

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 8th JANUARY 2013 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
Ms Sue Shepard (Clerk)

Public Time had been scheduled for a 6.45pm start in anticipation of a high turnout to hear the presentation regarding the proposed Solar Farm in Cockley Road.

Ten villagers were present to hear Arthur Bell from Green Energy put forward the proposal: two more villagers arrived at 7.00pm. As a Public Meeting had been arranged for the next day Arthur Bell would be staying overnight and would be available to talk to individuals. He apologised for a lack of information regarding the previous Public Meeting and was reminded by the Chair that the next one would need to take place in February to allow time for inclusion in the Farthinghoe Chronicle. ***Update:** Public Meeting arranged for 13th February.* He said that the proposal had changed in the light of comments made at the first Public Meeting and was likely to change again. He then went on to give details of the proposal. At 7.15pm the Chair granted extra time because those present were very opposed to the proposal and questioned the credibility of the scheme. The Cockley Road site had been chosen because alternative sites did not have a viable grid connection. If the development was to go ahead funding could be available to the village under Section 106: solar panels for the Village Hall? If this is what would sway the PC then a local landowner would happily contribute £20,000 towards Solar Panels for the Village Hall if the development does not go ahead.

Public Time ended at 7.45pm.

As District Cllr Breese, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Environment was present she highlighted some aspects of the proposal.

If the proposal was rejected the developer could appeal but SNC would defend its position. Many of the applications called in by the Secretary of State are being rejected and it is also difficult to divert a footpath, so it is difficult to see how this could be approved. Cllr Forbes didn't think that a Section 106 agreement should influence the decision.

Once an application was submitted the developer could expect a decision within 13 weeks. Cllr Breese left the meeting at 8.10pm.

1. Apologies: Mr Neil Downing and County Councillor Ron Sawbridge

2. Minutes of previous meeting on 11th January had been circulated and were taken as read, signed and adopted.

3. Matters arising:

3.1 The overgrown hedge in Old Lane is still causing traffic to drive on the verge.

3.2 The Village Sign is being renovated.

3.3 Sources of funding for improvements to playground. Is the scheme fundable? Is £50,000 too much to spend? Some funds have already been raised through Waitrose's support for community projects.

4. Finance:

4.1 Barclays Bank statements at 31st December 2013

Business Saver	£200.24
Community Account	<u>£4,350.30</u>
	£4,550.54

4.2 Expenditure:

The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Power
100589	Texprep	£66.30	Local Government Act 1972 s142
100590	E.On maintenance	£107.70	Parish Councils Act 1957 s 3
100591	E.On lighting	£138.75	Parish Councils Act 1957 s 3
100592	Marcus Young Landscapes	£93.60	Litter Act 1983 s 5 and 6
100593	Clerk's salary and expenses	£355.00	Local Government Act 1972 s112 and s111
100594	Cllr Thomas - expenses	£12.40	Local Government Act 1972 s112 and s111

4.3 Income:

Update: Remittance £66.30 paid into bank by Limes Farm

5. Correspondence since 11th December

email Northants Police News in brief update for South Northants District

email Northants CALC Training calendar January – June 2014

email information from snvb x 2

email Broadband information request – *Cllr Mellor would reply*

email NCALC Christmas mini update

email Superfast Northamptonshire Newsletter 10

Clerks & Councils Direct January

- SNC**
- i) email SNC Christmas waste and recycling collections
 - ii) SNC Parish Precept etc. *Need to make request and NO payment will be made through the Council Tax Reduction scheme*
 - iii) email SNC Press release – “third best place to live in the whole of the UK and the best in the East Midlands”.....*but some of you knew that already!*

- NCC**
- i) email NCC Notification of Public Consultations
 - ii) Northamptonshire Highways. County Council proposing to make the Order: Northamptonshire County Council – Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Various roads, South Northamptonshire District 30mph 50mph Speed Limits Order 2014 - *includes the B4525*
 - iii) email NCC Newsletter
 - iv) email Northamptonshire Highways Newsletter

6. Traffic Issues:

No response from previous correspondence.

7. SNC Local Plan Consultation – prepare response for 24th January deadline

Cllrs Grant, Thomas and Hunt agreed to work on the collation. Cllr Thomas would ask for an extension to the deadline in order to be able to present it to full Council at February's meeting.

8. Solar Farm Proposal

The Council is there to listen to all comments and to represent the views of the village and as such will make a decision and agree how to respond when and if an application is submitted. Councillors are entitled to hold a personal view but this must always be made clear that it is a personal opinion and not necessarily the opinion they would have if asked to vote. Their view may not be in line either with the final decision of the Council.

9. Approve Budget and Precept 2014 – 15

Final adjustments were made to the budget and it was agreed that the Council do precept upon South Northants District Council in the sum of £6,500 to be paid in two instalments in April and September. This level had now been maintained for two years but there may need to be an increase next year.

10. Planning Matters:

There were no planning matters.

Councillors round the table.....

Date of Next Meeting

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

The meeting closed at 9.00pm
93fpcmnJanuary14