

FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL
Annual Parish Meeting
Village Hall
20:00 11th April 2012

Firstly I would like to thank all my fellow councillors for their personal support and commitment over the past year. Special thanks to our Clerk, Sue Shepard who has kept us on course throughout our deliberations.

Traffic Issues

Traffic continues to be a major focus of the Parish Council. At this point I would like to pay special thanks to John Grant who continues to devote many hours lobbying the District and County Council in exploration as to what is possible and what is not. I would also express special thanks to Ron Sawbridge for his backing on all occasions when we pursue support.

Recently David Clayton prepared a letter for me to send to South Northants Council in an effort to reduce the number of heavy lorries passing through Farthinghoe. The letter was copied to Andrea Leadsom, in an effort to lobby parliamentary support regarding the satellite routing information passed to heavy lorries via sat-nav services.

We have continued to monitor with interest the impact that the High Speed Rail-link between London and Birmingham might have on traffic levels.

Planning Applications

Although the Parish Council is made aware of most planning applications submitted to South Northants Council, I must emphasise that it is not our responsibility to advise all Parishioners of such applications. Planning applications are notified to those who South Northants believe may be affected and submissions can be seen on the South Northants web-site.

Land Registration

The Parish Council have identified that the grassed area outside the school has not been registered at the Land Registry and neither has the plot on the junction of Charlton Road and Queens Street. It is our intention to register the land in the name of Farthinghoe Parish Council and to plant two trees to commemorate HM Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee.

Village Web-site

The Village web site continues to display a soft copy of the Farthinghoe Chronicle and various reports as they become available. Links are provided to the School, Limes Farm and Fox Inn. The web address is www.farthinghoeparishcouncil.org . This report is available for downloading now on the website!

Farthinghoe Chronicle

Pip Sandel has done an excellent job over the past year keeping us aware of activities taking place in the community and thanks to the Fox Inn and Limes Farm we have been able to keep the cost to Parishioners at zero.

Village Sign

Although a new sign was supported by the Parish Council, Fox Inn and Limes Farm it was not to everyone's liking and several attempts were made over the year to vandalise the sign. The Parish Council have agreed that it will be rescreened and include Bowling Green, Manor Lane, the Allotments and the footpath from Limes Farm to Manor Lane. No other changes have been requested and therefore we will instruct the printer to go ahead with the printing.

Diamond Jubilee

I would like to thank John Grant and his team who together are actively making arrangements for the Village to Celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at the beginning of June. Special thanks to Major Cox for his generous donation and others who have also contributed to the fund. It is hoped this will be an enjoyable event for all and thanks to the Church, School, Fox Inn, Limes Farm and Village Hall Committee for all their support.

Grass Cutting

As our group of active volunteers continues to age we have of necessity had to employ external help to cut the grass at both the Village Hall and Children's play area. This year we went out to tender and the Council is pleased that the contract has again gone to a local member of the Community Jon Hampson.

Infinity

Although BT Openreach have fed 276 Fibre Optic Cables through the Village as yet they have chosen not to give any of the Villagers or Businesses benefit of improved access to the Internet. We are constantly lobbying BT and will continue to do so and would encourage you all to lobby your provider for improved service.

Finally I would like to thank my Vice Chairman, Ian Hunt for monitoring all planning applications submitted within the village and taking the Chair when I am unable to attend due to other external pressures.

Professor David P Mellor OBE
Chairman