

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FARTHINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 7.00pm AT THE VILLAGE
HALL

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

Public Time:

The issue of the Cockley Road junction was raised again by a group of residents. Agricultural vehicles and large lorries find it difficult to negotiate the junction. Vehicles mount the footpath as children are going to school and there are no school railings. Parked cars outside the school make the road even narrower and vehicles cannot pass. Vehicles are parked on grass areas but only if the vehicle is causing an obstruction or is parked within 15m of the junction, can the Police take action.

Parents dropping off children at the beginning and the end of the school day continues to be a problem. What will happen when construction work starts on the proposed solar panel farm? An increase in traffic will only cause more problems. Parents should be encouraged to use the car park at the Village Hall or drop off in Charlton Way.

What about the introduction of a 20mph restriction outside of school or other traffic calming method such as "sleeping policemen".

Requests have been made to school and via the Chronicle and the website asking drivers not to park outside of school.

Could the zig zag lines outside of school be extended or double yellow lines be painted on both sides of the road from the A422 to Seven Sisters?

The Parish Council would contact District Councillor Rebecca Breese and County Councillor Ron Sawbridge.

On the development of the proposed solar panel farm, the increase in traffic would be intolerable. Local residents are also concerned about the accident 'black spot' on the A422 on the bend by Glebe Farm. No application had been received to date.

1. Apologies:

2. Minutes of previous meeting on 11th July were circulated prior to the meeting. On page 652 under agenda item 8 it should read "the" instead of "he". This will be amended before publication on the web site. The minutes were taken as read, adopted and signed.

3. Matters arising:

3.1 It is anticipated that construction of the solar panel farm could start in early 2013 with the introduction of temporary traffic lights for three months.

3.2 Code of Conduct – All Declaration of Pecuniary Interests forms had been completed and are now ready to be forwarded to SNC for publication on their website.

4. Finance:

4.1 Barclays Bank statements at 31st August 2012

Business Saver	£1,919.90
Community Account	<u>£221.37</u>
	£2,141.27

4.2 Expenditure:

The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

Cheque	Payee	Amount	Power
100531	E.On maintenance	£103.39	Parish Councils Act 1957 s 3
100532	Texprep	£103.00	Local Government Act 1972 s142
100533	Shelley Signs	£528.00	Section 137
100534	Clerk's salary and expenses	£355.00	Local Government Act 1972 s112 and s111
100535	HMRC (PAYE)	£70.00	
100536	Jon Hampson	£480.00	Open Spaces Act 1906 s 9 and 10

4.3 Income: HMRC VAT repayment £983.84

5. Correspondence since 11th July

Northamptonshire Police Authority. Election of Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire and "Have your say" *questionnaire*

South Northants Homes Major Works Briefing Paper June 2012

e-mails (2) **snvb** – latest information on funding etc

e-mail **Brackley Information Bureau** bulletin

The Planning Inspectorate – the appeal against refusal of planning permission for five wind turbines at Spring Ridge Farm has been upheld

West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit. WNJ Core Strategy – Proposed changes to the pre submission version. Advance publicity period: 31st July - 13th August 2012 *Representations period: 14th August – 26th September 2012*

CPRE "Countryside Voice" Summer 2012

CPRE Northamptonshire "Outlook" Summer 2012

Swarco Traffic Ltd – mobile vehicle activated signs (MVAS) – *passed to Cllr Grant*

NCALC "Update" July – August 2012

Vitalise - request for funding

No meeting in August

e-mail **NACRE** Retirement of Chief Executive

e-mail **NCALC** Declaration of Pecuniary Interests – a guide for councillors

e-mail **Police Authority** – article for village newsletters

Audit Commission Appointment of BDO LLP as external auditor to Farthinghoe Parish Council from 2013 for five years

Northamptonshire ACRE AGM on Wednesday, 12th September

SLCC Free month's membership.....

Community Website training at Hunsbury Hill on 18th September

Community based countywide oil buying syndicate.....

Clerks & Councils Direct September 2012

CPRE "Fieldwork" Autumn 2012

e-mail **NCALC** Reminder: AGM 20th October 10.00 – 1.00pm

e-mail **NCALC** Planning Your Community. Should Farthinghoe consider starting a Parish Plan, Village Design Statement?

e-mail **Andrea Leadsom** Public Meeting - Spring Ridge Farm planning decision Tuesday, 25th September at 7.00pm at Greatworth Primary School

e-mail Ron Sawbridge forwarded invitation to meet Adam Simmonds on 20th October, the Conservative candidate for role of Police Commissioner

SNC i) Electoral Register – Annual Canvass. *Request form for copy of register returned*
ii) e-mail New Code of Conduct Standards Guidance 2012
iii) e-mail Spring Ridge Farm planning decision challenge by SNC against the appeal being upheld

NCC i) e-mail Schools Admission Campaign
ii) e-mail Rose Little. Pocket Parks leaflet

6. Traffic Issues

Nothing to report except evidently of 23 cameras in the Thames Valley area only 22 are working at any one time! Although the fixed camera in Farthinghoe is currently not active, it still works as an effective deterrent: not knowing if its status has been altered, but the illuminated “Slow Down” sign is considered to be even more effective. It is anticipated that all cameras in Northamptonshire will be digital in the near future.

7. Registration of grass area at junction of Queens Street and Charlton Road with the Land Registry

This will also include the registration of the two areas, one in front of school and the other at the junction with Charlton Way but no progress to date. The Council agreed that flowers, primroses and daffodils, could be planted in the grass areas.

8. Playground: Annual Safety Report and liability issues

The bridge section part of the adventure trail was considered a medium risk and will be repaired as soon as possible. No action would be taken regarding any low risk items or issues.

It had been suggested that the playground was in need of some new play equipment. A group of parents have indicated their willingness to organise a fund raising event and David Dashwood is a trustee of a fund that may also be able to provide some funding. Cllr Ron Sawbridge could be approached now to see if any funding would be available under the County Council Empowering Scheme. Consideration would also be given to the proposal as part of the budgeting process.

9. Budget for grass-cutting

If the Parish Council is to add the two areas that are to be registered to the Parish Council to the two areas, Village Hall and the Playground, that the Parish Council already pays for, the budget will need to be increased or a less frequent mowing regime adopted.

Cllr Dashwood could ‘top’ the verge areas. Mary Sharman has looked after the churchyard for many years but does not do as much as she used to. Will the grass-cutting around the Village Hall need to revert back to being the responsibility of the Village Hall Committee? Jon Hampson will be asked to give a breakdown of the cost for each area that he mows and what it would cost to mow the extra areas.

10. Charlton Way – vehicles travelling in the wrong direction

Vehicles as well as cyclists and horse riders are ignoring the “No Entry” sign and going in the wrong direction. Cllr Grant had advised the police who had said that they didn’t have the resources to write to the offenders.

The white lining has been redone which was helpful. Would the introduction of a 20mph restriction be a good idea?

Cllr Grant will write an article for the Chronicle and draft a letter to send to the Police Commissioner.

9. Planning Matters:

None

Councillors round the table.....

1. Although some businesses had expressed an interest in accessing faster broadband speeds there had not been a real commitment to paying for the improvement. Cllr Mellor is writing an article for the Chronicle.
2. Parkes Office Solutions wanted to know if the Parish Council intended to use them for their website provision next year.
3. Cllr Mellor will write an article regarding Cockley Road junction to reach editor by Friday.
4. Cllr Grant has resigned from the Village Hall Committee as he is not able to give the time required.
5. Cllr Forbes reminded Cllr Dashwood that the hedge at the junction with Hinton Road needed to be cut back.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 10th October at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

78fpcmnSeptember12