



Minutes of a Meeting of the full Farnsfield Parish Council
held at **7.00pm on Tuesday 27th February 2024**
in the Lower Hall of the Village Centre, New Hill, NG22 8JN

In Attendance: Cllr Sarre (Chair), Cllr J Shakeshaft, Cllr Cracknell, Cllr Thompson, Cllr Healy. Plus 14 residents.

Minute Taker: Clerk - Olwen Edwards.

Chair noted that Council meetings are for the Council to discuss Council business and make decisions and are not public meetings. However FPC does have a public session to take comments and views from the public. This is not the case with all Parish Councils. Also have an urgent village matters item, though these do need to be considered by the Chair as urgent. Chair went on to note that Council will run another co-option exercise, would welcome applications and would ask potential councillors to come to one of the next Council meetings. There will be an opportunity for prospective Councillors to speak about their interest in becoming a Councillor. The Chair also took opportunity to thank the outgoing Clerk.

Meeting Items

- 24.195 Apologies were received from: Cllr Harris Sutton (maternity leave), Cllr M Shakeshaft (NSDC business), Cllr Moore (holiday), Cllr Savage (caring responsibilities). Apologies provided were accepted. Proposer Cllr J Shakeshaft and seconded Cllr Cracknell. All agreed.
- 24.196 Declarations of interest: None
- 24.197 The minutes of 6th February 2024 Extraordinary Full Council minutes were accepted as accurate. Proposed by Cllr Thompson and seconded Cllr Cracknell. All agreed.
- 24.198 Matters arising from the minutes:
Chair reported on the meeting with NSDC Monitoring Officer, a senior member of Democratic Services and the CEO of Notts ALC (FC24.189). A helpful meeting called by FPC Councillors, to explore challenges the Council currently faces, and particularly how to deal with issues being raised by a small number of residents amounting to repetitive and inconsiderate behaviour towards the Clerk and Councillors.
Concerning FC24.190, FPC had facilitated a meeting on Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) with 30 people attending and discussing a wide range of ASB issues. Many people shared their experiences in presence of Police and NSDC representatives. Generally the meeting was considered very helpful and useful. Cllr M Shakeshaft had chased Severn Trent and is making headway.
Under FC24.193 BPP WG had been asked to review the vexatious policy, but recommendations are not yet ready. It is reviewing the policy used by NSDC. FPC policy had been developed by the previous council and echoes the concerns at that time and interestingly reflects a similar set of circumstances. The Chair read out two sentences from the publicly available policy starting 'A small number of people contact the parish council with questions comments and criticisms ' and 'Responding in these circumstances takes up a disproportionate amount of time and resource and ultimately cost to residents...' This Council is trying to improve matters.
- 24.199 To determine which items on agenda, if any, require the exclusion of public and press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 1(2) and resolve to exclude public and press for these items. One item under this. Lease topic still in negotiation and therefore stays a closed item. Proposed Cllr Thompson, seconded Cllr Healy. All agreed.

Public Session

- 24.200 Chair suspended Standing Orders for the public contribution.
- a. Representation regarding items on the agenda
Re.24.211. Range of queries and questions regarding the Hadleigh Park car park. A resident queried how many extra spaces would be available for expenditure of £65k. Another Resident queried that the proposal "doubles" the car parking spaces. From the Council's own survey it stated there were 18 cars in car park plus 5 parked on Parfitt Drive

on Sun 6th August. And 17% of the survey results indicate more than 11 cars parking. So double is incorrect; rather a 22% not 100% increase. Is £80k good value for money for 4 more spaces? Secondly, a North extension 24mx80m had been considered and a plan passed. Is it value for money and why not consider the North extension?

A further resident asked why is the plan rounded not squared off to enable more spaces for parking, and said that if you go ahead with Ecogrid and Option 2 please use gravel as otherwise it will look a mess and need more maintenance. Also don't agree with EV points. And wonder about a further extension and is it likely to take place?

A resident said that residents living on Quaker Lane and Cotton Mill Lane concern about amount of money being spent and lack of progress. There is a 50m stretch that could solve the problem of traffic using these two roads. Traffic could go down Parfitt Drive and link to existing parking. Chair reported there is progress. Residents commented an A2R Working Group report would be welcome and help solve the issue as it felt as if nothing was being done. Another resident queried whether the football traffic, etc, will park in the Hadleigh car park. On a recent Sunday there were 32 cars parked at the Acres and Cotton Mill Lane, whereas there were only 7 in the Hadleigh car park.

A resident asked how elements of the E&D Policies of the Council had been included in the access to the Acres and the Car Park, who had been approached, and how were they involved. Few can access the footpaths. It was noted this was inherited from previous Council and there are 2 disabled spaces in design although work on making Footpath 9 more accessible is not forgotten but in obedience due to pressures of timescales to complete the CIL and S106 projects to deadlines. One resident commented she did not believe there were deadlines now the Council were making the process. Hence need the HP car park development first and then the broader agenda. Assurance was given that equality and diversity factors are being considered. A resident noted re. skatepark development and football clubs, previous council should have considered the access issues. A resident wanted assurance that the Council had a vision for the whole area and work interconnected.

b. Urgent village matters not previously raised: None

Chair reinstated SOs.

Reports from the County Council and District Council

- 24.201 Reports from County and District Councillors
In his absence Cllr M Shakeshaft had sent a written update which the Chair spoke to at the meeting. Topics included feedback re. Severn Trent re Pumping Station, Planning Dept matters, and progressing the two LDCs for the Village Centre S106 projects. The Cllr was taking up a range of local residents issues about flooding, state of footpaths, and the Post Office Letter Box. He asked that residents send their NSDC issues to him.

Items to approve, receive or note

- 24.202 The Bills for Payment & Financial Summary were approved as a correct record and payments agreed. All agreed. Cllr Cracknell proposed and Cllr Healy seconded.
- 24.203 The paper outlining the committee decisions made in the interim period between Full Council meetings and updates from Working Parties was noted.
- 24.204 A verbal update on grant management and progression on S106 Miller/Bellway spend provided by Cllr Thompson and Clerk was noted. Tennis Club work is complete bar an accounts check. Cricket Club is in the final stages. Village Centre is now at EOI stage and on the agenda. Pavilion, the contractor has a schedule of work in stages and starts shortly.
- 24.205 Cllr Healy proposed to add "to consider options for Community Transport" under TLC Working Party last action point. The Parish Council quarterly plan update was noted and approved. All agreed on the addition proposed by Cllr Healy, seconded Cllr Cracknell and all agreed. Proposed Cllr Sarre and seconded Cllr Healy.
- 24.206 The need to open a new Building Society account, to manage risk (and transfer appropriate sums between current accounts in order to manage said risk) was approved. Proposed by Cllr Sarre and seconded Cllr Healy. All agreed.
- 24.207 The Calendar of Council & Committee meeting dates for 2024 was noted.
- 24.208 Recent Planning Applications relevant to Farnsfield were noted.

Correspondence

- 24.209 To note any correspondence since the last meeting: Clerk reported a letter from the RBL re. Party in the Park and an anonymous letter from a resident re footpaths which the Caretaker was inspecting and would report as necessary. Clerk also noted that emails to and from,

across re. residents regarding a range of issues and related emails between Cllrs and others was now nearing 600. 300 emails from range of residents on a range of community issues. And 300 emails from to and involving very few residents, relating to council governance. And noted the time this takes up.

Items to discuss and agree a course of action

- 24.210 S106 Air Con Village Centre Project: Decided to look solely at Upper Floor. Recommend FWP a Calverton company. Total £23,331 including VAT. Item will provide heat and air con. NSDC have seen our proposal (out of courtesy) and to ensure it fits with tenor of S106. LDCs sought, however does not prevent an order being placed. It was proposed that the Council approve the S106 Miller Expression of Interest and funding for the Village Centre Air Con works as recommended. Proposed Cllr Cracknell and seconded Cllr Thompson. All agreed.
- 24.211 Hadleigh Car Park: Cllr Thompson explained the target price is £44.4k. Taking residents' comments into account, the contingency amount is there to allow for flexibility. All contractors recommended earth not gravel infill. Cllr Healy has seen both gravel and soil and preference is soil as enables clover and chamomile. However gravel also a good source as also allows for wildflowers. Need to decide on number of disabled bays (guidelines are 2+).
If go back into records for tender September 2022 x 31 places c.£104k. This proposal is £2k per space, previous proposal was £3k per slot. It would cost £30k to install a 50kw EV point, which will charge quickly but is costly and there are EV points nearby. However, can be added retrospectively. White lining on tarmac options and colour kerb stones are our eco-grid options.
Cllr Sarre proposed Option 2 with company 2 at a cost inc. contingency = £49,950. Plus 2 disabled bays and 2.8m car bay width. Proposed Cllr Sarre and seconded Cllr Thompson. All agreed.
- 24.212 Council agreed to confirm the appointment of recently interviewed experienced, AAT qualified/part CIMA qualified candidate as locum RFO, on a 5 hours a week, on a zero hours contract. Proposed Cllr J Shakeshaft and seconded Cllr Healy. All agreed.
- 24.213 Proposal to follow equivalent interim arrangements as last summer, delegate email & council mobile phone, establish contacts for staff, contact for ground maintenance and other administrative tasks.
- Cllr Sarre to act as Clerk (although, with 3 potential CILCA Locum applicants, may be short term). Proposed Cllr Healy and seconded Cllr Thompson. All agreed.
 - Contact person for staff if they need assistance such as for repairs. Cllr Cracknell proposed by Cllr Sarre and seconded Cllr Healy. All agreed.
 - Contact person for NSDC grounds maintenance and other contact. Cllr Healy proposed by Cllr Thompson and seconded by Cllr Sarre. All agreed.
 - Proposal to delegate RFO salary payment approvals to the Chair to ensure the RFO is paid, proposed Cllr Thompson and seconded Cllr Shakeshaft. All agreed.
 - Proposal that emergency delegation is changed temporarily to include the RFO, being able to spend up to £999 in absence of a Clerk. Proposed Cllr Healy and seconded Cllr Sarre. All agreed.

Agenda reordered as Chair conscious of time. 24.216 taken first.

- 24.216 Cllr Healy explained that the win funds went back into Community Spaces and have funds in Horticultural Society so self-funding. Proposal to enter the Best Kept Village competition and use Parish logo, Cllr Healy and seconded Cllr J Shakeshaft. All agreed.
- 24.214 Proposal for Council to approve the Environmental & Biodiversity Policy and action plan. Deferred to the next full Council meeting. Cllr J Shakeshaft seconded Cllr Cracknell All agreed.
- 24.215 The proposal to conduct a community transport questionnaire (cost c.£100) and to agree the proposed content of the questionnaire was agreed. Also deferred.

Closed

- 24.217 Resolution: Proposed Cllr Thompson and seconded Cllr Sarre. All agreed to the term and duration of the leases to the Bowls Club and Tennis Club.
- 24.218 **Date of the next meeting:** 26th March 2024 at 7pm in the Lower Hall, Village Centre