

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11th NOVEMBER 2009 AT 7.00pm AT THE VILLAGE
HALL

Councillors present: Prof. David Mellor - Chair
Mr Ian Hunt
Dr Nigel Heywood
Mr Martin Wall
Mr David Dashwood
Mr John Grant

Ms Sue Shepard (Clerk)

Public Time

1. Apologies: Mrs Jenny Forbes

2. Minutes of the meeting on 14th October had been circulated. The minutes were taken as read, adopted and signed.

3. Matters Arising.

3.1 A replacement is needed for the litter bin that was damaged. **Action Cllr. Mellor**

3.2 The Clerk had followed up the request for the replacement street name sign for Manor Lane. SNC does not order single signs: it waits until several have been requested before placing the order. The request is being processed.

3.3 It was suggested that the Village Hall page on the web site included an address, a map and an e-mail address for the booking secretary. It was confirmed that there is a directional sign from the Main Road to the Village Hall.

4. Finance.

4.1 Barclays bank statements as at 30th October

Community A/C	£835.82
Business Premium A/C	<u>£5514.06</u>
	£6349.88

4.2 The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

100422	Clerk's expenses £75.00
100423	Parkes' Office and Event Solutions (Web site) £343.85
100424	Northamptonshire ACRE £34.00

5. Correspondence since 14th October

South Northants Homes Major works briefing paper

NCALC "Update" September – October 2009

snvb The South Northants 50+ Forum at Towcester Town Hall on 2nd November 2.00 – 4.00pm

E-On un-metered supply - *inventory to be completed*

The South Northants Bus Company – provision of a youth and community vehicle for use in the South Northants area – "The Bus"

CPRE Countryside Voice

snvb "Link up"

NHS Northamptonshire's Annual Report 2008 - 2009

NHS Northamptonshire Feedback event at Kettering on Tuesday, 17th November

SNC i) Notification of SNC's intent to carry out a Housing Needs Survey
ii) "State of the District's Economy" report

NCC i) Setting up a Pocket Park – information pack

Brochures: Wybone – litter bins etc. **Record RSS** - playground inspection and maintenance

6. Traffic Issues – updates

6.1 The Rightracks driving events for youngsters and older drivers were considered worthwhile. Cllr Grant particularly enjoyed his day. It was evident that the cost of improving road markings would be coming out of the Rightracks budget rather than NCC's.

6.2 With regard to the proposal for a bypass the Council had received a copy of the letter from County Councillor Ron Sawbridge to the Conservative candidate for South Northamptonshire, Angela Leadson and NCC Highways.

6.3 The B4525 was not good enough or wide enough to bring it up to the standard of the A422 so could not be considered as an alternative route.

6.4 There had been a traffic count at the Tesco roundabout.

6.5 It was understood that the Audit Report had revealed sufficient funds for the reconfiguration of the junction of Cockley Road with Main Road. A letter would be sent to NCC next month asking when the work on the triangle is likely to start.

7. Dog Fouling and Dog Bins

Cllr Wall had produced an article for the Chronicle which had obviously had a positive effect. It was suggested that the existence of a dog bin would serve as a reminder and help dog owners to be aware of needs to be done. After some discussion it was proposed that a dog bin should be sited to the right hand side of the gate into the playground. The Council agreed to go ahead with the proposal and for the bin to be red. Marcus Young Landscapes would be asked to supply and install because although the cost of bin and installation was higher than other suppliers, the cost of emptying (£2.30) was less. Initially, the Council would ask for the bin to be emptied once a month.

8. Budget 2010 - 2011 and Precept

The draft budget had been amended to take in to consideration the discussion at October's meeting. The invoice for the two new street lights in Baker Street and Queens Street and the proposal to install a dog bin both raised the LIC for 2009 – 10. The budget for grass cutting had been increased to include hedge cutting at the Village Hall, an allowance was also included to enable the Parish Council to make a donation to the Almshouses and an additional £200 for general maintenance. The budget was then adopted (copy attached) and the Precept was set at £6,500 for 2010 – 2011.

9. Grass area at the junction of Charlton Road and Queen Street

The area is not registered with the Land Registry and there were no objections to the Council trying to adopt the areas and in turn making it a more attractive entrance to the village.

Action Cllr. Mellor

10. Central Networks Survey and tree felling at Village Hall

It had been established by Central Networks that some of the trees at the Village Hall needed to be cut back within two metres of the overhead cables. Cllr Mellor had signed a

Powerline Clearance Approval to allow the work to be carried out. The brush had been shredded on site and the logs had been moved to the roadside. Cllr Mellor had tidied the site and had removed the overgrown ivy to reveal the parking spaces. This work had also highlighted the fact that the BT line from the Village hall to the post was being fouled by a branch on a tree within the Village Hall grounds. It was thought that the offending branch could be removed with long handled pruners. **Action Cllr. Grant**

11. Website

This had been discussed under Matters Arising.

12. Street lighting at Bowling Green

It had been suggested that a new street light should be installed at the top of Bowling Green. It is possible that funding might be available again next year under the County Council Empowering Scheme. Cllr Mellor would write to Ron Sawbridge. Residents who would be affected by the proposal would also need to be contacted.

13. Housing Needs Survey

The Council are not opposed to the survey, neither do they dispute that there might be a housing need but believe that no land is available to meet the need. The Council would however be pleased to see the results of the survey.

14. Central Networks Survey and inventory for un-metered supply

The certificate for the un-metered supply had expired but until the problem with the lights on Main Road had been resolved it was not possible to complete the inventory. Where the new lights had been installed on the Main Road, at some locations the original light and the new light are both working and at others neither light is working. E-On would be advised of the situation. **Action: Clerk**

15. Planning Matters.

15.1 Amended plans, for information only, had been received for **S/2009/0682/LB**, the barn at **Limes Farm**, Farthinghoe.

15.2 An amended application to **S/2009/0949/FUL**, again for information only, had been received for the aircraft hangar at **Hinton in the Hedges Airfield**, Steane, Brackley.

15.3 **S/2009/0907/FUL** for a single storey extension at London Barn, Main Road has been approved.

Councillors round the table.....

1. An alarm on a radio mast, the property of BT, had been causing problems. Cllr Dashwood had reported the problem in the past but would report again.

2. Now the gates to Green Lane have been locked does the Parish Council want the illegally parked caravan to remain? Cllr Grant will make enquiries.

3. The Clerk gave her apologies for the December meeting so it was agreed, that unless there was any urgent business, the next meeting would be scheduled for 13th January 2010.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 13th January 2010 at 7 p.m. in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm