

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13th JANUARY 2010 AT 7.00pm AT THE VILLAGE
HALL

Councillors present: Prof. David Mellor - Chair
Mr Ian Hunt
Dr Nigel Heywood
Mr David Dashwood
Mr John Grant
Mrs Jenny Forbes

Ms Sue Shepard (Clerk)

Public Time

Nigel Wadlow attended to inform the Parish Council about a planning application that has been submitted for a development of 150 dwellings on 8½ acre plot off Main Road in Middleton Cheney. The proposal includes a three storey block of two bedroom apartments. This will form part of the 40% of the development that is required to be affordable housing. As a green field site it would appear that it is no longer protected. The scale of the development is considered to be just inappropriate for the site. It is not near to the amenities in the village, the primary school is only able to take a few more children and Chenderit School is full. Provision for parking is also inadequate. Other developments planned for the village (a further 19 dwellings on one site and 7 on another) will also impact on the points already mentioned, as will the developments planned for Kings Sutton.

1. Apologies: Mr Martin Wall

2. Minutes of the meeting on 11th November had been circulated. The minutes were taken as read, adopted and signed.

3. Matters Arising.

3.1 The damaged Manor Lane sign has been replaced.

3.2 Marcus Young would contact Cllr Mellor to arrange a site visit to discuss where the dog bin should be put. **Update:** The bin has been installed

3.3 Grass area at the junction of Charlton Road and Queen Street

Cllr Mellor had received an e-mail from Aplins (Solicitors) indicating what would be involved in trying to gain legal ownership. The Rush family had also indicated that it was not owned by any existing dependants. Any plans to enhance the area could result in visibility being restricted and Highways may object. A small tree planted today could become a large tree in the future. The benefit to the Parish Council and the village did not justify how much it would cost to acquire it, which could be in the region of £1000. The Council agreed not to pursue at this point in time because to continue would impact on the precept, but it would be raised at the APM.

3.4 The BT line was only put in when there was a proposal to put a Post Office in the Village Hall. Therefore there were no concerns about it being fouled by a branch.

3.5 Street light at Bowling Green

The cost of installing a light at this location would be £1934.00. Cllr Mellor had contacted Ron Sawbridge but no funding would be available this current financial year under the County Council Empowering Scheme but some could be available next year. This would be put on hold until it was known whether funding would be available.

3.6 Central Networks – lighting on Main Road and inventory for un-metered supply

The Clerk had spoken to Bob Wilkinson at Central Networks who said that the Parish Council would be advised once the problem had been resolved. No update and the Clerk agreed to follow up.

The inventory still needs to be completed.

3.7 The alarm on the radio mast did not belong to BT but an engineer had been to look and the equipment would be taken away.

4. Finance.

4.1 Barclays bank statements as at 31st December

Community A/C	£547.42
Business Premium A/C	<u>£5014.95</u>
	£5562.37

4.2 Marjorie Tolchard had written to ask if funding would be available to cover the cost of printing the Farthinghoe Chronicle at £64.40 per issue, £772.80 for the year.

4.3 The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

100425 Edge2Edge £200.00

100426 E.On - maintenance £99.08

100427 E.On - lighting £131.57

100428 Clerk's salary and expenses £410.55

100429 Farthinghoe Chronicle £772.80

5. Correspondence since 11th November

MGSWP Safer Winter driving leaflets

Brown & Barden - ground maintenance contractors

Victim Support – appeal for funds

CPRE Northamptonshire's Stop the Drop Campaign 2010

CPRE "Fieldwork" Dec 2009

E-On Highways Lighting – Customer Bulletin No 1

NCALC "Update" November – December 2009

Wildlife Training Workshops for 2010

South Northants Homes Major Works Briefing Paper November 2009

SNC i) South Northamptonshire Economic Development Strategy – *consultation until 11th January*

ii) Parish Council Reception. Wednesday, 16th December at 7.30pm at SNC, Towcester

iii) South Northamptonshire Local Strategic Partnership Workshop 'A Sustainable Rural Economy?' 10th December at Seawell Valley near Litchborough

NCC i) "Spotlight" report to the people

Brochures: Signs of the Times - signs

Correspondence since 9th December 2009

NALC "It takes all sorts" Local councils: represent your community, make a difference

NACRE "Village Viewpoint" Winter 2009

West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit Draft West Northamptonshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. *Consultation until 11th February*

Northamptonshire Rural Housing Association – Annual report

MGWSP NCC Parish satisfaction questionnaire
Tim Boswell MP Advice Centres 2010 and newsletter
e-mail from **Cllr Grant**. Copy from PC Gez Shillitoe – re: Smartwater meeting

- SNC**
- i) Fields In Trust (FIT) are conducting research to create a record of War Memorial Playing Fields – *not relevant to Farthinghoe*
 - ii) Compost Bin Offer
 - iii) Register of Electors 2010
 - iv) Precept requirement for 2010 – 2011
 - v) Parish Council's forum 16th December 2010

Brochures: Nottssport – synthetic play surfaces

6. Traffic Issues – updates

6.1 The Rightracks driving events for youngsters are to be repeated. Information will be passed to the Chronicle and the Website.

6.2 A notice that NCC is proposing to make the following Order, “A422 Brackley to Middleton Cheney) (50mph speed limit) Order 2009” has been received. The schedule includes the A422 from its junction with the A43 to its junction with Queens Street, Farthinghoe and then from its junction with Baker Street, Farthinghoe to its junction with Banbury Road, Middleton Cheney.

7. Risk Assessment

The Council considered the revised version which took into account the increase in insurance premiums. It was also amended to confirm that members of the Parish Council are the Custodian Trustees of the Village Hall. The approved version, Appendix A, is attached to these minutes

8. “Smartwater”

A Community Panel meeting had been held in December where there had been a presentation from Smartwater themselves. The Police are currently looking at whether to progress the possible use of Smartwater across the Beat 31 area. Would Farthinghoe be interested? If there is enough interest from Parish Councils to part fund then further funding may be available from SNC enabling the Police to develop it as a Police Operation and thereby significantly reducing the cost of the product.

Does Smartwater replace the ultra violet marking system? Unless an item is actually found by the Police it is unlikely to be returned but presumably it could link a criminal to the crime. It was agreed that more information was required before a decision was reached. A further meeting will be held at Croughton Village Hall on 9th February.

Action: Cllr Grant

9. Repairs to Hinton Road

9.1 Cllr Forbes had e-mailed Highways on 4th January regarding, what are now, very deep pot holes in Hinton Road. No reply had been received. A promise had been made that this work would be completed in 2009.

It is recognised that since the extreme weather in January all roads with any damage will have deteriorated further and it is anticipated that the requests to repair pot holes will be at an all time high. Therefore, it is likely that those considered the most urgent will be repaired first, leading to delays once again.

District Cllr Breese had informed the Parish Council that NCC has asked for £5 million to deal with the backlog of repairs.

9.2 Correspondence had also been received from a resident about the state of the edge of the road and the verge in Old Lane.

10. Planning Matters.

10.1 Planning application **S/2009/0931/FUL** for a two storey side extension at **Jasmine Cottage** has been approved.

10.2 The Parish Council had no objections to **S/2009/1241/FUL** for a log cabin in front garden to house canine hydrotherapy pool and domestic garden storage at **10 Bowling Green**. Cllr Mellor would speak to the owner of a tree that needed to be cut back

10.3 The Parish Council had no objections to **S/2009/1250/FUL** for a single storey extension to front at Far View House, Queen Street.

Councillors round the table.....

1. Could anything be done about the unsightly yellow posts on a verge on Main Road? If the posts are on private land then the Parish Council had no powers to ask for them to be removed.

2. Is 2010 an election year? **Update:** The next Parish Council elections will be held in 2011.

3. Further to the information presented during Public Time it was recognised that extra houses would generate extra traffic that could affect Farthinghoe, but would add to the argument for a by pass for the village. Cllr Mellor agreed to write in support of opposition to the proposed development.

4. Cllr Grant was saddened to hear of the death of an old lady in Chapel Lane. There is an informal support network within the village but should this be put on a more formal basis?

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 10th February 2010 at 7 p.m. in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

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