

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 9th APRIL 2014 AT 7.00pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Councillors present: Prof. David Mellor (Chair)
Mr Ian Hunt
Mrs Jenny Forbes
Mrs Sally Thomas
Mr David Dashwood
Mr John Grant
Ms Sue Shepard (Clerk)

No **Public Time** as this meeting was followed by the APM.

1. Apologies: Cllr Downing

2. Minutes of previous meeting on 12th March should have read “minutes of previous meeting on 12th February and not “8th January” and “Correspondence since 12th February” and not “since 12th March”. They had been circulated in draft form and would be amended before publication on the website. They were then taken as read, signed and adopted.

3. Matters arising:

3.1 Potholes – Hinton Road. More of the holes had been filled but it was thought that the standard of repair wasn't any better than before.

3.2 Overgrown hedge in Old Lane. The hedge had been cut back.

3.3 Community Enhancement Gang. Request form had been submitted.

4. Finance:

4.1 Barclays Bank statements at 31st March 2014

Business Saver	£200.26
Community Account	<u>£3,759.05</u>
	£3,959.31

4.2 The Chair had authorised Jon Hampson to carry out one cut for the village verges and the playground. Jon would be given the contract for this year on the same terms as last year

4.3 Expenditure:

The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Power
100599	Jon Hampson	£70.00	Open Spaces Act 1906 s 9 and 10
100600	Clerk's salary and expenses Jan - March	£355.00	Local Government Act 1972 s112 and s111
100601	HMRC	£70.00	
100602	Texprep	£66.30	Local Government Act 1972 s142
100603	E.On maintenance	£107.70	Parish Councils Act 1957 s 3
100604	Northants CALC Subscription £135.17 Internal Audit Service £155.00	£290.17	Local Government Act 1972 s143
100605	E.On lighting	£135.73	Parish Councils Act 1957 s 3

5. Correspondence since 12th March

email Northamptonshire Police: News in brief update for South Northants District
copy of email from GE UK Ltd to Action Group
email Chair - suggestion that Chronicle should contain a voting form re Solar Farm
email Chair to GEUK advising of PC's decision
emails: Chair's invitations to Ron Sawbridge and Head teacher re: APM
email NCALC Financial guidance
email mgswp News and works programme
email Trading Standards Newsletter 7
email Local Works: more funds for parish and town councils
BDO External Audit 21st July 2014
email Alterations to Electoral Register
email Cllr Forbes – details of Andrea Leadsom's visit on 31st March
email NCALC eUpdate
email Superfast Northamptonshire Project Newsletter 11
email Northamptonshire Police: Trading Standards Newsletter
Community Lincs Insurance Services invoice £528.20
email Alex McGuffie re: Solar farm meeting and Peacock
email NCALC Training: Problem solving and decision making
email Cllr Forbes re meeting on 31st March re Solar Farm
CPRE Increase in membership fee £36, "Countryside Voice" publication and "Fieldwork"
NCALC Update March – April
email PCSO Stuart Dowell – crime report for APM
email copied from SNC Amanda Haisman re Solar Farm – *deadline for submission of responses to planning application. It is believed that the application will be heard on 8th May*
email forwarded by Chair - copy of letter from James Harrison and GEUK's response to comments made by Action Group
email information from snvb x 5

SNC i) email Free micro chipping for dogs
ii) email SNC S/2014/0282/MAF additional documents re: Solar Farm - *Cllr Forbes collected from Clerk*
iii) email Katie Arnold, Grants Officer at SNC – New Homes Bonus

NCC i) email NCC March's newsletter

6. Traffic Issues:

Nothing to report.

7. Solar Farm Proposal

It was agreed that plans would be available at the end of the APM if anybody wanted to look at them. There had been some confusion over whether the Solar Farm was on the APM agenda: it is not and will not be. The Chair has included it in his report and there will be an opportunity to raise it under any other business.

Some of the plans and documents were missing from the original application.

The Action Group, campaigners against the proposal, wanted to know if the Parish Council was still interested in their issues as it is very important to them.

The Chair had received correspondence from the land owner, James Harrison, and a response from Green Energy UK to the issues raised by the Action Group.

Any community benefit should not be a reason to support the application but the PC is duty bound to ensure that any community benefit will be payable in the event of permission being granted. There is now a new offer of £1,000 per megawatt. £50,000 available up front and the remainder being index linked, which over 25 years could make in excess of £250,000 available to the community.

This funding would not be subject to a 106 agreement but James' recent correspondence explained the agreement and the need to liaise with Green Energy. Green Energy had also been advised about the need to liaise with the Chair of the Parish Council. If the development of the site was sold on would the new owners renege on the agreement?

The Chair would say something before the APM regarding the untidiness and damage caused to property by signs being put up around the village, some to "Save Percy" (the peacock) and others "Say No to Solar Farm".

Cllr Forbes advised that she was simply representing the views of the Action Group to the Parish Council.

Cllr Dashwood was now custodian of the plans.

8. Grass-cutting

This had been dealt with under finance.

9. Planning Matters.....

Application number	Address	Details	Status/ Decision
9.1 S/2014/0300/ FUL	Heritage, Charlton Way	Demolish existing conservatory and erect a single storey side extension and convert garage to habitable room	The Parish Council had no objections

Councillors round the table.....

1. The Chair read the report he planned to read out at the APM. Some discussion followed.

2. Cllr Dashwood wished to bring to the attention of other councillors the availability of £5,000 though the New Homes Bonus Scheme which it had been suggested could be used towards new equipment for the Playground or was there any other suitable project? Cllr Grant will make enquiries and it will be an agenda item for May.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting, the **AGM**, will be held on Wednesday, 14th May 2014 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

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