

**EAST FARNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT THE VILLAGE HALL
GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY 17TH March 2020 COMMENCING IMMEDIATELY AFTER ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE PARISH**

PRESENT: Mr R West (Chair), Mr R Burton, Mr M Curtis, Mr P Hodgetts, Ms J Cooper (via video call)

Mrs. C Burton (Clerk to the Parish Council)

OTHER RESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE – One

97. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received and accepted from Councillors Prew and Crifo.

98. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no Declarations of Interest.

99. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting 14th January 2020

The Minutes of the above meeting were agreed by all Councillors and signed by the Chair.

100. Matters Arising

ACTION	PROGRESS
Councillor West to remove vegetation around The Spring.	Done
Tree wardens to apply for a TPO in respect of the beech tree on the village green.	DDC have advised that as the village green is owned by the Parish Council, a TPO is not necessary. However, if any circumstances arise where a TPO is required, DDC will place a TPO on the tree at short notice. No further action required at this stage.
Clerk to draft new Financial Regulations for the May 2020 meeting.	Carried forward
Clerk to see if lamp post on Harborough Road can be upgraded when moved as part of the road widening for the back-up power generation work.	Ongoing
Clerk to contact DDC for advice on appropriate action to take regarding TPO tree issues.	Done – see Tree Wardens' report at 2020 Annual Meeting of the Parish.
Clerk to draft a website accessibility statement for consideration at the March 2020 meeting.	Done – added to agenda
Clerk to advise DDC that the Parish Council has no objection to application DA/2019/1101 (work to TPO trees at 1, Rectory Court)	Done
Clerk to apply to DDC for current sticker for burial ground green bin.	Done
Clerk to find a volunteer to put out the burial ground green bin.	Done – Councillor Hodgetts has kindly volunteered
Clerk to notify all those who tendered for the mowing contract of the outcome, and obtain copy of the public liability insurance certificate of new mowing contractor.	Done

ACTION	PROGRESS
Clerk to sign the Armed Forces Covenant on behalf of the Parish Council, submit to MOD and place on the website.	Done
Clerk to place list of meeting dates on the noticeboard.	Done
Clerk to place the amended Planning Response policy on the website.	Done
Clerk to publish election material on the website, noticeboard, newsletter and Facebook.	Done
Clerk to update Risk Assessment to reflect six-monthly Fixed Asset audit.	Done
Councillor West to organise the repair of the bench in The Lealand and repainting of the bench on Lubenham Road.	Carried forward
Clerk to organise donation of £100 to the Parish newsletter.	Done
Clerk to submit 2020/21 precept requirement and payment requisition form to DDC.	Done
Councillor Cooper to register Councillor Curtis for defibrillator check and train him.	Done

101. Roads and Transport

• Speeding

Councillor Burton reported that following the recent request to Northamptonshire Highways for average speed cameras and a reduction in the 60mph limit north of the village - both turned down - a site visit was requested, in conjunction with Bernie Fallon, the Community Speedwatch Coordinator, to consider other possible measures. This took place in February and was attended by our District and County Councillor, Cecile Irving-Swift. Following the visit, Ian Boyes, from Northamptonshire Highways, committed - subject to funding - to the following: 30mph signs on the approach from Market Harborough to be upgraded to the yellow "High visibility" type; a matching village nameplate mounted on the offside verge; and a "Children" warning sign to be mounted in the verge prior to the bus stop where the school bus stops.

The option of a priority working or chicane type feature along the section at the northern end of the village was deemed not feasible due to the presence of driveways and accesses along this stretch. After the site visit the Speed Limit Review Panel arranged for speed data to be collected in order to review their decision not to reduce the speed limit north of the village.

This has been again turned down due to 'no compelling evidence' to reduce the limit.

In further discussion at the site visit, Councillor Irving-Swift suggested that improving the appearance of the village at the north end would help persuade drivers to slow down. This could be achieved by installing planters at the north entrance (subject to regulations concerning verges) and maybe planting trees. Councillors discussed these suggestions and agreed to the idea of installing planters in front of the village signs on entry to the village, subject to regulations.

ACTION: Councillor Burton to contact NCC to check that regulations allow for planters to be installed on both verges. Also to contact Mr Haynes whose farm is adjacent, to advise him of this plan.

ACTION: Councillor West to organise, subject to regulations, construction of planters in front of the village signs.

Councillor Burton also reported that the latest news on Community Speedwatch is that both training and campaigns are suspended until further notice due to Covid-19.

102. Planning and Development

Applications granted

DA/2019/0981 Construction of two storey side extension - Sunnybays, Main Street, East Farndon, LE16 9SH

DA/2019/1101 Work to trees subject of Tree Preservation Order DA 280 - 1, Rectory Court, East Farndon, LE16 9SU

Applications refused

DA/2019/0306 Construction of extensions to existing garage to form a new detached dwelling – Hillside Farm, Main Street, East Farndon, Northamptonshire, LE16 9SH

Applications for consideration - None

103. Other Matters

- **Local Government Reform (LGR)**

The Clerk reported that the draft Structural Changes Order (giving legal effect to the creation of the unitary councils that was approved prior to the General Election) was passed by Parliament on 14 February 2020. Preparations are now being made to set up two new shadow councils that will lead the unitary work. Work is also continuing on draft models of how the new services will look and work.

- **Transfer of Churchyard – No update.**

- **Website Accessibility Statement**

The Clerk had circulated a draft Website Accessibility Statement that needs to be placed on the Parish Council website by 23 September 2020 to meet The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018. It is based on the model statement, produced by the Government Digital Service and the website accessibility report previously prepared. The draft statement was approved and adopted by the Parish Council.

ACTION: Clerk to place the Website Accessibility Statement on the website.

- **Daventry Citizen's Advice**

The Clerk has received a letter from the Daventry and District Citizen's Advice, requesting a donation of £150. It was noted that in 2018/19 Annual Report, Daventry and District Citizen's Advice had dealt with one client from East Farndon. It was agreed that East Farndon villagers are more likely to use Market Harborough Citizen's Advice

ACTION: Clerk to explain to Daventry and District Citizen's Advice that if a donation was possible, it would be more appropriate to donate to Market Harborough Citizen's Advice.

- **East Farndon United Charities Trustee Appointment**

It was noted that the Parish Council approved the appointment of Chloe Wright as a trustee via email on 29 January 2020.

- **Deeds to the Burial Ground Extension**

The Clerk confirmed that whilst trying to locate the Village Hall land deeds (still not found), she had collected the deeds to the burial ground extension land from Wartnaby Hefford.

- **Neighbourhood Plan Exhibition**

Councillors Burton and Cooper attended an exhibition at Clipston Village Hall in January which showed progress to date on Clipston's Neighbourhood Plan. They reported that while much good work was on display they found nothing persuasive in the exhibition that suggested East Farndon should embark on a Neighbourhood Plan.

- **Parish Council Elections**
The Clerk confirmed that the elections due to be held on 7 May 2020 have been cancelled, due to Covid-19.
- **The Gliding Centre Airspace Change Proposal (ACP)**
The Gliding Centre at Husbands Bosworth is consulting with stakeholders impacted by its Airspace Change Proposal (ACP), to establish the design principles that should be applied to any resulting proposal(s). The Parish Council agreed its response.
ACTION: Clerk to submit response to the Gliding Centre Airspace Change Proposal (ACP)
- **Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) for Daventry District 2011-2029**
The Clerk highlighted the definition of East Farndon as an 'Other Village' in the recently adopted Local Plan which has been circulated by DDC and is valid to 2029. Recent planning applications and appeals have focused on the definition of the village confines. One of the specific principles applied to 'Other Villages' is that gardens or areas of open space which relate to the open countryside, taking into account the character and appearance of the garden and the surrounding area, will be regarded as being outside the village confines, which is the approach currently taken by the Parish Council.
- **West Northamptonshire Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA)**
It was noted that a draft methodology for undertaking the SLAA had been issued. The SLAA is an assessment of land availability to help identify a future supply of land for housing and economic development over the plan period covered by the proposed West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan. It appears to be looking at available land for 700 dwellings or more.

104. Finance

- **Bank Reconciliation**

<u>Balance as at 7 January 2020</u>		
Current account	£14,199.43	
Deposit account	£1,551.38	
		£15,750.81
<u>Income</u>		
Interest	0.14	
PCC contribution to 2019/20 mowing	<u>£506.00</u>	
		£506.14
<u>Expenses</u>		-£2,062.80
<u>Balance as at 3 March 2020</u>		
Current account	£12,642.63	
Deposit account	£1,551.52	
		£14,194.15

The bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Councillor Hodgetts.

- **Actual v. Budgeted Spending**

	Precept Agreed	Expenditure to Date	Balance
Street lighting and maintenance	£1,500.00	£1,365.62	£134.38
Subscriptions - NCALC	£240.00	£237.10	£2.90
Insurance	£800.00	£683.08	£116.92
Donations	£100.00	£160.20	-£60.20
Training	£200.00		£200.00
Mowing of Burial Ground/Hedges	£2,250.00	£1,520.00	£730.00
Clerk Salary	£2,600.00	£2,536.80	£63.20
Parish Council/Clerk Expenses	£400.00	£331.36	£68.64
Miscellaneous Expenses	£200.00		£200.00
Graveyard Responsibility	£1,000.00		£1,000.00
DPO	£10.00	£10.00	£0.00
Defibrillator Expenses	£200.00	£126.00	£74.00
VAT on Purchases		£176.90	
TOTAL	£9,500.00	£7,147.06	£2,352.94

RESERVES			
Lighting Replacement	£2,000.00		£2,000.00
Renovation of Village Spring	£500.00		£500.00

The following payments were agreed by all Councillors

Payee	Reason	Amount £	Chq no.
East Farndon PCC	Contribution to Parish Magazine	100.00	online
Caroline Burton	Clerk salary and expenses for February/March 2020	442.80	online

Following a request by the Amenity Land Committee, the Parish Council agreed to a donation of £100 towards the upkeep of the land.

ACTION: Clerk to organise donation of £100 to the Amenity Land Committee.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would meet the printing costs of A3 posters for the VE Day 75 event (if it goes ahead).

ACTION: Clerk to organise payment of VE Day 75 printing costs.

It was also agreed that the Clerk will be paid for her unused 2019/20 holiday allowance of 24.1 hours.

The Clerk confirmed that Bernie Fallon had agreed to act as internal auditor again for the 2019/20 accounts.

105. Correspondence

All other relevant correspondence (e.g. NCALC Newsletter) has been circulated to Councillors and shared on the village website and Facebook page where appropriate.

106. Any Other Business

- Covid-19: The Clerk confirmed that Chloe Wright is co-ordinating village action. A leaflet has been produced to circulate to the village, and the village has been divided into 4 areas with 4-5 contacts for each area. Hopefully this will go out in the next 24 hours. Councillors at the meeting all volunteered to also assist.

ACTION: Clerk to provide Chloe Wright with relevant Councillors' contact details to assist with Covid-19 action.

- Drains: Councillor Burton confirmed that the drain in The Spring had been cleared, but the drains outside Springfield/Ivy House/The Old Post Office is still blocked. Councillor Burton has chased this up through Street Doctor.
- The Spring: It was agreed that in June/July 2020, the Parish Council would look at making further improvements to The Spring, following the removal of trees and the laying of the hedge.

ACTION: Councillors West and Burton to make further improvements to The Spring in June/July 2020.

107. Date of the next meeting – 12th May 2020 (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)
Provisional date – 21st April 2020

108. Closure

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record

Chairman _____ **Dated** _____