

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12th FEBRUARY 2014 AT 7.00pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

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

Public Time. Twelve villagers attended and were part of the Farthinghoe Action Group campaigning against the proposed Solar Farm. There was such a weight of feeling against this proposal that those present wanted to know why it was not on the agenda. Due process needed to be afforded to this and what was the PC doing to represent the action group? The group has the support of local MP, Andrea Leadsom.

The Chair advised that the PC will consider both sides of the argument and respond to a planning application if and when submitted. There are 176 properties in the village and it is a minority of these that are expressing their concerns.

As part of the proposal, Green Energy UK is prepared to offer solar panels to be used in a way to benefit the village. This would form part of a Section 106 Agreement as part of the planning application.

The group needs to have a plan of action and the PC is not prepared to put anything in the Chronicle on behalf of Green Energy or the Action Group: the Chronicle needs to remain impartial.

The Action Group had canvassed door to door to promote the Open Meeting organised by Green Energy for 13th February.

Other low lying sites may be available: one householder is only 40 metres from this proposed site. Brown field sites are more appropriate and what about the roofs of warehouses? The group would like the support of the PC.

1. Apologies: None

2. Minutes of previous meeting on 8th January had incorrectly recorded the previous meeting as 11th January instead of 11th December. They had been circulated and were taken as read, signed and adopted.

3. Matters arising:

3.1 Proposed Solar Farm

Cllr Forbes had met with the Action Group and would be supporting them. There would be no further discussion until an application is submitted. The proposal would be raised as an agenda item at the Annual Parish Meeting (APM.)

4. Finance:

4.1 Barclays Bank statements at 31st January 2014

Business Saver	£200.24
Community Account	<u>£4,120.85</u>
	£4,321.09

4.2 Expenditure:

The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Power
100595	Texprep	£66.30	Local Government Act 1972 s142
100596	HMRC	£70.00	
100597	Cllr Thomas - expenses	£9.50	Local Government Act 1972 s112 and s111

4.3 Income: HMRC VAT refund £372.00

5. Correspondence since 8th January

West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit. West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy – proposed main modifications consultation 14th January – 25th February – DVD
email Northamptonshire Highways. Availability of salt bins and salt to purchase
email NCALC Training calendar January – February 2014
email NACRE Best Village Competition – closing date 26th March. *The village would not be entering*
email Northamptonshire Police – ward update
email Stuart Lewis – allotment availability?
email NCALC New planning related courses
email CPRE campaigns
CPRE “Outlook” February 2014
email NCALC eupdate Jan – Feb 2014
email mgwsp/Northamptonshire Highways – work completed in December/January and work scheduled for February. *Request form for Community Enhancement Gang – deadline 14th March*
email NCALC Precept capping has been avoided for another year
NCALC Update Jan – Feb 2014
email CPRE Northants Spring Road Show
email Information from snvb x 3

SNC None

NCC i) email NCC January’s newsletter
ii) email NCC Highways newsletter
iii) email NCC Greener Northamptonshire Fair on 8th March

6. Traffic Issues:

6.1 The budget would be tight until 2014. The PC needed to write to Andrea Leadsom highlighting the proposed Solar Farm and how it might affect a future bypass.

6.2 Cllr Forbes had contacted Street Doctor to repair the deep potholes along Hinton Road to the Airfield and attend to the flooding at the junction of the A422 and on the sharp corner by Green Lane. A site meeting has been requested with Highways for more permanent repairs to be carried out.

6.3 The speed camera had not been in operation for the last twelve months but was it now working because it had been turned round?

7. SNC Local Plan Consultation

Cllr Thomas had collated the comments which the PC believed to be an appropriate response to reflect the views of the village. Cllr Thomas had negotiated an extension to the deadline to enable the full PC to formally agree to submit to SNC.

8. Community Funding

Green Energy had contacted the Chair expressing an interest in providing a funding stream for the school from solar panels which could generate £300 - £400 per megawatt. This funding would be in the region of £3,000 per year for 25 years. It would be a Section 106 agreement as part of a planning application. Once an application is submitted it might be worthwhile to form a group to try and represent the views of all residents. Green Energy's approach so far has not been very professional.

9. Annual Parish Meeting 9th April 2014

This meeting would take place after the April Parish Council meeting. Cllr Grant will book the Village Hall. **Update:** Village Hall booked.

10. Playground noise complaint

Cllr Grant had received another email from a resident living near to the playground who maintains that the playground should be out of bounds after sundown and that there should be a sign to this effect. As these incidents are very infrequent and children do tend to make a noise, the Parish Council agreed that it is not necessary to put up a sign. Cllr Grant would reply and bring this matter to a close. Cllr Dashwood is willing to be contacted at the time of any incident in the future.

11. Planning Matters:

11.1 Limes Farm need support from the Parish Council to get a variation to the condition which only permitted them to serve of food from 9.00am – 5.00pm. All ticket events have been held after 5.00pm and these events have been very successful and the PC fully supports what they have been doing and would support any application to amend the existing condition.

Application number	Address	Details	Status/ Decision
11.2 S/2014/0013/ FUL	Grenville House, Main Road	Single storey rear extension <i>The PC supported the application</i>	<i>Update:</i> <i>Approved</i>
11.3 S/2014/0045/ LDE	The Flat, Homelands Farm	Lawful development certificate for existing use as a 2 bedroomed flat/accommodation with no restriction to occupancy <i>The PC supported the application</i>	

Councillors round the table.....

1. Cllr Dashwood advised that he had been approached about the erection of a 240' wind turbine to the north west of the village. It would be visible from Purston, Thenford and Marston and if there is strong opposition from the PC, Cllr Dashwood will not proceed with the project.
2. The village peacock: should he go or should he stay? He could go to a sanctuary and County Cllr Ron Sawbridge could arrange for him to be collected. The matter will be raised at the APM.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 12th March 2014 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

| The meeting closed at 8.45pm