

## FINMERE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013 in Fimmere Village Hall

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

In attendance:- Sharron Chalcraft (Parish Clerk, RFO) (SC)

1. Apologies:- Apologies were received from Councillor's Katherine Grimston (KG) (Vice Chairman), (Mike Kirby (MK), Anna Wood (ANNW) and County Councillor Catherine Fulljames (CF)

#### 2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> of February were approved with corrections.

#### 3. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

This was postponed as the County Councillor was unable to attend.

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING

4.01 **APM May Minutes** c/f

4.02 **Village Notice Boards** c/f

4.03 **Drain Cover Land** c/f

4.04 **Greensleeves Development Waste** c/f

4.05 **Moss on pavements** SC has spoken to Simon Marsden who has explained that the salt has not been entirely successful in removing the moss but that there is no more that can be done at the present. SC pointed out the fact that a villager had already fallen and been injured and asked if the path would need to be closed. Mr Marsden is hopeful that in the new financial year, when control of the budget will return to Highways from individual District Councillors, the Area Steward Maurice Sheehan may be able to make money available for a more effective treatment. SC is to give CF all details. c/f

4.06 **Spring Clean (Dog fouling issues)** SC has checked that she has received a copy of the dog fouling report for PC records. AW is to check what proof is needed for a member of the public to bring a complaint against a dog owner. c/f

4.07 **Car valuables signs** c/f

4.08 **Fly Tipping** Those councillors who have walked the area concerned confirm that there appear to be no more large items remaining. SC has forwarded the email with map to MKB and he is to raise this with OCC when an opportunity arises.

- 4.09 **VAS Signs** MKB has tried to speak to Maurice Sheehan but he is no longer responsible. MKB is to speak with his replacement Phillip Obadawary?? c/f
- 4.10 **Bench request** SC has now received a quote from Miskimmon of £200.00 plus VAT to supply labour, cement etc to fit the bench to the ground, providing a kit of 'anchors' is ordered at the same time as the bench at a cost of £33.36 plus VAT. It is felt that these would be better than the slabs suggested previously. It is decided to accept this quote, proposed AW, seconded BC, carried unanimously. SC is to download a form to apply for funding.
- 4.11 **Dog Bin invoice** Another invoice for only two bins has been received. SC has contacted CDC and requested the detailed usage info previously promised. c/f
- 4.12 **Banbury Road Signage** SC has written to the householders concerned and is awaiting a reply. c/f
- 4.13 **List of assets** SC has added all but the pond and the notice boards as she was unsure of the original value of these. It is decided that the school and Valley Rd boards are to be valued at £1 each and the two newer boards, one still to be placed at Warren Farm, are valued at £10 for the two. SC has written to the landowners concerned requesting any information about the pond. c/f
- 4.14 **Pothole on Fulwell Road** There have been markings on the road and some work has been carried out. Mere Rd has some quite severe potholes now also. These may have been picked up on the recent safety check by Highways, SC is to confirm this and see if a Section 106 is possible to get these filled in. c/f
- 4.15 **Salt bins** SC has sent a letter of thanks to Johnnie Brooks. AW is to check the level of stocks at the moment, with more severe weather forecast.
- 4.16 **Developments at Chippings** SC has spoken with the EA and they have explained that OCC have for the last year been the body responsible for issues to do with local waterways. A Flood Defence Consent for Works on a Watercourse should have been applied for and recorded. SC is to speak to OCC. c/f
- 4.17 **Stiles** SC has spoken to Mr Beale and he explains that the landowner has now moved from France, but he hopes to be able to provide an address through his contact with the landowners daughter, though this may take some time. c/f
- 4.18 **Cold Calling Signs** c/f
- 4.19 **Flooding** SC has spoken to Cliff Monger, OCC Highways, and he doubts if Highway's Drainage department would have carried out this work without a specific request. It is therefore likely that the landowner carried it out.
- 4.20 **Details Pursuant to Condition 36 Paperwork** SC has still not received back the correspondence folder for the month in question. If the paperwork is not in it when returned then she will obtain a copy for records.
- 4.21 **Parish Remuneration Panel's Report** SC has posted notice in accordance with regulations.

- 4.22 **Community Services Parish Update** SC has invited them to make a presentation at the APM and they have accepted. It is decided that SC should send out invites to the APM to all village organisations with the agenda to be decided next month.
- 4.23 **Adult Learning Service** SC has forwarded the information to Rosemary Fiander, villager.
- 4.24 **Playing Field Report** SC has received an email from Peter Grimwade, Playing Fields Committee, explaining that Mr Hicks is unable to find the cheque and has requested a replacement. Mr Grimwade asks if the PC wish to have an inspection carried out this year, Mr Hicks would inspect in June. SC has confirmed that Mr Grimwade should order an inspection as this is required to satisfy insurance requirements. SC is to find out if replacing the cheque will incur costs, which will need to be recovered from Mr Hicks.

## 5. FINANCIAL REPORT

It was reported that there was £2,250.79 in the Treasurer Account and £5,288.33 in the Business Money Manager Account.

The following had been paid out:

£73.24 to Sharron Chalcraft (admin and running costs)

£90.98 to Sharron Chalcraft (rfo salary)

£8.69 to eon (running costs)

## 6. S19/S137

The Village Hall committee submits a request for the payment of the gas heater annual servicing bill. An invoice for £250 plus VAT is presented. It is decided to pay this invoice out of S137 funds. Proposed MKB, seconded KO, carried unanimously.

## 7. URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business has been carried out.

## 8. FINMERE LANDFILL SITE UPDATE

A quarry liaison meeting was held on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 1p.m. Present were Ben Wragg and Helen Beever of OPES, Bill Stewart-Jones and David Perry of OCC, Louise Greenwood of EA and present for the PC were BC and MKB, the latter arriving at 1.40p.m. Many previous matters are still ongoing. The parking of vehicles on top of the mound had again been complained about, OPES had said that this would stop but it has not. Louise Greenwood expressed the view that guidance given in previous minutes that no odour should be expected was unrealistic. BC pointed out that it had been stated by lawyers at the public enquiries that there would be no odour.

OPES reported that they are still seeking investment. The site is currently accepting waste. The back edge of the northern flank is nearing completion. Cell 7 will be next. Leachate from Cell 1 is currently a problem and Cell 7 is next door. There has been a localised leachate leak, breaching the bund. Any flow will go into Cell 7. An application to vary permissions will be submitted shortly. Cell 7 is not prepared yet. OPES have given full details to EA. Planning on the Bridleway 4 diversion needs to be done promptly. Fencing to contain the newts is almost complete. In August to September, after the harvest, they will start to extract on the Shelswell Estate land, earlier in June if there is no crop. The financing of the MERF is still being finalised. The PC believes that the full gasification MERF will never happen, this application was simply to gain an extension. The extension to the north will be in a future planning application. OPES are currently in breach of their capping condition but they intend to cap this year, in about three months, Cells 4, 5 and 8 are to be capped this year. BC points out that this is what was said last year. Currently three tankers a day are carrying leachate away to Coton Valley, Milton Keynes. KO points out that this is a prohibitively expensive process. Ammonia levels in the lagoon are still a problem; the EA deadline on this issue is May 14<sup>th</sup>. The source of this problem cannot be found. Monitoring of ground water is continuing. Five new extraction wells for leachate were built in the new year, with 8 more in February. Complaints list is as follows:

- 18/12 – odour
- 21/12 – odour
- 4/12 – leachate
- 14/1 – ground water – trigger lowered
- 9/2 – odour – due to a power failure
- 20/2 – ground water – trigger lowered
- 20/2 – plasterboard load refused

One groundwater level is still in breach.

EA reported that the site was now in compliance band D, this has lowered. Their OPRA score is 125%. There have been 4 site inspections since the December QL meeting. Two of these inspections monitored engines and flares, the other two monitored the ongoing groundwater situation.

OCC reported that they are worried about the stockpile of soil in the east of the site. This is outside the planning application parameters. This has been there too long. OPES say it is for capping.

The PC asked for confirmation of a greening date for the mound as this was promised by the then owners Premier Aggregates last year. Ben Wragg then stated that “he says what he is told to say.”

KO says that his colleague in the business has told him that his company Infinys do a lot of work and provide reports on leachate rates for the EA.

## 9. PLAYING FIELD PROGRESS

MKB has talked to the solicitor David Endicott, who has worked for 40 yrs with Trusts and PC's. MKB is to go and talk things through with him and Phillip Rushforth is to go too. It is important to set up a legally sound organisation and structure with things running as now but on a formal basis. The current committees are getting fed up. There needs to be a formal vote for them to carry on as per usual until any changes are implemented. Proposed KO, seconded AW, carried unanimously. MKB asks if the PC can authorise him to speak on their behalf with the solicitor on these matters and also asks if he can notify the committees of progress. Proposed BC, seconded KO, carried unanimously.

## 10. PLAYING FIELD CONDITION

The field has been walked and checked this month by AW and BC and all is well. Moles have been busy near the pavilion. The trees at the small gate are overgrown. The Holm oak is right over now. John Cunningham will cut it back. The door of the gas housing has been damaged, probably kicked in. SC is to contact the gas board. There is a stop-cock in the housing and the pilot lights in the hall had gone out last week. British Gas is responsible; SC is to liaise with Phillip.

## 11. REVIEW OF PROCEDURES

The list of risk assessments for procedures is gone through, along with a review of the effectiveness of the internal audit. Last year's internal auditor, Sheila Macpherson, is no longer available and another must be found. MKB suggests John Dayer who lives in Banbury Road. MKB is happy to ask him. Proposed MKB, seconded BC, carried unanimously.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE

Mayoral Band Concert letter – placed in folder

Dog bin invoice – SC to pay – Proposed MKB, seconded BC, carried unanimously

SLCC membership renewal – Proposed MKB, seconded KO, carried unanimously

OPFA membership renewal – Proposed BC, seconded MKB, carried unanimously

OALC membership renewal – Proposed KO, seconded MKB, carried unanimously

Spring Clean notification – this is to be set for Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup>, SC is to return

A C Miskimmon quote – to be carried out, see Matters Arising

Emails printed:

Thames volunteers request – it is felt that the river is too far away from the village to make this a PC matter

Playing field inspection confirmation – see Matters Arising

Village Hall S137 request – see S19/S137

Emails forwarded:

Autism alert card article

Fairer funding demand for rural councils

Publicity request for guide dogs

HS2 Community Forum

HS2 Consultation website info

Usual reports

MKB confirms that there now needs to be a newsletter with details of the APM date, litter pick date and also dog fouling issues.

MKB has confirmation that the HS2 Community Forum is now cancelled. MKB has been in touch with the upper echelons of HS2 now and has raised this issue with them. The tactic now is to put the bill up and hopefully make it not worth paying.

### 13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details Pursuant to Condition 36 (surface water runoff scheme) of planning permission 11/00026/CM at Finmere Quarry – approved

13/00007/F – The Chippings, Fulwell Road – New access – permission subject to conditions

12/01795/F – The Squirrels, Mere Lane – Variation to a previously approved two storey extension, increase depth from 3.4 to 4.425 metres on the NE side – permission subject to conditions

Appeal Ref: APP/C3105/A/12/2175810 – Land adjacent to White Houses, Mere Rd – building of two semi-detached houses – appeal dismissed

13/00109/HED – Land at Finmere Grounds Farm, south of Great River Ouse – proposed removal of hedgerow – the PC have no objections, subject to speaking with Johnny Brooks this is to be returned by MKB, any problems to be circulated by him under urgent business.

### 14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**Grass Cutting** BC confirms that she has spoken with John Donaldson, grass cutting contractor, about the coming years grass cutting. Full cuts each time are to continue unless there is a very dry summer in which case they will not be needed. John Donaldson is keeping his prices unaltered.

**Notice Board in Valley Road** The briars near this board are very overgrown. Children are getting caught up in them. The hedge belongs to Charley Grimston, villager. SC is to write to KG about the matter.

**Emily Ackland email to AW** A villager has emailed AW about some work which is to be carried out to the front border of their house, 'Finch Hatton.' The brambles are to be grubbed up and the current post and rail fence is to be continued all the way round the boundary. The laurel hedge is to remain but is to be tidied up. AW is to reply that this is not a problem to the PC.

#### 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

#### CORRESPONDENCE CIRCULATED

Sovereign sale leaflet

Online playgrounds booklet

Cemetery development services leaflet

OPFA Newsletter Winter 2013

Clerks and Councils Direct March 2013

Plantscape catalogue

Mayoral Band Concert letter