

**EAST FARNDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT THE VILLAGE HALL
GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH 2022 COMMENCING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL
MEETING OF THE PARISH**

PRESENT: Mr R Burton (Acting Chair), Mr B Fallon, Ms E Pepler, Ms M Duke
Mrs C Burton (Clerk to the Parish Council)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE - One

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received and accepted from Councillors Curtis, Hodgetts and Harrison.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Co-option of Councillor

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had received authority from WNC to co-opt a new Councillor on 1 February 2022, and the vacancy had then been advertised in accordance with the Parish Council's Co-option Procedure. Councillor Burton proposed Melanie Duke, seconded by Councillor Pepler, and she was duly co-opted as a Councillor.

ACTION: Clerk to notify WNC of co-option of a new Councillor; to ensure that the necessary paperwork is completed and the website is updated; and to provide induction training.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 19th January 2022

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

ACTION: Clerk to organise signing of January 2021 minutes by Councillor Curtis.

5. Matters Arising

ACTION	PROGRESS
Clerk to continue work on the footpath leaflet.	Electronic version issued and on website. Andy Cleary has kindly agreed to produce a paper version of the leaflet ACTION: Clerk to progress production of paper footpath leaflet
Councillor Fallon to organise a date for a Fire Service CPR/AED use demonstration.	Agreed not to pursue
Clerk to monitor progress regarding the drains, and take action as appropriate. Gullies are due to be cleaned in February 2022 and drainage investigation has been raised by the Area Maintenance Team, with a SLA date of 27th April 2022.	The gullies on Harborough Road have been cleaned and jetted through to the outlet, plus WNC have also repaired any broken pipes to the outlet where required. WNC have advised that this should address the problems
Councillor Harrison to confirm how the ANPR camera is powered.	It is believed that the ANPR camera is battery powered, which will be confirmed when Councillor Harrison meets with the Police (hopefully in April 2022)
Clerk to take necessary steps to fill Councillor vacancy.	Done – Councillor Duke co-opted
Councillor Curtis to organise registration of Councillor Pepler on defibrillator, and train her on the checking procedure.	Done

ACTION	PROGRESS
Councillor Pepler to organise defibrillator training.	Done – training was held on 2 March 2022
Councillor Fallon to organise calibration of SID.	Done – SID calibrated on 25 February 2022 and is fully operational
Councillor Fallon to make enquiries about Average Speed Camera, further SIDs and possible physical traffic calming measures.	Added to agenda
Councillor Fallon to organise a CSW volunteer request to be placed on the website and social media.	Added to agenda
Clerk to advise WNC that the Parish Council Council has no objections to applications WND/2021/0754 (Home Farm), WND/2021/0755 (Listed building consent for Home Farm) and WND/2021/0931 (Sunnybays).	Done
Clerk to resolve remaining queries on burial plot ownership.	Ongoing
Councillor Fallon to contact Futures Housing to request that they deal with the area behind the bus shelter.	Email sent and response awaited
Councillor Curtis to draft and issue a 'Farndon Matters' newsletter in February 2022, in consultation with Councillors.	Carried forward in order to line up with the Jubilee Committee Communications, now expected in April 2022.
The Chair and the Clerk, in consultation with other Councillors, to monitor and take necessary action to oppose the WNC Spatial Options Consultation proposals.	Added to agenda
Clerk and Tree Wardens to progress plans to plant a tree in commemoration of the Platinum Jubilee.	Added to agenda
AMP Working Group to meet and undertake Asset Mapping work.	Added to agenda
Clerk to submit 2022/23 precept requirement and payment requisition form to WNC.	Done
Clerk to add War Memorial planters and plaques to the Asset Register.	Done
Councillor Burton to organise a 'Farndon Spring Clean'.	Carried forward – planned for April 2022

6. Roads and Transport

- **Community Speedwatch (CSW)**

Councillor Fallon confirmed that 5 volunteers had been found, and CSW sessions have started in the Village beginning last week. So far, 15 vehicles have been caught speeding over 4 hours (an hour a day). In preparation for the CSW sessions, the Police fitted their radar equipment a few weeks ago for 10 days and the summary results are:

- 19,890 vehicles were recorded
- 8,222 vehicles (41%) were exceeding the 30mph speed limit
- 85th Percentile Speed was 35mph

Once the CSW equipment has been given back, the Police radar will return to monitor what effect the programme had.

- **Traffic Calming Measures**

Councillor Fallon reported that more evidence is required before this can be progressed. He anticipates that sufficient evidence will be available at the end of April 2022.

Councillor Fallon also reported that application has been made for Farm Traffic signs for Lubenham Road and the approach to the Village from Market Harborough.

7. Planning and Development

Applications granted

- WND/2021/0895 Two storey rear extension and single storey hallway link - Farndon Grange, Marston Lane, East Farndon, Northamptonshire, LE16 9SL. The Parish Council had considered this application via email and had no objections, and this application was approved on 16 February 2022.

Applications for consideration

- WND/2022/0041 Single storey rear extension and detached double garage - Harebell House, Harborough Road, East Farndon, Northamptonshire, LE16 9SG
The Parish Council had considered this application via email and had no objections.
- WND/2022/0008 Construction of detached garage - Hillside Farm, Main Street, East Farndon, Northamptonshire, LE16 9SH
The Parish Council had considered this application via email and had no objections.

8. Other Matters

- **Burial Ground Committee**

Councillor Burton reported that the first cut of the Burial Ground and Churchyard grass had been done, and everything was in good order.

The Clerk confirmed that of the two outstanding reservation queries, one has been resolved.

The Clerk was contacted by a stonemason querying whether there was a fee for an additional inscription on a memorial stone. The Clerk confirmed that currently there is not; the stonemason advised that it is usual for a fee to be charged to cover the administration costs. It was agreed that a fee of £50 would be introduced from 1 April 2022.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange for update of Burial Ground fees to include a fee of £50 for an additional inscription on a memorial stone.

- **Asset Mapping Project (AMP)**

The AMP work has commenced. Councillors Burton and Hodgetts attended an AMP Briefing on 9 February 2022. All the assets/services that WNC provide to the parish have been identified and put onto the AMP spreadsheet, which has been circulated to Councillors. The next step is to map all the assets/services on the AMP layer on Parish Online. The deadline is 31 March 2022.

ACTION: The AMP Working Group to complete the AMP work by 31 March 2022.

The Parish Council has received its AMP payment of grant of £223.31. NCALC advise that the grant recognises that the working group may incur some cost in terms of officer time. The grant is not intended to represent an hourly rate, or a total project cost; it is simply to assist councils to defray the cost of facilitating the working group and the grant may be used however the council wishes in connection with the project. The Parish Council agreed the money would be used to offset the Clerk's wages to complete this work.

- **West Northamptonshire Enhanced Partnership under the Bus Services Act**

WNC is preparing an Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme under the Bus Services Act 2017, to provide the framework for implementation of improvements to local bus services as outlined in the Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan which was published in October 2021. Many of the comments received from parish and town councils to the consultation on the Bus Service Improvement Plan priorities in September and October 2021 related the need to restore services to communities which have lost them (like East Farndon Parish). WNC have advised that this does not form part of the Plan or Scheme because it is likely that such supported services would be secured through contracts between the Council and bus operators, rather than through the Enhanced Partnership.

- **Survey Results Review (to include New Bins, Playground and Social Media)**

It was agreed that the Clerk to start to source the two new bins now.

ACTION: Clerk to source two new litter bins.

It was agreed that investigation into a playground should be deferred until after the Jubilee celebrations. The effectiveness of social media as a communication tool was discussed, and it was agreed that more research was required to decide on the best approach to facilitate two-way communications in the Village. It was agreed to form a Communications Working Group, comprising Councillors Curtis, Fallon and Duke.

ACTION: The Communications Working Group to discuss and recommend possible improvements to Parish Council communications at a future meeting.

- **WNC Spatial Options Consultation**

The Clerk reported that work has continued to to oppose the WNC Spatial Options Consultation proposals. The key developments are:

- In terms of historic records, an application for development behind Brierley Farm was submitted 30 years ago (DA/1991/0980) which was a change of use to residential dismissed at appeal in July 1992. The reasons were: *The proposed development is contrary to the policies of the Local Planning Authority as it would create an undesirable form of residential development encroachment into open countryside to the detriment of the visual amenities of the area and the character and appearance of the Special Landscape Area.*
- Councillor Phil King (leader of Harborough District Council) commented on a Facebook post of our MP, Chris Heaton-Harris, saying: *I am not expecting that these sites, in adjoining West Northants, will be required to deliver the anticipated housing needs for the Harborough district, as we review our adopted Harborough Local Plan.*
- Historic England has provided comments to the Spatial Options Consultation, which includes the proposed allocation at East Farndon. They expressed concern regarding the potential impact on the scheduled monument and advised that a detailed heritage assessment would be required at an early stage to ensure its significance is preserved, including contributions made by its setting. This would include areas of ridge and furrow that preserve the former medieval open field system and therefore make a positive contribution to the significance of the monument. The scheduled monument in East Farndon, which relates to medieval settlement remains. Full details are available here: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1017190?section=official-list-entry>
- Historic England also advised that the World War II crash site in East Farndon will be protected under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986., and that the Parish Council highlights its concerns with the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre (JCCC).
- The Parish Council has raised a query with Historic England on steps to formally make the ridge and furrow fields in East Farndon 'Non-designated heritage assets', and whether they can become 'Designated heritage assets'; the feasibility of the air crash site in East Farndon being recognised as an archaeological site under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (which includes within its definition of monument, 'crashed aircraft or the remains thereof'); and any other steps available to the Parish Council to ensure the preservation of its heritage features and assets (including the Judith Stone). Historic England have referred the queries to the inspector who dealt with the case last year, and a response is awaited.
- Regarding the 'Judith Stone', Historic England confirm it may have listing potential, and Alan Langley & Judy Hodgetts have kindly agreed to undertake research later this year to support an application.

- As advised by Historic England, the Parish Council contacted JCCC, who confirmed they have contacted WNC and West Northants Historic Environment Records to inform them of the requirements under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986, relating to crashed military aircraft in UK. WNC asked for locations of the crash sites, and Judy Hodgetts kindly assisted the Clerk in providing precise locations.

The Parish Council thanked its MP, Chris Heaton-Harris and WNC Councillor Harris for their assistance in progressing these matters. It was agreed that once a response was received from Historic England, the Clerk and Councillor Curtis, in consultation with other Councillors, will draft a letter to WNC to make representation for the removal of the East Farndon proposal from the Spatial Options Consultation.

ACTION: Councillor Curtis and the Clerk, in consultation with other Councillors, to monitor and take necessary action to oppose the WNC Spatial Options Consultation proposals.

- **Platinum Jubilee**

Councillor Curtis confirmed that the Parish Council coordinated Queen's Platinum Jubilee Committee has been meeting regularly and has made great progress. The three events to bring the village together are now confirmed (Jubilee Beacons & Beverages on 2 June, Jubilee Coffee Morning & Exhibition on 3 June and the Jubilee Family Festival on 4 June). The Committee will shortly be issuing a leaflet to all households to request various donations and to ask for volunteers to assist at events.

- **Jubilee Tree and Wildflower Planting**

The Clerk reported that she is meeting with the Tree Wardens in April to agree the type and position of a tree to be planted (probably in November), as part of The Queen's Green Canopy created to mark the Platinum Jubilee. There are free trees available, but the smallest pack is 15 trees (for urban areas), then packs of 30 to create a copse or a hedge. It was agreed that the Parish Council would purchase up to 5 trees, if suitable space could be found for them. It was suggested that the War Memorial could also be a possible site, in addition to the amenity land.

ACTION: Clerk and Tree Wardens to progress plans to plant a tree in commemoration of the Platinum Jubilee.

It has also been suggested that we could plant wildflowers to encourage pollinating bees and butterflies. It was pointed out that a site would need to be cultivated first. The Parish Council supported the idea in principle.

ACTION: Clerk and Tree Wardens to discuss the feasibility of planting wildflowers in the village.

- **Gartree Proposed New Prison**

The Clerk reported that a group in Lubenham opposed to this proposal has been formed, which has engaged a planning consultant to provide an opinion which will be presented to the planning authority. As East Farndon Parish Council has already objected to the initial application (an extension to the existing prison, which has been withdrawn at this point), it has been asked if it wishes to be included as one of those supporting the response that will be prepared by the consultant.

They are not requesting funding in order to include our parish, although a fundraising 'Go Fund Me' page has been set up to help to pay for the costs, and they have asked if the Parish Council could publicise this. The fundraising page is available at

https://www.gofundme.com/f/gartree-action?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1

The Parish Council agreed it wanted to be included as one of those supporting the response that will be prepared by the consultant.

ACTION: Councillor Curtis to confirm that the Parish Council wants to support the response objecting to the new Gartree prison, being prepared by the Lubenham group.

9. Finance

• Bank Reconciliation

Balance as at 10 January 2022

Current account	£20,550.33	
Deposit account	£1,552.05	
		£22,102.38

Income

AMP Grant	£223.31	
Interest	£0.03	
		£223.34

Expenses

Unipart Rail Ltd	£474.00	
EON	£64.99	
C Burton	£552.00	
Joe Humphries Memorial Trust	£100.00	
Thistle Loos Ltd	£408.00	
A E Hire	£118.80	
C Burton	£40.00	
		-£1,757.79

Balance as at 14 March 2022

Current account	£19,015.85	
Deposit account	£1,552.08	
		£20,567.93

The bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Councillor Fallon.

• Actual v. Budgeted Spending

	Precept Agreed	Expenditure to Date	Balance
Streetlighting and Maintenance	£2,050.00	£1,243.42	£806.58
NCALC	£250.00	£286.03	-£36.03
Insurance	£690.00	£680.39	£9.61
S137 Spending	£220.00	£266.30	-£46.30
Training	£50.00		£50.00
Mowing of Burial Ground/Hedges	£2,000.00	£1,978.32	£21.68
Clerk Gross Salary	£3,020.00	£3,511.46	-£491.46

Parish Council/Clerk Expenses	£350.00	£456.97	-£106.97
Miscellaneous Expenses	£100.00	£1,272.77	-£1,172.77
Graveyard Responsibility	£1,000.00		£1,000.00
Election Expenses (May 2021)	£270.00		£270.00
Defibrillator Expenses	£200.00	£226.00	-£26.00
VAT		£478.93	
TOTAL	£10,200.00	£10,400.59	£278.34

RESERVES

Lighting Replacement	£2,500.00		
Renovation of Village Spring	£500.00		
Churchyard Maintenance Work	£2,000.00	-£2,700	£4,700
Platinum Jubilee	£500.00	£500.00	Nil

- The following payments were agreed by all Councillors

Payee	Reason	Amount	Chq no
Unipart Rail Ltd	SID calibration	£474.00	Online
EON	Lighting maintenance	£64.99	Online
C Burton	February/March 2022 salary/expenses	£552.00	Online
Joe Humphries Memorial Trust	Defibrillator training	£100.00	Online
Thistle Loos Ltd	Portable toilet hire	£408.00	Online
A E Hire	Generator deposit	£118.80	Online
C Burton	Reimbursement of lottery licence	£40.00	Online

10. Correspondence

- WNC is considering whether to make a new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to promote responsible dog ownership and prohibit smoking in certain public spaces across the former administrative council areas of Daventry District and South Northants, and have asked the Parish Council to respond. The consultation is available at: <https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/place/pspo-dog-ownership-smoking-prohibition/> and closes midnight 4 April 2022. WNC has also asked the Parish Council to raise awareness of this consultation by displaying a poster on public notice boards, in our parish newsletter and via any social media networks as appropriate.

The consultation has already been put on our website/Facebook, but it was agreed it would be re-issued and a poster will be placed on the noticeboard. Councillor Pepler agreed to respond to the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council.

ACTION: Councillor Curtis and Burton to re-issue PSPO consultation details on website/Facebook.

ACTION: Clerk to place PSPO consultation poster on noticeboard.

ACTION: Councillor Pepler to respond to the PSPO consultation on behalf of the Parish Council.

- NCALC have issued a list of new training opportunities, which include social media training (£38 per person) and First Aid training (£85 per person). It was not felt that the social media training was required. It was agreed that Councillor Curtis would apply for the First Aid training if required for the Jubilee event.

- A resident has contacted the Clerk to advise that there has been a lot of heavy traffic using the Lubenham Road over the last few weeks, which they believe is being delivered to The Field House (just before you get to Thorpe Lubenham Hall). There has been a portacabin and several low loaders carrying heavy digging equipment. It is assumed that the traffic is using this route because of the low bridge at Lubenham.
- All other relevant correspondence (e.g. NCALC Newsletter) has been circulated to Councillors and shared on the village website and Facebook page where appropriate.

11. Any Other Business - None

12. Date of the next meeting – 18th May 2022 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
Provisional meeting date – 20th April 2022

13. Closure

The meeting closed at 9.20pm. .

Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record

Chairman _____ **Dated** _____