

MINUTES OF THE AGM OF FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11th MAY 2011 AT 7.00pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Councillors present: Prof. David Mellor - Chair
Mr Ian Hunt
Cllrs. Jenny Forbes
Ms Sue Shepard (Clerk)

Public Time

Mrs Campbell wanted to know if the speed camera was working. Although the Council had been advised that it was not working it had been turned round so the Parish Council was not sure what the current situation was. Even if it is not working it is still an effective deterrent in conjunction with the flashing sign. Cllr Grant is making enquiries.

Mrs Sharman thanked the Council for getting the bus shelter roof repaired and for getting the litter bin emptied.

The Farthinghoe village sign had fallen down. Did the Council have any plan to put it back up? It does not belong to the Parish Council so it is not the Council's responsibility but it was fortunate that it did not hit anyone.

Mr Neil Downing introduced himself. He had lived in the village for 6 years, was a parent governor at Silverstone school, had served on committees, loves the village and now wants to give something back.

1. Election of Chairman and Acceptance of Office and election of Vice-Chairman. Declaration of Interest forms

Cllr Ian Hunt proposed Cllr David Mellor as Chairman and this was seconded by Cllr Jenny Forbes. Cllr Mellor signed his Acceptance of Office.

All newly elected councillors also needed to sign an Acceptance of Office. Each councillor received a Declaration of Interest form to be completed and returned to the Clerk.

Cllr Mellor proposed and Cllr Forbes seconded Cllr Hunt as Vice – Chairman.

2. Apologies: Mr John Grant

3. Report from Cllr John Grant as the Parish Council representative on the village Hall Committee

The Village Hall is owned by the Parish Council but the Village Hall Committee is responsible for the day to day management. Cllr Grant was not present but had sent a written report.

"This year will see the completion of the kitchen re-vamp. New chairs have been purchased to replace existing dark plastic type. It is also intended to replace the tables but this will probably take place end of this financial year. A new Gazebo will also be purchased for "good weather" functions. A new large shed has been purchased for storage of equipment for school, little angels and various other activities. The shed has been purchased as a result of funding from The Fox. Consideration is being given to planting of a "living hedge" along Cockley Road to improve the overall impression and entrance to Farthinghoe Village Hall. This is necessary following the wholesale damage caused by E-On to the trees and shrubs. Finally, internal painting of the Hall is also being considered, dependent on funding this year. Grass is being cut by Jon Hampson and a good job is being made. An inspection last week, disclosed an infestation of Dandelions. We may need to ask Jon to spray/eradicate, depends on what Parish Council view is on this matter. Jon has also raised the matter of

molehills and clearance of grass cuttings in the children's play area. Again, views on these points need to be obtained."

4. Appointment of representative to the above organisation

Cllr Grant is willing to continue as representative on the Village Hall Committee for the forthcoming year.

5. To consider whether and how to fill the vacancies following the ordinary election and to consider co-opting any persons who are immediately available

With only three elected councillors, if one was unable to attend a meeting it would not be quorate and no meeting could take place so it was agreed that Dr Nigel Heywood, who had expressed an interest in rejoining the Council and Mr Neil Downing, who had also expressed an interest, would be co-opted. All three signed their Acceptance of Office and each received a Declaration of Interest form to be completed and returned to the Clerk

6. Finance.

6.1 Barclays bank statements as at as at 30th April 2011

Business Saver	£5,767.97
Community Account	<u>£1,487.67</u>
	£7,255.64

6.2 Quote to repair roof of bus shelter

Once the old felt had been stripped, new boarding was required and this had been authorised by Cllr Grant while the contractors were on site. Invoice for £422 + VAT received.

6.3 The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Power
100473	Deddington Felt Roofing	£506.40	Parish Councils Act 1957 s 1
100474	Texprep	£64.90	Local Government Act 1972 s 142
100475	Jon Hampson – grass cutting	£160.00	Open Spaces Act 1906 s 9 and 10
100476	Farthinghoe PCC	£64.90	Local Government Act 1972 s 142
100477	Community Consultation Ltd (Insurance)	£602.15	Local Government Act 1972 s 111

7. Correspondence since 13th April

South Northants Homes Major Works Briefing paper March 2011

CPRE Northamptonshire "Outlook" Spring 2011

Supper Party 21st May

CPRE Northamptonshire AGM 25th May

Northamptonshire Food and Drink Awards 2011- 2012

CPRE "Fieldwork" Spring 2011

South Northants Area Support Team – Neighbourhood Watch – *request for £10 00 donation?*

SNC i) Local Elections 2011. Notification of Financial and Other Interests forms (Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms – electronic copy

8. Traffic Issues

The speed camera has been turned round so people think it is operational. Who turned it round? The Police advised that it had been turned off and that it is unlikely to be tuned on again with the ending of the Casualty Reduction Partnership.

E-mail from Cllr Grant: *"With the approval of the Committee I would like to prepare a letter to NCC regarding the speed camera demise. I would also like to ask BBC Television to raise the profile of this issue. They did an article on Oxford last week. I would like them to undertake a similar action on our behalf."*

The Council agreed to Cllr Grant's request.

9. Farthinghoe Chronicle

The PCC had paid out £64.90 in January for December's Chronicle and the Council agreed that the PCC should be reimbursed. Neil Downing agreed to deliver the cheque.

10. Brackley Volunteer Car Service

The Parish Council agreed that some of the money intended for the Almshouse could be redirected to the BVCS but as the service had received sufficient funding for this year, it was agreed that only a nominal donation (£100) would be made. A donation to the Almshouses will be considered at the next meeting.

11. Review of Annual Parish Meeting

The re-alignment of the Cockley Road junction was discussed at some length at the APM. The lay out of the junction had been altered so that the junction was further from the crossing to make it safer for children going to and from school. The pedestrian crossing was always in the right place but too near to the junction. Yellow lines cannot be used to prevent vehicles parking opposite the school in Cockley Road and parking is not illegal until it causes an obstruction. The comments that had been received were all from individuals who did not have children at school. The school had written to parents but had not received any adverse comments about the revised junction. The Parish Council is waiting for confirmation of this and in the meantime County Councillor Ron Sawbridge will seek reassurance that the alterations to the junction have not jeopardised the safety of the children.

An area in front of the school will be used by the contractors during the building of the new classroom. They will re instate when the work is complete.

The redundant wooden poles, since the undergrounding of cables last year, have been removed, improving the street view along Main Road.

12. Insurance

The Parish Council agreed that, since the insurance had only been reviewed last year, the renewal quote was acceptable. The premium would be paid but the level of cover for street lighting would need to be looked at.

13. NCC's consultation on the future of Public Transport

Cllr Grant would attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

14. Planning Matters: None

Councillors round the table.....

1. Cllr Grant had included in his e-mail the subject of the village adopting the grass area on the corner of Queens Street and Charlton Road. This had been raised at the APM and would be put on the agenda for June.
2. Cllr Mellor had spoken to The Fox and Limes Farm. They were happy to contribute $\frac{1}{3}$ (£748) each towards the cost of the information/notice board. The Limes would provide the artwork but all parties would need to agree on the final version. Could some historical annotation be included on the sign?
3. Cllr Forbes wanted to establish a link from the Parish Council website to the Almshouses web site. There would be an article in the next edition of the Chronicle advising that one of the houses is about to become vacant
4. The judges for the Best Village Competition appeared impressed with their time spent in Farthinghoe, which included a visit to Limes Farm and lunch at the pub!
5. Broad band speed is not so much of an issue as connectivity.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8th June at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

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