

FINMERE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 2nd February 2010 in Finmere Village Hall

Present:- Councillors, Mike Kerford-Byrnes (Chairman) (MKB), Katherine Grimston (Vice-Chairman) (KG) and Dr Adrian Wood (AW)

In attendance:- Sharron Chalcraft (Parish Clerk) (SC), Ian Macpherson (Treasurer) (IM) and 5 members of the public

1. Apologies:- Apologies were received from County Councillor Catherine Fulljames, Councillor Barbara Cunningham and Councillor Kevin Ochel gave warning of possible absence

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 5th January were circulated and approved.

3. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

This was postponed as Cllr Fulljames was unable to be present.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 **Moss on Roadway** c/f (this has been sprayed)

4.2 **Freedom of Information** c/f

4.3 **Village Noticeboards** c/f

4.4 **Caddy System** The boxes have arrived, first collection tomorrow.

4.5 **Re-assignment of Website Responsibilities** AW has met with Paul Nash, Website Administrator. PN is keen to be a conduit for the PC site. The details of Craig Robertson, former councillor, have been removed. AW's profile has been added. KG, BC and KO need to provide a profile. SC is to send the last 6 months minutes to AW to be made into pdf files for the site. It is hoped that the site can be expanded to include forthcoming and past events and the newsletter, which is already provided to site by IM. Wiki is currently costing £30 pa and as it is not being used it is felt best to deactivate it. IM is to be given the invoice for this. It is also a good idea to include a profit and loss account and an annual finance estimate on the site to improve transparency.

4.6 **Verge Clearance** c/f

4.7 **Christmas Lights** c/f

- 4.8 **Bulbs for Verge** These have been planted.
- 4.9 **Quarry Planning Appeal** This reply has been sent by MKB.
- 4.10 **Parish Precept** This form has been returned.
- 4.11 **March Meeting Date** MKB has confirmed the hall booking for Monday March 1st.
- 4.12 **Apology** MKB has drafted an apology to the villagers upset by comments made on a planning application response.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

It was reported that there was £451.85 in the Treasurer Account, £5,503.80 in the Business Money Manager Account and £25,000 in the Deposit Bond.

The following had been paid out:

£70.75 to Sharron Chalcraft (administration and running costs)

£8.69 to eon for electricity

6. S19/137

We are now nearing the year end and £1450 is left in the S137 fund. The village hall will need some new doors and windows following a burglary. The church clock needs £3000 for its restoration, this being in addition to the £7000 needed for the church wall. The PCC have currently secured two grants totalling some £2000 but there is still a deficit of £1000. IM points out that written evidence of this is needed for an S137 claim. It is felt best to fund any contribution to the church clock from next years S137. MKB proposes granting the village hall £1400 toward the cost of secure doors and windows. Seconded – KG. Carried unanimously.

7. FINMERE LANDFILL SITE UPDATE

Work has now begun on the site; material has been arriving for reshaping. This will be applied from west to east of the site which is a more sensible way to proceed. This means vehicles will not be crossing the new boggier areas of the site to tip the next load. PA are having problems sourcing hard core. As mentioned above the PC has replied in the negative to the PA conditions appeals, following the line of OCC.

8. PARISH REMUNERATION PANEL'S REPORT

This having been reviewed it is decided to request no allowances this year. SC to post receipt of the report on village noticeboards.

9. REVIEW OF PROCEDURES

It is decided that the PC is in compliance with current regulations. The procedures are to be kept as is for the next year.

10. HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT BUILDINGS LIST COMPILATION

New suggestions for the list are the milepost on the Banbury Rd, this being an original post, The Thatched House on Fulwell Rd and Cypress Cottage. SC is to compile this list and send to Cllr Michael Gibbard.

11. REVIEW OF LOCAL VALIDATION CHECKLIST – PLANNING

Councillors are to submit their own comments on this checklist.

12. GRIT BIN PROVISION

AW has liaised with Bob Adams, Oxfordshire Highways and provided him with pictures of the proposed locations for the bins. There is a concern over the precise location of the county boundary at the Red Lion end of Mere Road. There will be no grit to fill the bins until Easter, they will be delivered then.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

CPRE branch meeting notice – no one able to attend

OPFA membership reminder – It is decided to renew membership, proposed – KG, seconded – AW, carried unanimously. Reminder given to IM.

Make the Connection Community Led Planning Event – no one able to attend

Rural Affordable Housing Meeting – no one able to attend

Parish Speed Meeting – taken by MKB

Feedback on OPFA services form – SC to return

Bicester Town Mayors Concert – Poster to be displayed

Cherwell Local Strategic Partnership – invite email has been circulated

Local Transport Plan 3 consultation response request – to be given to BC

14. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

09/01414/LB – Wilburs Barn, Water Stratford Rd – replace windows and doors –

Permission subject to conditions

09/01565/F – Land at Gravel Farm, Banbury Rd – convert farm buildings to two dwellings - Consent subject to conditions

09/01812/F – Land South of The Mere/North of Heatherstone Lodge, Banbury Rd – Build 3 x 4 bedroom detached dwellings with garages, amenities and access arrangements

At this point MKB declares a prejudicial interest and leaves the room. KG as Vice Chairman takes the Chair.

KG points out that this matter can only be dealt with on strictly planning issues.

As the landowner and his consultant are present at the meeting it is felt best to allow them to comment on details of the proposals.

AW points out that the issue of privacy was important to several neighbours, these will be large, high developments on land already raised above the level of cottages on Fulwell Rd. The consultant points out that the owners are happy to rearrange the proposed row of houses to leave a blank wall in the house at the Fulwell Rd end. Another serious concern is traffic increase. The labelling of this land as being on the Banbury Rd is incorrect; this thoroughfare is much narrower and used a lot by villagers as a bridleway and a dog walking route. It is also the only access route to a working farm, raising traffic issues. The consultant points out that it is intended to install a passing bay of some 2.5 x 5 metres. A further concern is with drainage, it is feared that flooding of nearby gardens could occur if this area is paved and also that additional strain will be placed on the already overloaded sewage system. The consultant points out that the driveways of the development will all be permeable and that soakaways will be provided on surrounding land. The properties will all have their own septic tank facilities. The concern of many neighbours that this development will open the floodgates for future plans is not able to be addressed as this is not a planning matter. AW does point out that some neighbours were upset at having photographs taken of their houses for inclusion in the plans without permission. The owner says that he will address that matter.

The councillors present debate the issues and decide that they wish to object on grounds of loss of privacy and increased traffic; on safety grounds and given access issues. As this is now a non quorate meeting these comments must be submitted subject to ratification at the March 1st meeting. SC is to return with appropriate covering note.

MKB then returns to chair the meeting.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Disturbance KG heard noisy youngsters around the village hall at 6.30pm last Thursday. SC is to email RF.

2012 MKB points out that the Queens Diamond Jubilee will take place in 2012. It would seem appropriate to have a village celebration. This is to be an agenda item for March.

Kings Lodge MKB has been contacted by the son of a resident. She is worried that the planning permission given for development above the garages is not being adhered to. She is to call MKB with more information. It is pointed out that permission for a water pipe to

serve the garage has been refused by the owners of The Coach House, whose land it must cross.

Quoracy Given the shortage of councillors at the moment it would be a good idea to adopt a resolution allowing committee decisions to be binding. This is to be on the agenda for March.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is set as Monday March 1st 2010.

The meeting closed at 21.47.

CORRESPONDENCE CIRCULATED

Poppy Press leaflet and appeal letter

Clerks and Councils Direct January 2010

Home2School Spring 2010

The Playing Field Winter 2010