

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11th JUNE 2014 AT 7.00pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

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

Public Time

Ross Van Geest had been invited by the Parish Council to attend to tell the PC why he thought he would make a good councillor and what he could bring to the PC.

He wanted the PC to know that he had a good understanding of councils and boards with 15 years of experience. He was a good listener, a requirement in order to understand the needs of the village, keen on communication and was interested in how the PC communicates with the village and how it can do that quickly. He has no conflicts of interest so can be totally neutral and is good at representing others who may not be prepared to voice their opinion. He is a good problem solver who can make things happen.

1. Apologies: Mrs Sally Thomas

2. Minutes of previous meetings on 9th April and 14th May 2014 had been circulated and were taken as read, signed and adopted.

3. Co-option of new councillor

SNC had notified the PC that it could co-opt to fill the vacancy created by Prof. Mellor's resignation and Ross van Geest had been invited to Public Time with a view to his co-option. He completed his Declaration of Interests form and signed his Acceptance of Office and was duly elected to Farthinghoe Parish Council.

4. Matters arising

4.1 Cllr Downing still needed to ascertain the date of the **Village Hall AGM**.

5. Finance:

5.1 Barclays Bank statements at 30th May 2014

Business Saver	£200.26
Community Account	<u>£6,102.02</u>
	£6,302.28

5.2 Expenditure:

The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Power
100608	Clerk's salary and expenses Apr - June	£355.00	Local Government Act 1972 s112 and s111
100609	HMRC	£70.00	
100610	Texprep	£66.30	Local Government Act 1972 s142
100611	Farthinghoe Sports Field	£1,000.00	Section 137
100612	Jon Hampson	£180.00	Open Spaces Act 1906 s 9 and 10
100613	Texprep – extra pages	£14.60	Local Government Act 1972 s142

5.3 Accounts year ending 31st March 2014: Statements of Accounts and Annual Return

Section 1, the accounting statements 2013/2014, had been completed by the clerk/RFO and section 2, annual governance statement, was completed by the Parish Council and signed and dated by the Chair.

The Internal Auditor had raised the issue of signatories only needing to initial the cheque book stub.

6. Correspondence since 14th May

email information from **snvb** - funding, training, events in your area etc.

emailed draft APM 2014 minutes

email **Ross van Geest** – expressing an interest in joining the PC

email **Nicky Dorward** re peacock

CPRE “Outlook” May

email **Alison Coomber** Internal Audit report

email **NCALC** Training Opportunities June – December 2014

emailed Parkes Office Solutions (Melody) – to upload draft APM 2014 minutes

copy of email **Ron Sawbridge** to David Mellor to Cllr Downing and Cllr Grant re
playground funding

email **Melody Parkes** will upload draft APM minutes

emailed Ross van Geest with information as requested

emailed draft Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to councillors

email **PCSO Stuart Dowell** June’s ward update for Middleton Cheney and Steane

email **Northants CALC** eUpdate May/June 2014

- SNC**
- i) email Farthinghoe Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan
 - ii) SNC New Guides: Cycling in South Northamptonshire and Walking and Wildlife with Children

- NCC**
- i) email May’s news from my county council
 - ii) email Northamptonshire Highways Member’s News

Jon Hampson had forwarded his invoice and wanted to know if the PC required him to do an extra cut.

It appears that some areas of the village are cut and others are not. NCC are scheduled to do three cuts during the season when all areas should be mown but if Jon has only recently mown the two areas that he maintains on behalf of the PC then these will obviously not be cut by County. Jon is doing a good job and he would be asked to trim after the daffodils have died back but there would be no additional cuts. Cllr Dashwood would top if the grass became too long in between cuts.

Further to Ron Sawbridge’s communication regarding funding under the County Council Empowering Scheme, Cllr Grant would organise a meeting with the group raising funds for the playground. He would go through with them what is required in order to access funds and they would come up with a plan. Is the existing surfacing adequate is an issue that needs to be considered. What equipment should be included or would it be better just to replace the swings?

Cllr Downing and Cllr Grant had been contacted by Wroxton PC who thought Farthinghoe had a 20 mph speed restriction through the village. Cllr Downing would respond.

7. Traffic Issues:

Cllr Grant would write to David Farquhar at NCC and copy in Andrea Leadsom MP and County Councillor, Ron Sawbridge. Mr Farquhar had promised that there would be action before the Grand Prix on the issues raised: a 20mph speed limit past school, a reduction in the speed limit past the playground as traffic could travel at 60mph although Cllr Forbes thought this was not required.

There had been another accident on the A422 but Cllr Grant did not know whether there had been a fatality.

Cllr Dashwood was advised that his hedge needed to be cut back at the junction with Hinton Road.

8. Use of emails between meetings

Any issue that is being dealt with by the Parish Council is important and all councillors need to know about what is going on.

Any emails received by the Clerk for Farthinghoe Parish Council will initially be forwarded to Cllr Downing for circulation.

9. Adoption of new Standing Orders

All councillors would read the new Standing Orders which will then be able to be adopted at the next meeting.

10. Review of Financial Regulations

These had also been circulated before the meeting and were adopted by the Parish council and signed by the Chair.

11. The future of the peacock

There is a 10mph advisory speed limit on the corner at the junction with Baker Street and the peacock has managed to cross the road safely for seven years.

12. Advertising in the Farthinghoe Chronicle

Was it fair that only The Fox and Limes Farm were allowed to advertise in the Chronicle?

The editor, Shirley Downing had checked with the previous Chair and this had been agreed because both The Fox and Limes Farm had contributed one third of the cost of the noticeboard outside of school and annually each pays the cost of publication for one month. This had given them preferential status and avoided the Chronicle becoming full of adverts. The Chronicle is about the community so what if other businesses wanted to advertise? There had never been an approach from any other business in the village. There was nothing to stop any business/organisation submitting an item for inclusion.

May be there should be an occasional feature on local businesses. Although the Chronicle was originally a PCC publication they are now only responsible for the distribution.

Councillors will gauge opinion and discuss at July's meeting.

13. Planning Matters: Dealing with applications

Application number	Address	Details	Status/ Decision
13.1 S/2014/0753/ PE	Land adjacent to Cockley Hill Farm	New connection to existing 33,000 volt overhead line consisting of 2 no. new stays to an existing pole, 1 no. new pole and 1 no. pole with 2 no. stays	<i>For information only</i>

Details of planning applications should be included in the Chronicle and councillors needed to talk to residents to gauge opinion about applications before a meeting. Details of an application could be included on the agenda but the deadline for the Chronicle and the posting of the agenda may mean that not all applications can be publicised by these means. Could notice of applications be emailed to residents? Any other urgent matters e.g. crime in the village could also be forwarded by this means. No volunteer had come forward to take on the role a Community Warden but Diane Jones is the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator. The old and the vulnerable, who the PC are trying to protect, do not have email contact. The Farthinghoe Chronicle is good but members should canvass opinion to see if the village thinks it would be a good idea to set up an email group so that information could be made available more quickly.

Councillors round the table.....

1. Cllr van Geest gave his apologies for July's meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 9th July 2014 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm
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