

**EAST FARNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING VIA ZOOM.US**

**GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

**TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2020 COMMENCING AT 7.45PM**

**PRESENT:** Mr R Burton (Acting Chair), Mr M Curtis, Mr P Hodgetts, Ms J Cooper, Dr C Crifo, Ms J Prew

Mrs. C Burton (Clerk to the Parish Council)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE** – None

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**28. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received and accepted from Councillor West.

**29. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

There were no Declarations of Interest

**30. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 14th July 2020**

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

**ACTION: Clerk to arrange for signing of July 2020 minutes by Chair.**

**31. Matters Arising**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>
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
Councillor West and Burton to assess the repair needed of the bench in The Lealand	Done – with Parish Council's agreement, Councillor Burton has purchased a replacement plaque. Councillor West is going to strengthen the slats and treat the wood
Councillor Burton to repaint the bench on Lubenham Road.	Done
Councillor West to organise a plan for proposed planters to be installed on both verges.	Carried forward
Councillor Burton to provide NCC with plan, public liability insurance certificate and confirmation that adjoining landowner has no objections to proposed planters.	Carried forward
Councillor West to organise, subject to regulations, construction of planters in front of the village signs.	Carried forward
Councillors West and Burton to plan improvements to The Spring.	The trough has now been cleared out, and the coping stones retrieved from the bottom of the trough. Next stage is to remove more vegetation around the Spring, consider what to do with the coping stones and to provide some form of hard surface for the parking area.
Councillor West to request that owners prune the tree behind the war memorial.	Carried forward
Clerk to arrange for signing of May 2020 minutes by Chair.	Done

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>
Clerk to advise DDC that the Parish Council has no objections to Application DA/2020/0418 (Work at Horseshoe Cottage, Main Street, East Farndon).	Done
Councillor Burton to source new Neighbourhood Watch signs.	Done – signs erected
Clerk to cancel free trial of Parish Online.	Done
Clerk to obtain advice on village confines mapping.	Done – added to agenda under ‘Any Other Business’
Clerk to organise a spring water test.	Done – spring water is free from bacteria
Clerk to raise a query regarding appropriate action that can be taken regarding microlights, with NCALC, SLCC, DDC, the Gliding Centre, and the Parish Councils of Marston Trussell, Lubenham and Sibbertoft.	Done – added to agenda
Councillor West to meet with Welland Rivers Trust in the first instance.	Carried forward
Clerk to arrange for the mowing contractor to remove the low branches on the beech tree.	Done and branches removed.
Clerk to add the beech tree plaque to the fixed asset register.	Done
Councillor Hodgetts to check and sign the July bank reconciliation.	Done

### 32. **Roads and Transport**

Councillor Burton reported that the Police Enforcement Team were in the village for at least one day in August 2020 – prosecution figures are unknown.

### 33. **Planning and Development** **Applications granted**

DA/2020/0418 New carport to rear, single storey extension to rear, balcony to rear and new doors to rear - Horseshoe Cottage, Main Street, East Farndon, Northamptonshire, LE16 9SJ.

#### **Applications for consideration**

DA/2020/0546 Demolition of existing sun room/conservatory and bay window. Construction of single storey rear extension - Glebeland 1, Rectory Court, East Farndon LE16 9SU  
The Parish Council had considered this application via email and had no objections. The application was then approved on 3 September 2020.

### 34. **Other Matters**

#### • **Footpath Report**

The Clerk read out the following report by Alan Langley, the Footpath Warden:

- The only development I am aware of is that a section of bridleway CP1, just to the south side of the Lubenham Road has had a hard crushed stone surface applied. The field it runs alongside is a farm shop field, full of a range of vegetable crops. The new surface enables farm shop vehicles to access the area more easily, as the track was in poor condition, with deep ruts. Walkers and riders will benefit, as the track was hard going in the winter, especially in wet weather, as the rain gathered in the ruts and turned track to mud.

The Clerk also raised the possibility of a Footpath leaflet being created, with the assistance of the Footpath Warden, detailing the footpaths and suggested walks within the parish and points of interest. This could be made available online, and paper copies placed in the Village Hall. The Parish Council supported this idea and agreed to meet any reasonable expenses.

**ACTION: Clerk to explore the possibility of creating a footpath leaflet with the Footpath Warden.**

- **Burial Ground Committee**

The Clerk confirmed that Richard Green had nothing to report. The mowing contractor reported that there was an active wasps nest in the burial ground compost bin – Mr Green has confirmed it can be left as they will die off in the winter and normally (unlike bees) will not return to the same place. Mr Green has also confirmed that the burial ground hedging contractor will remove the hedging debris from the burial ground extension when cutting the church hedges.

- **Tree Wardens**

The Tree Wardens completed a tree inspection on 7 September 2020, and there is nothing new to report; the Tree Wardens suggest reviewing the replanting of the two felled TPO oak trees at 2 Rectory Court in January 2021.

- **Neighbourhood Watch** – nothing to report.

- **Microlights Flying Over Village**

The Clerk reported that further to an action arising from the July meeting, she sent various emails regarding the complaints received about microlights. She has also done some further research and the best guidance found on the relevant rules is here:

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN04059/SN04059.pdf>

On the basis of email replies received and research, in summary, it appears:

- Microlights are 'aircraft' for the purposes of the CAA.
- Microlights can fly anywhere outside of controlled airspace, subject to the Rules of the Air Regulations 2015, provided they have the landowner's permission. If they have permission to fly in controlled airspace they must be in radio contact.
- Civil aviation law forbids flying closer than 150m/500 feet to any person or structure, unless taking off or landing. All flights must normally be completed by time of official night, which appears to be 30 mins after Official Sunset.
- So long as the Rules of the Air Regulations 2015 are being observed, aircraft are protected from action in respect of trespass or nuisance under the Civil Aviation Act 1982.
- Section 79(6) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, as amended, specifically exempts aircraft noise from the general noise nuisance controls which exist under that legislation. This is the case, irrespective of whether an airfield in question is small and unlicensed or a major UK airport.
- The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order allows for the temporary use of land as an airstrip (farmstrips) for 28 days in a year, with no permission needed.
- If the microlights try to circumvent the 28 days rule by moving from one field to another in the same area, it appears that it may be possible to get the relevant Council to deem the fields as one area (which would be DDC in our case).

- Environmental Health may be able to assist any residents who are being directly affected by noise. The Environmental Improvement team can be contacted via the switchboard at 01327 871100 or via email at environmentalimprovement@daventrydc.gov.uk. Colleagues within Environmental Health can then advise how nuisance is investigated and discuss the collection of evidence from affected parties.

Councillor West is going to try and speak to a contact in Marston Trussell who previously dealt with this issue to see what information he has/action taken.

No further complaints have been received, and there appear to be less microlights flying over the Parish. It was agreed that the Parish Council should also speak to the farmer who owns the fields where the microlights were flying from, to ask that the microlights are reminded to not fly at night and to request that they do not fly over the village houses.

**ACTION: Councillor West to speak to the contact at Marston Trussell regarding action taken on microlights, and the farmer from whose fields the microlights were flying.**

- **ANPR camera consultation**

Northamptonshire Police plans to enhance the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) capability across the county, and is proposing a new camera to be situated outside the Village Hall in East Farndon. The new fixed cameras will be deployed as part of a wider strategy to strengthen crime fighting, and links several initiatives, including the establishment last year of the Road Crime Team to focus on denying criminals the use of the roads, and the soon-to-be-deployed rapid response Interceptor cars. The Police have requested feedback on this proposal from local stakeholders before the consultation closes on 16 September 2020. The consultation was also placed on Facebook and no comments were received. The Parish Council supports this proposal.

**ACTION: Clerk to respond to ANPR camera consultation.**

### 35. Finance

- **Bank Reconciliation**

<u>Balance as at 6 July 2020</u>		
Current account	£14,707.14	
Deposit account	<u>£1,551.78</u>	
		£16,258.92
<u>Income</u>		
Interest		£0.11
<u>Expenses</u>		
		-£855.93
<u>Balance as at 1 September 2020</u>		
Current account	£13,851.21	
Deposit account	<u>£1,551.89</u>	
		£15,403.10

**ACTION: Councillor Cooper to check and sign the September 2020 bank reconciliation.**

- **Actual v. Budgeted Spending**

	<b>Precept Agreed</b>	<b>Expenditure to Date</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Streetlighting and Maintenance	£2,000.00	£546.18	£1,453.82
NCALC	£245.00	£244.24	£0.76
Insurance	£800.00	£680.39	£119.61
S136 Spending	£100.00	£72.50	£27.50
Training	£100.00		£100.00
Mowing of Burial Ground/Hedges	£2,400.00	£615.50	£1,784.50
Clerk Gross Salary	£2,645.00	£1,584.34	£1,060.66
Parish Council/Clerk Expenses	£350.00	£200.96	£149.04
Miscellaneous Expenses	£100.00		£100.00
Graveyard Responsibility	£1,000.00		£1,000.00
Election Expenses (May 2020)	£260.00		£260.00
Defibrillator Expenses	£200.00	£126.00	£74.00
VAT		£75.88	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£10,200.00</b>	<b>£4,145.99</b>	<b>£6,129.89</b>

### RESERVES

Lighting Replacement	£2,000.00		
Renovation of Village Spring	£500.00		
Churchyard Maintenance Work	£1,000.00		

The Clerk reminded all Councillors that the budget for 2021/22 will need to be discussed at the November 2020 meeting.

### The following payments were agreed by all Councillors

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Chq no</b>
EON	Electricity	£230.14	online
K Kavanagh	Mowing of burial extension ground	£22.50	online
K Kavanagh	Beech tree trim	£30.00	online
R Burton	Replacement bench plaque	£30.00	online
B Fallon	Spring water test	£14.50	online
NNHWA	Neighbourhood Watch signs	£28.00	online
C Burton	August/September salary and expenses, and backdated pay award	£500.79	online

### 36. 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.

### 37. Any Other Business

- Village Confines - DDC confirmed East Farndon is classed as an 'other village' in the Local Plan Part 2 and due to the limited amount of development expected in the smaller settlements in the settlements hierarchy, the village confines have not been mapped. The village confines exercise the Parish Council undertook in 2003 has been superseded by the Local Plan Part 2 and the Parish Council should be looking at each application on its merit and whether it is within the village confines based on the criteria in 5.2.25 of the Local Plan. The confines previously mapped can still be used as a useful reference point looking at applications within the village, although the map itself would not carry any weight. The only way at this stage to formally define the village confines for East Farndon would be through the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Local Plan and associated documents can be accessed via this link:

<https://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living/planning-policy/part-2-local-plan/>

The Parish Council agreed that whilst they felt a Neighbourhood Plan was unnecessary at this time, they would keep an open mind, and any planning application will be considered on a case-by-case basis with due regard to the Local Plan criteria.

- Councillor Curtis asked whether any information had been received regarding the closure of the churchyard – nothing received.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact the PCC to confirm the current position.**

**38. Date of the next meeting** – 10th November 2020  
Provisional meeting date – 13th October 2020

**39. Closure**  
The meeting closed at 8.18pm.

**Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record**

**Chairman** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated** \_\_\_\_\_