

**EAST FARDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT THE VILLAGE HALL
GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

WEDNESDAY 17TH JULY 2024 COMMENCING AT 7.15PM

PRESENT: Mr B Fallon (Chair), Mr M Curtis, Ms S Beesley, Mr T Knott, Ms M Duke
Mrs C Burton (Clerk to the Parish Council)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE – WNC Councillor Parker

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received and accepted from Councillors Hodgetts & Pepler, and WNC Councillor Harris.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 15th May 2024

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

4. Matters Arising

ACTION	PROGRESS
Councillor Curtis to scope proposals for Spring renovation work and possible costs.	Carried over
Councillor Curtis and Clerk to develop a village story, covering heritage information, for the website.	Ongoing
Councillor Beesley to organise work on the village hall bin.	Carried over
Councillors Curtis and Hodgetts to co-ordinate the D-Day Event on 6 June 2024.	Done. The event raised £365 in donations for the Royal British Legion.
Councillor Beesley to investigate the development of a village emblem.	Carried over
Councillor Fallon to organise a website article to seek feedback from residents on the East Midlands Airport Further Airspace proposals.	Carried over
Councillor Fallon to continue to progress speed reduction measures.	Added to agenda
Councillor Hodgetts to organise the renovation of the gravel path in the Burial Ground and Churchyard, with expenses being met from the Churchyard/Burial Ground Maintenance Reserve.	Carried over – See 'Burial Ground Committee Report' agenda item.
Clerk to draft new Financial Regulations based on the new NALC model issued in May 2024.	Done – added to agenda
Councillor Knott to liaise with chair of BCAG to inform Climate Action measures that may be appropriate for East Farndon.	Carried forward
Councillor Fallon to report on the new East Midlands Airport flight level tests.	Added to agenda

ACTION	PROGRESS
Councillor Curtis and Clerk to respond to the West Northamptonshire Local Plan Regulation 18 Draft Consultation.	Done. Green Space applications were submitted in respect of the Churchyard/Burial Gound, Marriott Green and the Village Green. ACTION: Councillor Curtis to update the 'Major Housing Development' website page.
Clerk to pay 2024/25 insurance premium.	Done
Clerk to ensure Parish Council certifies itself as exempt; and to ensure all relevant documents associated with accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 are published to meet reporting requirements as an exempt authority.	Done
Clerk to set up online banking authorisation.	Ongoing. Councillors Knott, Curtis and Fallon now have online banking access; once Councillor Hodgetts gets access, online authorisation will be set up.

5. Roads and Transport

- **Speed Reduction Measures**

Councillor Fallon reported that he is waiting for confirmation of when the dragon's teeth will be painted on Harborough Road, and had submitted the application for the reduction of the speed limit on Harborough Road.

ACTION: Councillor Fallon to continue to progress speed reduction measures.

- **Community Speedwatch 2024**

Councillor Fallon reported that the Speedwatch campaign was successful. 124 vehicles were caught over the speed limit, resulting in 74 letters being sent. There is a possibility of having the Speedwatch equipment again in September/October 2024.

ACTION: Councillor Fallon to confirm if there are sufficient volunteers to run the Speedwatch campaign again in September/October 2024.

- **SID Statistics**

Councillor Fallon reported that the SID statistics are not currently available.

ACTION: Councillor Fallon to circulate latest SID statistics to all Councillors.

6. Planning and Development

Applications granted - None

Applications for consideration

- 2024/2171/FULL Resurfacing of parking area and erection of a garden shed - Home Farm House Back Lane East Farndon LE16 9SE
- 2024/2420/LBC Resurfacing of parking area and erection of a garden shed - Home Farm House Back Lane East Farndon LE16 9SE
The Parish Council had considered these applications via email, and supported the application as all of the changes are within the property boundary and the village confines and the shed to be built is outside of the scheduled monument. The application also includes the removal of the existing shed that was built on the monument.
- 2024/3062/FULL New single storey yoga studio - Farndon Grange, Marston Lane, East Farndon, LE16 9SL
Councillors agreed to support this application, as although it is outside the confines, it is development to support an existing business.
ACTION: Clerk to respond to planning application 2024/3062/FULL New single storey yoga studio - Farndon Grange.

7. Other Matters

- **Footpath Report**

The Clerk reported that Mr Jonny Dargie, the Footpath Warden, had provided a full report, which has been circulated to Councillors. The key issues are:

- The village hall path remains the main outstanding issue – there has been no response from the council contractors to date. A further chaser will be sent by email to request an update. However, there has been a positive development as the overhanging fence that had begun to obscure the path approximately 2/3rds of the way down the path has been replaced. It would appear the landowner whose garden backs on to the path has proceeded with remediation work, which has improved the situation.
- Ash Lane (footpath from Main Street up to Back Lane just up the hill from the war memorial): previously obscured Footpath sign has been “rediscovered”.

- **Burial Ground Committee Report**

The Clerk reported that the Burial Ground is in good order. There is an outstanding action to improve and re-gravel the path through the Churchyard and Burial Ground. In June, the Burial Ground Committee and Clerk met with two representatives of the Wildlife Trust who gave useful feedback on site about potential biodiversity initiatives, followed up with a written report and other useful relevant documents. Committee Member Russell Burton volunteers to distil the information from the Wildlife Trust into do-able actions, not just for the Burial Ground, but also for the wider village, and advertise these on the village website in line with the Biodiversity Action Plan.

ACTION: Russell Burton to produce an action plan based on The Wildlife Trust report on the Churchyard and Burial Ground.

As regards the path, the Parish Council agreed that quotes should be obtained to undertake the re-gravelling of the path.

ACTION: Councillor Hodgetts to obtain quotes for the re-gravelling of the Churchyard/Burial Ground path.

- **Tree Warden Report**

No update on the May 2024 report.

- **Police Liaison Representative & Neighbourhood Watch Report** – no report.

- **New Financial Regulations**

The Clerk had circulated draft new Financial Regulations, based on a new model issued by NALC. The Parish Council resolved to adopt them.

ACTION: The Clerk to organise for the new Financial Regulations to be published on the website.

- **East Midlands Airport Flight Level Tests**

Councillor Fallon reported that he has requested the results of the new flight level tests, but these have not yet been received.

ACTION: Councillor Fallon to report on the East Midlands Airport new flight level test results.

- **Transitioning Parish Councils to a .gov.uk Website**

Councillor Fallon attended a NALC briefing session on this on 11 July 2024, and slides from the presentation had been circulated to all Councillors.

ACTION: Councillor Fallon to register an interest in the .gov.uk domain name for East Farndon Parish Council.

- **Amended Cooption Procedure**

The Clerk had circulated an amended Cooption procedure to all Councillors, which amends the nationality eligibility criteria following the UK's exit from the European Union, as advised by NCALC. The Parish Council approved the amended procedure.

ACTION: The Clerk to organise for the amended Cooption procedure to be published on the website.

- **Amended Planning Response Policy**

The Clerk had circulated an amended Planning Response Policy to all Councillors, based on feedback from NCALC. The Parish Council approved the amended policy.

ACTION: The Clerk to organise for the amended Planning Response policy to be published on the website.

- **Pension Re-declaration of Compliance**

The Clerk reported that she had completed a re-declaration of compliance for the Parish Council on 18 June 2024 with The Pensions Regulator under the Pensions Act 2008.

- **Village Fete 2024**

The fete was held on 15 June, and despite the bad weather, was well attended. The Parish Council extended its thanks to Councillors Fallon, Duke & Beesley, and Julia Prew for organising the fete as a one-off event. The Clerk reported that the fete proceeds were £2,362.55 and the costs were £985.04 (excluding recoverable VAT), giving a profit of £1,377.51. The PCC had run a raffle as well, which raised £996.00 for the church.

The Parish Council agreed that from the fete profits, £500.00 should be donated to East Farndon Amenity Land Trust, £500 to the PCC and £400 placed in an earmarked reserve for a village sign (with £22.49 being taken from the general reserve).

ACTION: The Clerk to organise donations to the East Farndon Amenity Land Trust and the PCC from the fete profits.

ACTION: The Clerk to set up a reserve for a village sign.

- **External Emails Sent by Councillors on Behalf of the Parish Council**

Councillor Fallon advised that disclaimers need to be added to emails sent by Councillors, and the Clerk.

ACTION: Councillor Fallon to advise on disclaimers to be added to Councillor and Clerk emails.

8. Finance

- **Bank Reconciliation (as at Close of Business on 8 July 2024)**

Balance as at 1 April 2024

Current account	£4,889.95	
Deposit account	£11,738.98	
		£16,628.93

Income

Precept	£6,567.50	
Burial ground plot purchases	£700.00	
Fete proceeds	£2,362.55	
War Memorial Fundraising	£257.48	
Interest	£38.09	
		£9,925.62

<u>Expenses</u>		
C Burton	£412.12	
M Simons	£250.00	
EON Energy Solutions	£38.40	
Ryman Stationery	£5.99	
NCALC	£292.89	
Yu Energy	£11.02	
Yu Energy	£12.40	
Yu Energy	£59.44	
West Northamptonshire Council	£21.00	
Community Heartbeat	£162.00	
C Burton	£578.80	
Microsoft	£59.99	
Yu Energy	£10.67	
Yu Energy	£12.00	
Yu Energy	£53.78	
P Hodgetts	£142.99	
Zurich Insurance	£827.92	
Euroloos Ltd	£318.00	
Jo Shaw	£31.50	
Yu Energy	£11.02	
Yu Energy	£12.36	
Yu Energy	£50.84	
ICO	£35.00	
David Bates (Welland Valley Vineyard)	£360.00	
Bernie Fallon	£178.65	
Sam Beesley	£46.00	
Sam Beesley	£256.74	
A Brookes	£515.00	
EON Energy Solutions	£38.40	
C Burton	£578.80	
Yu Energy	£10.67	
Yu Energy	£11.95	
Yu Energy	£45.55	
		-£5,451.89
<u>Balance as at 8 July 2024</u>		
Current account	£9,325.59	
Deposit account	£11,777.07	
		£21,102.66

The bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Councillor Curtis.

• **Actual v. Budgeted Spending (as at 8 July 2024)**

	Precept Agreed	Expenditure to Date	Balance
Streetlighting and Maintenance	£1,400.00	£351.34	£1,048.66
NCALC	£300.00	£290.49	£9.51
Insurance	£1,000.00	£827.92	£172.08
S137 Spending	£660.00		£660.00
Training	£100.00		£100.00
Mowing of Burial Ground/Hedges	£4,000.00	£765.00	£3,235.00
Clerk Gross Salary	£3,995.00	£1,529.72	£2,465.28
Parish Council/Clerk Expenses	£815.00	£171.48	£643.52
Bin Collection	£665.00		£665.00
Defibrillator Expenses	£200.00	£135.00	£65.00
TOTAL	£13,135.00	£4,070.95	£9,064.05
Spending from Reserves (see below)		£165.16	
Fete Expenses (Covered by Proceeds)		£985.04	
VAT		£230.74	
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£5,451.89	

RESERVES		Receipts	Payments	Balance
Renovation of Village Spring	£1,500.00			£1,500.00
Burial Ground/Churchyard Maintenance	£3,380.00	£700.00	£119.16	£3,960.84
War Memorial Maintenance	£3,490.50	£257.48		£3,747.98
Fixed Asset Spending	£1,000.00		£46.00	£954.00
TOTAL	£9,370.50			£10,162.82

• **The following payments were agreed by all Councillors**

Payee	Reason	Amount	Chq No.
Zurich Insurance	Insurance	£827.92	Online
Euroloos Ltd	Toilet hire for fete	£318.00	Debit Card
Jo Shaw	Plants for village planters	£31.50	Online
Yu Energy	Street Lighting Electricity	£11.02	Direct Debit
Yu Energy	Street Lighting Electricity	£12.36	Direct Debit
Yu Energy	Street Lighting Electricity	£50.84	Direct Debit
ICO	GDPR Registration Fee	£35.00	Direct Debit
David Bates	Wine for Fete	£360.00	Online
Bernie Fallon	Beer for fete	£178.65	Online
Sam Beesley	Costs of Lubenham Rd bench renovation	£46.00	Online
Sam Beesley	Fete food/soft drinks costs	£256.74	Online
A Brookes	Hedge cutting	£515.00	Online
EON Energy Solutions	Lighting Maintenance	£38.40	Online
C Burton	Salary/expenses - June/July 2024	£578.80	Online
Yu Energy	Street Lighting Electricity	£10.67	Direct Debit
Yu Energy	Street Lighting Electricity	£11.95	Direct Debit
Yu Energy	Street Lighting Electricity	£45.55	Direct Debit

9. Correspondence

- The Clerk reported that Ron Bailey (a researcher for Lord Foster and a parliamentary advisor to Electrical Safety First, a UK Charity dedicated to reducing the deaths and injuries caused by electricity) has requested that the Parish Council support the campaign to improve the safety of lithium batteries (used in e-bike and e-scooters) and their disposal. The Parish Council agreed that it should support the campaign.

ACTION: The Clerk to email Ron Bailey to confirm the Parish Council's support for the campaign to improve the safety of lithium batteries and their disposal.

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

10. Any Other Business - None

11. Date of the next meeting – 18 September 2024

Provisional meeting date – 21 August 2024

12. Closure

The meeting closed at 8.34pm.

Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record

Chairman _____

Dated _____

13/24