

FINMERE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 3rd of September 2013 in Finmere Village Hall

Present:- Councillors, Mike Kerford-Byrnes (MKB) (Chairman), Barbara Cunningham (BC), Anna Wood (ANNW), Dr Adrian Wood (AW), Mike Kirby (MK) and Kevin Ochel (KO)

In attendance:- County Councillor Catherine Fulljames, Sharron Chalcraft (Parish Clerk and RFO) and one member of the public

1. Apologies:-Apologies were received from Councillor Katherine Grimston (KG)

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of 9th of July were approved with corrections.

3. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The quarry application is to be considered at Monday's meeting of the Planning Committee and is recommended for approval, subject to conditions. MKB is to speak. Replacing conditions is no problem but the capping issue goes on and on. There is no mention of enforcement in the report. BC points out that at the last quarry liaison meeting there was no mention of a breach having taken place. Operators do vary widely in their standards. CF is to chair the meeting. MKB explains that at the last quarry liaison meeting Opes admitted that they had no funding yet but were still talking about a capping timetable of September 2013. MKB is checking fortnightly with Ben Wragg (Opes) but he is always fobbed off. CF is to check the conditions and try to strengthen the mechanism for enforcement after day one past planning dates if possible.

OCC has signed a contract for better broadband coverage; details are on the OCC website. Some villages have been left out and are petitioning. Finmere and Mixbury are included in the coverage. CDC may do something also for those who have missed out.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.01 **Village Notice Boards** The Warren Farm notice board is still to be fitted. c/f

4.02 **Drain Cover Land** c/f

4.03 **Greensleeves Development Waste** MKB has confirmed that there can be no ASBO issued as you cannot 'fly tip' on private land. The mound may be violating planning conditions but the PC would have to act against Mr Slater, not his builder. c/f

4.04 **Moss on pavements** This has increased and been joined by weeds. The paint markings are now fading. SC is to contact OCC Highways again. c/f

4.05 **Car valuables signs** c/f

- 4.06 **VAS Signs** MKB has been unable to contact Peter Ogawary of OCC. c/f
- 4.07 **Bench request** The funding has arrived, the bench has been delivered to MKB and the builder is to fit it soon. As someone has to attend the site and confirm exactly where the bench must be placed it is thought that it would be nice to invite Mr Taylor, villager, who first suggested the idea of a bench to come along and make suggestions. MKB is to liaise. c/f
- 4.08 **Banbury Road Signage** MKB and SC are to sort this matter out with OCC, Philip Ogawary is thought to be the individual responsible.
- 4.09 **List of assets (the pond)** MKB has heard that there are to be three types of assets listed for villages. They will be classed as Heritage Assets and planning rules are to change, even for permitted development. Two types of assets are either those nominated or whose inclusion is initiated by the village. The third type is to be a list compiled by officers touring the villages, which process should be completed by 2015. c/f
- 4.10 **Salt bins** c/f
- 4.11 **Stiles** KO confirms that one stile has been added at Warren Farm, but in a different place to the footpath. Nothing has been heard from Sarah Aldous. SC is to email her to confirm the new stile and query its location. c/f
- 4.12 **Cold Calling Signs** . MKB to chase up. c/f
- 4.13 **Communications Issues** KG has confirmed to MKB that she is now receiving emails from SC.
- 4.14 **Parking on verge** c/f
- 4.15 **Meeting dates for 2013/14** MKB confirms that the meeting dates will need to be changed. To accommodate all the necessary legislation it may be necessary to hold the meeting on a Monday.
- 4.16 **Carol Service** The matter of choosing a candidate for the switching on of the lights needs to be considered. To be placed on October agenda.
- 4.17 **Ivy** AW confirms that there is definitely a problem with tree suckers. AW and ANNW will clear the suckers on Saturday 14th. MKB is away that weekend but KO is to help if possible.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

It was reported that there was £3,015.38 in the Treasurer Account and £5,290.17 in the Business Money Manager Account.

Three months financial reports were presented, June, July and August 2013.

The following had been paid in:

112.32 from HSBC (cancellation of cheque for John Hicks)

1,488.11 from OCC (grass cutting grant)
750.00 from OCC (grant for bench)

The following had been paid out:

£401.68 to Sharron Chalcraft (admin and running costs and RFO salary)
£1,110.00 to John Donaldson (running costs)
£102.32 to John Hicks (running costs) in a replacement cheque
£8.60 to eon (running costs)

An invoice has been received from the Internal Auditor, Mr John Dayer in the sum of £150.00. This is to be paid, proposed BC, seconded KO, carried unanimously.

An invoice has been received from Glasdon for the bench in the sum of £488.65. This is to be paid, proposed KO, seconded AW, carried unanimously.

The external audit has been returned completed. One issue arose concerning the treatment of cash balances. Un-presented cheques are to be reconciled and have no effect on reserve balances. There were no charges relating to this issue and the external audit itself is now carried out without charge due to the size of the precept. The PC approves the conclusion of the external audit, proposed MKB, seconded BC, carried unanimously. SC is to post notice of the audit conclusion in line with current regulations.

BC confirms that John Donaldson, grass cutting contractor, has cut the mound at the back of Stable Close, he has not invoiced for this due to there being less grass cutting than usual in August due to the dry weather. Mr Donaldson is to email his invoices in future to speed up the settlement process.

6. S19/S137

BC is to check at next week's PCC meeting whether the church clock maintenance has been carried out and if so obtain an invoice for the PC.

Mrs Beryl Smith has carried out work on the war memorial, removing the pansies and replanting with geraniums. She has submitted an invoice for £18.00. This is to be paid, proposed KO, seconded ANNW, carried unanimously.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

There is no urgent business for this meeting.

8. FINMERE LANDFILL SITE UPDATE

MKB is to circulate the draft of the submission he is to make to the planning committee at the meeting next week. He will incorporate suggestions, ensuring that he can deliver the content in the 5 minutes allotted. There is a quarry liaison meeting tomorrow, there has been no news

since the last one. MKB and BC will hopefully be able to stay behind after the meeting with the EA and OCC to decide on a contingency plan if bankruptcy does take place. If Opes are not in breach of planning then any money they get can be spent on the MRF and not reserved for capping.

9. PLAYING FIELD PROGRESS

News from David Endicott is still awaited. MKB is to liaise with the Rector over an agreement on the continued leasing of the play area. c/f

10. PLAYING FIELD CONDITION

The field has been walked and checked this month by all councillors during the Finmere Festival and all is well. Ragwort has been found and needs to be pulled, Phillip Rushforth, Village Hall and Playing Field Committee, is present and confirms that he will remove it.

11. BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW OF ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

Discrepancies in the size of wards trigger an automatic review when they reach a certain limit. One ward 25% in excess of average or 7 wards 10% in excess of average is sufficient to trigger this review and the commission has to carry one out for CDC. There is to be a consultation about how many councillors are required and how they are to be spread around the wards. Three member wards are preferred; Finmere is currently in a one member ward. This contains 4 PC's, 4 PM's and 1,912 electors. CDC contains 108,587 electors. We need to think how many councillors we need for Finmere (with Fringford the Astons and Heyford). MKB declares that he has an interest and therefore can give no guidance. OCC has dropped from 74 to 60 councillors, with CF having 22 parishes in her ward. It is likely that CDC will also look to reduce overall councillor numbers. Annual elections are preferred by politicians.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence for meeting:

Invoice from Mr Dayer for the internal audit – see financial report above

Playing field inspection report – to be on October agenda

Invoice for playing field report from Mr John Hicks – to be on October agenda

Unity Trust Bank report – no further action

Emails printed:

An email concerning village issues has been sent by Phillip Rushforth, villager. The moss in Chinalls Close is addressed, see Matters Arising above. The ownership of the public space in Chinalls Close was left to be resolved between Somerlee Homes and CDC. SC is to check progress in this regard. There have been complaints about the blockage of Mere Lane by

contractors working on The Squirrels extension. BC confirms that she has had no problem accessing the lane once she has asked for assistance from the contractors who have been very helpful. Further reports have been made as to the diversion of the stream resulting in the pump running dry. BC confirms that she has found the pump to be running normally for the time of year and there is no stream in the vicinity.

Emails forwarded (since the July meeting):

Email from BC confirming that the owners of 2 James Court are happy to have the Banbury Rd sign placed on the shared James Court wall.

AVDC local development consultation

OCC winter preparations

OPES planning application variation request

NALC strategy and AGM news

Community Transport Newsletter

Cherwell Boundary Review Briefing

Launch and AGM invite from Cherwell Community Land Trust

HS2 Hybrid Bill Document Deposit news

Planning info on OPES condition variations

Vale of Aylesbury Plan

Rural Fair Share Petition

Planning and Regulation Committee Agenda

A4421 road closure application information

Usual reports

13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

12/01755/F – Orchard Cottage, Mere Rd – demolish existing conservatory and erect an oak framed conservatory – permission subject to conditions

13/00007/F – The Chippings, Fulwell Rd – new access – permission subject to conditions

13/00553/F – The Chippings, Fulwell Rd – construction of driveway and associated engineering works – permission subject to conditions

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Dog bin in Mere Rd The contents of this bin are being tipped everywhere on numerous occasions. BC has been picking up the bin and replacing it each time and she asks if there is

any way that the bin could be made more secure. MKB is to take a look, maybe it can be bolted. KO is to sort on the 14th if possible.

Files BC has handed to MKB some files which had been left by Ian Macpherson, the late Treasurer, at his home. These are to be filed as appropriate.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 1st of October.

AW and ANNW give their apologies. They also give advanced notice to the PC that they will be moving in the near future and will therefore be resigning, necessitating the opting of replacement councillors. All councillors are to think of any possible candidates.

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE CIRCULATED

Clerks and Councils Direct July 2013

Parkers bulb catalogue

Littlethorpe bus shelters leaflet

Hags playground leaflet