

Minutes of the

Full Council Meeting of Farringdon Parish Council

held in the Function Room at The Golden Pheasant, Gosport Road, Farringdon,

on Wednesday, 4th March 2020, at 7:30pm

Present:

Cllr A. Batley Chair, D. Craig, Ms A. de Ledesma, D. Horton, G. Ryan, D. Williams, and P. Mossman. EHDC Cllrs David Ashcroft and Ken Carter and 2 members of the public.

- 166/19 To Receive and Approve Apologies for Absence and Welcome
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs Farris and Cllr Clegg and HCC Cllr Mark Kemp Gee.
- 167/19 To Receive and Approve Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests (Clerk) – Local Government Act 1972 S117
The Acting Clerk – Tony Batley, declared that he had no Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interests
RESOLVED:
- 168/19 To Approve Dispensations for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Under Section 33 Of The Localism Act 2011 (Councillors)
RESOLVED: Cllr David Williams declared a pecuniary interest in Item 179 – Claim for Expenses. (s33 The Localism Act 2011)
- 169/19 To Receive Proposal to Suspend Standing Orders To Allow Public Question Time
The meeting was suspended so that Cllr David Ashcroft (District Councillor, EHDC) could précis recent decisions and items of note:-
- EHDC Precept had increased by 2%, for additional welfare provisions including, The Kings Arms, a charity that mentors and engages with 11-18 yr olds. The charity operates in Petersfield and Alton and aims to stop youths ‘dropping out’ of education and steers them away from drugs. The charity reports a 30% increase in youths that have stayed on in full time education to the age of 18 years and their expenditure for 2019/20 is £5,000. See <http://thekingsarms.org.uk/> for further details.
 - EHDC will also support Riding for The Disabled through the 2% increase in precept and other welfare services will be maintained
 - EHDC’s District Plan is known to be out of date. The new plan is nearing completion.
 - EHDC’s property portfolio is showing a 6% return on investment.

The Chair thanked Cllr. Ashcroft who then departed to attend another meeting.

District Councillor Cllr Ken Carter stated that;-

- The District’s Large Scale Plan had a 6 year land supply for development.
- Applications for District Grants were now complete and he had pledged £600, towards The Farringdon Yew Tree (See item177)

The Chair thanked Cllr Carter.

- 170/19 **Resolved** Standing Orders were resumed.
- 171/19 The Minutes of the previous Full Council Meeting held on 8th January 2020 had been previously circulated to Cllrs by email.
Resolved. The Minutes were accepted without amendment.
- 172/19 Matters Arising:
- South Downs National Park had approved 2 grants to Farringdon PC for the installation of Picnic Benches at Parsonage Close and a New Kissing Gate at Shirnall Hill.
 - The Clerk's Laptop computer required an upgrade to allow it to run on Window 10. It was agreed to consult with the new clerk as to the best way forward.
 - A complaint regarding a Shooting Party near Kitcombe Lane had been followed-up by the Chair but the complainant had not responded.
- 173/19 Delivery of the new Notice Board for Shirnall Hill is expected soon.
To date, no quotes had been received for ground work at Parsonage Close to provide bases for new Picnic Benches.
- 174/19 Cllr Phil Mossman appraised Councillors of the selection process that had been undertaken by the Staffing Committee in the selection of a new Parish Clerk.
A 4 day advert on 'Indeed' had received approx 15 responses. An initial 'paper sift' by the Chair and Vice Chair reduced this to 7. Out of those 7, 3 failed to respond to email's and so were rejected.
2 of the remaining 4 candidates withdrew their applications as they had found other positions.
2 very strong candidates were interviewed and 1 was selected for a second interview, conducted by the Chair and Vice Chair.
Cllr Mossman **Proposed** that Mr Gary Lyle be appointed as Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to Farringdon Parish Council. Seconded by Cllr Batley.
Resolved Unanimously. Mr Gary Lyle was so appointed, from Monday 9th March 2020, subject to satisfactory references and background checks.
The Chair thanked all of the candidates that had responded to the advert and to the Staffing Committee (Cllrs Mossman, Clegg and Ryan) for their work.
- 175/19 Council noted, with thanks the generous donation to the parish of £335 by Mrs Chrys Browne. The funds have been raised from the sale of a book about The Folley by Mrs. Browne.
- 176/19 Council noted, with thanks the generous donation to the parish of £1262 and £1277 from South Downs National Park towards the costs of the new Kissing Gate and Picnic Benches, respectively. The Chair also noted, with thanks the help of Ms. Gill Welsman from SDNP in these projects.
- 177/19 Council heard a presentation from a local resident, Mr Bryan Orchard in support of his application for a £500 grant, towards the cost of remedial action to save the Yew Tree in the Church Yard of All Saints Church.
Cllr Proposal
A **Proposal** by Cllr Horton, **to amend** any imminent Proposal to increase the grant to £1,000, was defeated 5/2.
A **Proposal** by Cllr de Ledesma to approve the grant of £500 was seconded.

The **Motion** was carried 6/1. (DW against).

178/19 EHDC are developing an Infrastructure Plan to promote Walking and Cycling. Council approved a Working Party of volunteers; Cllrs: Farris, Mossman and Ryan to investigate the establishment of Safe Cycling and Walking Routes within and through Farringdon.

178a/19 A **Proposal** by Cllr Batley, to approve a quote of £1332.34+VAT, by HAGS Ltd for repairs to the Tyre Slide and re-tensioning of the Tyre Slide's cables at the Shirnall Meadow Play Area. This had previously been discussed but the quote was not in hand for the last meeting. Seconded by Cllr; Mossman.
Resolved. Unanimously.

179/19 The Chairman, as acting Clerk presented the Parishes Chequebooks and Statements for independent reconciliation. Cllr: de Ledesma reconciled payments made against the latest bank statements. Accounts paid were approved.

180/19 The Chairman, as acting Clerk, presented Bank Statements for the Council x3 HSBC accounts and the Council's 1 remaining TSB account. The Chairman apologised for errors on Balances, that appeared on the Agenda. Statements that were produced by The Chair were verified and reconciled against chequebooks. Amended Balances, from those appearing on the agenda are:-

HSBC Acc ****0822	£25,037.55
HSBC Acc ****0814	£28,536.84
HSBC Acc ****0806	£110,334.65
TSB Acc ****7569	£7,345.81.

The Bank Statements, Balances and Reconciliations were Approved.

181/19 **Planning Applications**

- a) The Retrospective Planning Permission for temporary workers accommodation in a Mobile Home were noted.
- b) The Pre-Application for Planning Permission for possible relocation of a Graary Shed and Conversion of a Cart Shed at Manor Farm, Gaston Lane was noted.

182/19 Cllr David Craig reported that he had hosted a meeting of Councillors who had investigated and highlighted items that would be required to bring the existing Farringdon Village Plan 2030, up to date. Feedback had been very positive and work continued to examine ways of identifying areas that had been brought to attention. Cllr Craig thanked those Councillors that had helped review the plan and associated Action documents.

183/19 **Training.**

No training requirements for Councillors was identified.

It was noted that the new Parish Clerk's training requirements would need to be identified promptly.

184/19 **Natural Environment Reports**

Cllr Williams reported that he had reported many incidents of potholes and overhanging hedges to EHDC, through the online facility known as 'www.fixmystreet.com'. He stated that it was more user friendly and easier than reporting problems through EHDC's own reporting system. Cllr Williams noted that EHDC seem to be responding to fewer of these type of reports unless there is a dangerous implication to the problem.

Cllr Williams has also been in very close liaison with residents along the A32 and HCC's (Hydrograph) Engineers regarding the water levels in the village. Water levels can be viewed on-line at:

<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/station/9293>

The Chairman thanked Cllr Williams for his dedication and effort on behalf of the Council and Village.

Cllr Batley reported that the Speed Awareness Signs were still not fully functioning. Cllr Williams had managed to replace the internal batteries. The device's clocks were now working but the time would not transfer onto the data that the devices gathered.

The chair thanked Cllr Williams for his expertise and further investigations were ongoing.

Cllr Horton reported that he had recently met representatives from Hampshire Highways, Countryside Ways, The Parochial Church Council and our County Councillor, in an effort to highlight and resolve the issue of the erosion of the track outside the Lych Gate of All Saints Church. The meeting highlighted confusion as to the status and ownership of the thoroughfare and all parties have agreed to work together to resolve the issues. It has been suggested that a joint financial effort may be the way forward and Cllr Horton remains engaged to resolve the issue.

185/19 **Future Meeting Dates**

Please note: the date of the Annual Village Meeting has been changed to 23rd March 2020.

The date of the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council will be 13th May 2020.

Antony Batley
Chairman and Temporary Clerk
Farringdon Parish Council.