be used to inform people of what the Council have been doing. Council agreed this was a good idea and Clls Kong and Creighton agree to draft something.

16. To receive reports from representatives to external bodies

*Finningley PFA*

Covered in Point 8.

*Yorkshire Wildlife Park Consultative Committee*

No updates.

*Airport Consultative Committee*

Cllr Clarke cannot attend the upcoming meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December. Cllr Castle will attend in his place.

17. Adoption of mandatory policies

Cllrs Martin and Tuff prepared the Grant and Financial Regulations policies to be reviewed by Council.

Grant policy: Proposed, Cllr Martin. Seconded, Cllr Creighton

Cllr Martin proposed there be a sub committee to review the Grant applications. Proposed, Cllrs Creighton, Kong and Tuff.

Financial Regulations: Proposed, Cllr Martin. Seconded, Cllr Creighton.

Noted that the financial regulation policy was drafted from a YLCA template and the only significant change made was to decrease the emergency unauthorised spend from £500 to £250.

Majority agrees to adopt the proposed policies.

18. Employment matters

18.1 Georgina will book onto courses she feels would be useful. Date arranged to chat with S Spence from YLCA. Georgina met with Cllr Martin to discuss any support required.

18.2 S Spence not available to make report however she is meeting the former Clerk on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Cllr Martin proposed to pay the Clerk (Georgina) 1/12<sup>th</sup> of her annual salary each month rather than waiting until the end of each month to calculate the hours worked and pay accordingly.

A log of hours will be supplied by the Clerk each month to support.

Proposed, Cllr Martin. Seconded, Cllr Kong.

Majority agrees.

19. Matters requested by Councillors

Discussion lead by Cllr Kong as to whether Finningley could participate more in celebrations throughout the year. Auckley make such an effort and Finningley are missing out.

Continues in point 20.

20. Village matters

Auckley Parish Council sent through their quote from Christmas Plus to put up and maintain their Christmas lights.

For 6 trees over 3 years, Auckley was quoted approximately £20,000 (Year 1 £6654, year 2 £2904, year 3 £2904, power supply installation by DMBC £7617). Finningley would only require 3 trees and had initially planned to budget £3000 per year for lights.

Auckley are due to renew their contract with Christmas Plus in 2022 so the possibility to combine the install of lights could reduce costs.

Contact is to be made with APC to see if this is something they are also interested in.

Proposed, Cllr Creighton. Seconded, Cllr Kong.

3 quotes would still be required before agreeing to any purchases.

The initial outlay of funds would need to be paid from FPC reserves however the Village supports the idea of extending the Christmas lights.

Cllrs Castle, Creighton and Clarke to check the Christmas lights on 20<sup>th</sup> November.

Rev. Neil to be contacted to get his views on the Christmas lights and if the Church want any involvement.

Discussion regarding a lights 'switch on'. Date to be agreed. Cllr Creighton to speak to Bridgett and Susan as potential light switch on 'hosts'.

Covid restrictions will be checked and adhered to as necessary for the switch on.

21. Date of the next meeting

**RESOLVED** that the date of the next ordinary meeting of the Council is 21 Dec 2021 at the Village Hall, commencing at 7.15pm.

There being no other business, the Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm.



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