

FINMERE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 14th of July 2015 in Finmere Village Hall

Present:- Councillors, Mike Kerford-Byrnes (MKB) (Chairman), Katherine Grimston (KG) (Vice Chairman), Kevin Ochel (KO) and Steve Trice (ST)

In attendance:- Sharron Chalcraft (Parish Clerk and RFO)

1. Apologies:- Apologies were received from Councillors Mike Kirby (MK) and Amanda Hodgkins (AH)

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the APM of 12th of May 2015 and the PC meeting of 2nd of June 2015 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 **Obtaining a defibrillator** KG has been liaising about the fitting of the defibrillator case which is to be carried out over the holiday. Because of the certification involved the cost of the fitting will be some £200, another quote is being obtained for comparison. SC raises the matter of recording the defibrillator on the asset register. As it was bought under S137 provision it could be given to the village but a committee would probably need to be set up. SC is to contact Dick Tracey (SWAS) and check as to the normal procedure adopted by PC's. c/f

4.02 **Village Notice Boards** The work on the village hall car park is coming to an end and a spot has been chosen for the location of the new board. c/f

4.03 **VAS Signs** MKB has now received the key and will need help to locate the base position near Cross Tree in order to deploy the sign. He will also try to obtain a charger for the batteries used. c/f

4.04 **List of assets (the pond)** c/f

4.05 **Traffic speed in Mere Road** Neither MKB nor SC have heard anything further. SC is to chase this matter up with Peter Egawhary, OCC, and copy Mr Nimmo-Smith, OCC, in on the emails. c/f

4.06 **Additional Parish Councillor** c/f

4.07 **Tree surgery and other works on PC land** See Compliance Sect 4.10 below.

- 4.08 **Drain Covers** SC has been in touch with Kathryn Gash, OCC Highways, and the matter of the drain covers is to be chased up with the Section 81 team. ST confirms that the worst cover in Mere Rd has now been replaced and it is possible that the other two were looked at and not deemed serious enough for replacement. The cover in the lane leading to the church is still broken however. ST did observe an official looking at the cover but no action has been taken, it is possible there is a dispute over ownership or responsibility. SC is to ask OCC to chase this up urgently and is to give ST the contact details so that he can lend weight to the argument. c/f
- 4.09 **Public Protection and Development letter** c/f
- 4.10 **Compliance – Health and Safety Assessment of Assets** ST and Phillip Rushforth, resident, have talked to residents and it would seem that the best solution is to remove the slabs and seed the area as previously discussed. The slabs are to be offered to the residents in return for their help with this. c/f
- 4.11 **Parish Precept Review** SC has spoken to MKB about the discussion regarding the review at the June PC meeting and he has spoken with CDC. He is to have a meeting with the Director of Finance in order to resolve this issue satisfactorily for the internal auditor's approval. c/f
- 4.12 **Responsibility for Mere Lane** SC has written a letter for the residents of Mere Lane. It is felt that this is suitable and will encourage a solution without involving the PC. SC is to circulate this letter to all residents, via Tingewick PC if necessary as before. c/f
- 4.13 **ROAR Meeting** SC has still not received the minutes and has again requested them, or any notes or paperwork produced, and has also requested a confirmation of receipt of her emails. c/f
- 4.14 **Meeting dates for 2015/16** SC has circulated these dates to Phillip Rushforth, VH&PF Committee, and he has confirmed the dates are available. He has also requested that MKB notify him well in advance of Quarry Liaison meeting dates as there is now an additional dog training class in the hall and therefore availability for the afternoons is reduced. PC Caroline Brown will unfortunately be unable to attend on the new date in October and will now attend a meeting next year.
- 4.15 **Parish Liaison meeting** MKB attended the meeting and there was a lot of information about the Cherwell Local Plan.
- This is now in place and sound and can be adopted by CDC at the meeting of the 20th. The judicial review will take place in six weeks and the local plan can then be a 'primary determinant' in planning matters.
- 750 houses need to be provided in minor developments over the next 15-20 years. Kidlington already has 250, leaving 15 other villages to take 500. The start date for the 15-20 years is April 1st 2014. At the moment there are only some 250 left to complete provision. There are also another 1,000 houses to be provided across the area in infill.
- 4.16 **Completion of External Audit** This is still ongoing with BDO Stoy Hayward having asked for more information in the form of minute quotes for the salary changes that

took place. A minor issue has been raised in that the new litter bin should have been recorded on the assets register when purchased rather than when placed. This procedure is to be followed in future.

- 4.17 **Potential Development of up to 35 Dwellings off Valley Road** Following comments made at the June PC meeting by various residents SC has checked with OCC Highways – Drainage about any problems with Mere Rd/Valley Rd. There is no record of any recent complaints on the system and they are checking with Gordon Kelman, OCC, and will let SC know of any problems raised.
- 4.18 **15/00552/OUT – Land West of Chinalls Close Adj to Banbury Road** SC prepared a submission which was circulated for review and then submitted. The application is to be heard by committee on Thursday August 6th. MKB and District Councillor Barry Wood are both allowed to speak and vote. Members of the public can book a 5 minute slot to speak if they so wish. SC also sent the points from the list to Paul Nash, website administrator, along with links to be posted on the PC site.
- 4.19 **OCC Grass cutting grant** The cheque has been banked.
- 4.20 **Welcome Pack** SC has revamped this, circulated it for approval and made the recommended changes. More revisions are suggested, SC is to circulate a final copy to all councillors and ‘New Residents’ is to become a regular agenda item.
- 4.21 **Communication** MKB apologises to KG for the lack of communication over her Chairmanship of the June meeting and assures her it will not happen again.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

The quarterly financial report was presented.

It was reported that there was £3,894.99 in the Treasurer Account and £5,297.531 in the Business Money Manager Account.

The figures for the previous two months were given, see the May and June minutes, and for June the following had been paid in:

£760.76 from OCC (grass cutting grant)

£200.00 from Finmere Sports Association (loan repayment)

The following had been paid out:

£370.00 to John Donaldson (running costs – grass cutting)

£284.75 to Sharron Chalcraft (general admin – for Clerk and RFO duties, internet costs)

The internal auditor’s report has been received and circulated. No issues were raised. An invoice in the sum of £174.84 has been received. SC is to pay this by bacs, proposed MKB, seconded KO, carried unanimously.

6. S19/S137

There were no requests for S19/S137 this month.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business was carried out this month.

8. QUARRY LIAISON MEETING

Barbara Cunningham, village representative, sent a report of the meeting which was reviewed, the report read as follows:

A Quarry Liaison meeting was held on the 3rd of June 2015 in Finmere Village Hall.

Present: Mike Kerford-Byrnes (FPC), Barbara Cunningham (Village rep), Ben Wragg (OPES) Colin Hart (OPES) Bill Stewart-Jones (OCC), David Periam (OCC), Louise Greenwood (EA)

Much of the meeting was taken in discussing the Minerals Recycling Facility (MRF) There have been a series of performance trials but BW said that OPES are “a long way off from taking delivery of the plant” & there are problems with the sensors. Although the MRF cannot start production until the capping is complete it can, & at present does, take up to 200 tonnes of material per day under the commissioning process. As the end process of Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) cannot leave the site until capping has been completed, there is a build-up of SRF. Eventually OPES are hoping to find a buyer for this from an Eastern European country but in the meantime bales are being stockpiled outside the, now full, storage bays. So it appears that although OPES cannot operate the MRF until capping of the relevant cells has taken place & haven’t taken delivery of the plant, under commissioning large quantities of SRF can be stored for future sale.

In 2012 the MRF planning application was approved for traditional operation & also gasification. It has now come to light that the present building is larger than that which was approved. Orientation of the building has also been changed, by accident. OPES were working from an incorrect grid. This means that a gasification plant would need new approval. BW stated that in future they may apply for a new building on the other side of the haul road to house a gasification plant. Is this growth by stealth?

Three lorry loads of leachate are taken off site daily. Ammonia & chloride levels are still up & a detailed report by the Environment Agency was due at the end of June. With good weather the capping could be completed before the end of August. We will hold our breath. There has been “misshaping” causing a depression in cells 8 & 9. However there has been over tipping in cell 7 north which can be used to fill the depression in cells 8 & 9.

The Environment Agency reported that tipping had begun in cell 7 before the preparation had been signed off.

Next meeting 9th September 2015

9. FINMERE LANDFILL SITE UPDATE

A really good job is being done at the moment. The mound is looking smart. Bev Hindle of OCC is tougher. The capping should be completed by the end of August given the right weather conditions.

10. PLAYING FIELD PROGRESS

MKB is still attempting to arrange a meeting with the solicitor on a date that Phillip Rushforth, VH&PF Committee, can attend. c/f

11. PLAYING FIELD CONDITION

The field is in good condition and the cricket season has started. All councillors present are happy with the condition this month.

12. PLAYING FIELD INSPECTION REPORT

The report is much more favourable this year, reflecting the hard work carried out during the year. There are no actions to be taken by the PC. SC is to pay the invoice of £112.32, proposed MKB, seconded KG, carried unanimously. ST asks that SC inform the Grimwades that they are at liberty to release the report to the VH & PF Committee.

13. ROAD REPAIRS

On the Water Stratford Road, at the top end of the Church track, there is a large pothole.

On the Fulwell Road, some 600 yards out of the village, there are several large potholes.

On the Fulwell Road, 3 doors down from The Thatched House, near High Acre, there is a large pothole.

SC is to report all these potholes to the online service.

14. PARISH CLERK HOURS DIARY

SC presents her hour's diary for April to June. The hours have varied little overall from last year. The review finds them satisfactory.

15. CONDITION OF STILES

KO has not walked to MKB's for some time. MKB confirms that the gate by Hill Leys has been replaced. KO is to report any problems he finds to SC.

16. THE RED LION

The pub has now shut. All the equipment and fittings have been signed over to the brewery and the place has been repainted. It is hopeful that the premises will attract an interested party and will remain as a pub, maybe providing a better 'heart' for the village than in recent times.

17. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Proposed Diversion of part of Finmere Bridleway No 4 – this had been resent as the original letter contained a wrong description – the PC still has no objection and makes no comment

15/00685/F – Finch Hattons, Fulwell Road – Demolition of existing garages and single storey side extension. Erection of two storey front extension and attached double garage to side featuring living accommodation in roof space. Installation of front dormer and fenestration alterations – permission subject to conditions

15/00478/F – Fuzz Field, Fulwell Road – erection of general purpose agricultural building – improvements to existing track – permission subject to conditions

Details Pursuant to Condition No 10 (details of plant, buildings or structures for control or monitoring of landfill gas or leachate) of planning permission 13/00973/CM (MW.0079/13) at Finmere Quarry, Banbury Rd, Finmere, Buckinghamshire, MK18 4AJ – the PC has no objection and makes no comment

Details Pursuant to Condition No 22 (details of final levels of land and water body) of Planning Permission 13/00973/CM (MW.0079/13) at Finmere Quarry, Banbury Road, Finmere, Buckinghamshire, MK18 4AJ – details of these levels were supposed to be produced within one year from December 17th 2013. There is therefore a late production of details; OCC is chasing Opes for times now. The PC has no objection and makes no comment

15/00593/F – 3 Warren Farm Cottages – erection of two storey side/front extension – the PC has no objection and makes no comment

18. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence for meeting –

E.on bills cancellation – SLCC had warned of errors in the current round of e.on bills so when a much larger bill than usual arrived SC reserved payment, e.on subsequently withdrew the invoice

15/00593/F – 3 Warren Farm Cottages – two storey side/front extension – permission subject to conditions – this arrived late and will be on the agenda in September

15/00348/F – Barn 2 Warren Farm – two storey extensions to side and rear – permission subject to conditions – this arrived late and will be on the agenda in September

15/00828/F – 15 Town Close – detached single garage to front – refused – this arrived late and will be on the agenda in September

Emails printed –

Internal Audit report – see Section 5. above

Internal Auditor invoice – see Section 5. above

Playing Field Inspection report – see Section 12. above

Playing Field Inspection invoice – see Section 12. above

Quarry Liaison meeting report – see Section 8. Above

Emails forwarded –

Cherwell Parish Liaison meeting agenda – see Section 4.15 above

Revised meeting dates – see Section 4.14 above

Revised welcome letter – see Section 4.20 above

Public consultation on proposed changes to subsidised bus services – no comment

Playing Field Inspection report – see Section 12. above

Quarry Liaison meeting report – see Section 8. above

Letter for Mere Lane residents - see Section 4.12 above

Usual reports

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Salt Bins KG asks that this can be an agenda item at the next meeting in order to discuss the latest winter preparedness communications.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE CIRCULATED

J Parker Bulb Catalogue – Autumn 2015

Clerks and Councils Direct – July 2015