

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FARNDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 5th November
2024 AT 7.30PM in FARNDON WAR MEMORIAL HALL**

Present: Cllr V Roberts (Chair), Cllr H Williams, Cllr F Henderson, Cllr P Fish, Cllr A Foster, Cllr P Amphlett, Cllr B Hillyer, Cllr P Roberts, Cllr K Davies.

In attendance: Borough Cllr A Waddelove, Ms G Dawson (to be formally co-opted), Mrs M Jones, one member of the public, Mrs C Taylor (Clerk).

PART 1

139.24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Rudd, Mr E Barnston.

Resolved: that the apologies be noted.

140.24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Davies declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 16(i) on the agenda. Members to declare if anything arises further on the agenda.

141.24 CO-OPTION

Ms G Dawson signed completed Acceptance of Office and Register of Interest forms. Acceptance of Office countersigned by the Clerk.

142.24. GENERAL PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME.

i) A staff member of Dandelions Nursery attended to express serious concerns regarding the speed of traffic on Churton Road and in particular between the nursery and the school. A resident had also written via the Clerk expressing the same concerns. The concerns centred on, but were not limited to, the speed of traffic, parked cars, lack of dropped kerbs, poor pavements (including not suitable for wheel chair access, prams, nursery transport or pedestrian access which included heavy use by the nursery with very young children). At some points pedestrians were forced to use the road to compensate for some of the afore mentioned.

Resolved: Cllr Waddelove to request an onsite meeting with CWAC Highways to discuss fully. Meeting to include representation from Parish Council, Police, Dandelions Nursery, Brewery Motors, and the car sales business. Clerk to ask the Parish Council speed watch group to carry out some speed gun sessions on Churton Road and ask PCSO to deploy the police speed gun to carry out some speed reinforcement.

ii) Ed Barnston had informed:

a) Two new rapid electric vehicle chargers had been installed at Monument Place Industrial Units which would be available to anyone once the contactless payment system was set up.

b) Barnston Estate would once again be providing a village Christmas tree and had donated to 209 to provide some treats at the light turn on. Resolved: Thanks, be expressed to the estate for their continued generosity.

c) CWAC had advised that the closure of the footpath at the Sewage Treatment Works has had to be extended for the entire path as there is no viable diversion for just the top section and have therefore put up notices at the southern end of the footpath as this is where the diversion starts at Crewe Hall.

143.24 COMMUNITY SAFETY.

Police monthly report received to circulate prior to the meeting. PCSO McKeivitt was not in attendance. Cllr Waddelove advised that he had had reports of isolated properties being targeted by burglars and cautioned awareness. **Resolved:** Clerk to ask PCSO to deploy police speed gun by the Monument on Churton Road.

144.24 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Waddelove reported:

With regards to Highways resource allocation, small works budget for 2024/2025 was now spent.

Sibbersfield Lane pavement was now finished.

The blue pipe over the bridge had now been removed with deep cleaning/weeding to be carried out in January.

The additional Friday/Saturday evening No 5-bus service had been permanently extended, since it was on a trial basis originally.

The VAS on A534 was now working sporadically and a replacement part was therefore being sourced.

SEND – there had been slight temporary improvement but still with issues there was no overall progress.

Resolved: Noted.

145.24 MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING

Resolved: that the Minutes of the October Parish Council meeting held on 1st October 2024 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr P Roberts

Seconded: Cllr K Davies

146.24 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerks' report was read and noted.

147.24 HISTORY BOARD PROJECT

Cllr P Roberts reported: Suggestions were being worked through and the group hoped to continue to make good progress.

Resolved: Any request for funding to be made by the group at the December Parish Council meeting in order for it to be considered as part of budget setting process.

148.24 YOUTH PROJECT

The project had held its first meeting 18th October with 10 families registered. Feedback from the first meeting had been that better equipment was needed so bats for table tennis and table football had been sourced. Next meeting scheduled for 22 November. A request was made for funding from the Community Benefit Fund to help meet unexpected costs arising from the need to apply for separate DBS clearance for each venue/specific purpose. **Resolved:** Clerk to forward application form to Cllr Hillyer for completion and return. Approval and progression of the application delegated to the Clerk. Declarations of Interest acknowledged from Cllrs Hillyer, Amphlett and Dawson.

149.24 NEWSLETTER

The Autumn/winter edition had been delivered to residents. The Chair had revisited the distribution list and had reduced the number of drops to 11 with the expectation that each

Cllr would deliver one round. **Resolved:** Clerk to allocate one member to each drop and circulate the list for future use.

150.24 PLANNING

Existing applications where decision still awaited:

21/00882/FUL Lewis' of Farndon The Gateway High St Farndon Retractable awning over enclosed patio.

21/02184/S73 The Boathouse High Street Farndon CH3 6PU Demolition of existing café/dwelling house buildings and erection of a replacement dwelling house. Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission 15/02649/FUL (and 19/04100/NMA).

23/03286/FUL Lodge Farm Worthenbury Road Crewe by Farndon Chester CH3 6PA Conversion of agricultural brick buildings to 3 residential dwellings.

23/03669/FUL Rockside Cottage and The Vineyard High Street Farndon Chester CH3 6PU Demolition of dwelling known as Rockside, garage and caravan on land known as The Vineyard and construction of replacement dwelling on land known as The Vineyard.

24/00651/FUL Sibbersfield Lane Farm Sibbersfield Lane Farndon CH3 6NX Construction of Slurry and Dirty Water Lagoon and Silage Storage Pad.

APP/AO665/W/23/3336058 24/00045/REF Notification of a Planning Appeal: Land at Marsh Lane Kings Marsh Chester Erection of a stable building and a storage building and construction of an outdoor area.

24/00954/FUL The Barnyard Marsh Lane Kingsmarsh Chester CH3 6NG Retrospective planning application for conversion of existing building to a dwelling and construction of stable and manege (retrospective).

APP/AO665/D/24/3343304 24/00074/REF 23/03650/FUL Notification of Planning Appeal: Eastfield Barton Road Farndon CH3 6NL Erection of a first-floor bedroom extension and ensuite above existing attached garage.

24/01492/S73 Monument Place Chester Road Churton by Farndon CH1 6DN 1000sqm light industrial building divided into 6 units with associated infrastructure and landscaping, 3 bay front and 2 bay rear extension to Unit 1 – Variation of Condition 8 (Use limited to Class B1) of planning permission 08/00725/FUL to allow for a gym.

24/02053/S73 Land opposite Bracken Farm formerly Gas depot Sibbersfield Lane Farndon Erection of 6 dwellings – variation of Condition 2 (approved drawings) of planning permission 20/104696/S73.

24/01630/FUL Land at Barton Road Farndon Chester Change of use to a camp site for up to 15 tents trailer tents for 60 days a year.

24/02574/FUL 2 Dee View Farndon CH3 6PR Demolition of existing garage and erection of detached garage.

24/02570/FUL 3 Starling Close Farndon CH3 6RF Installation of 1 No. air source heat pump to the side elevation.

Licensing (West) Restaurant 209 application number 573056. Application for a variation to an existing premises licence to add the supply of alcohol off the premises, to extend the supply of alcohol hours on a Sunday, to extend the hours for recorded music and to extend the opening hours.

NEW APPLICATIONS:

24/02908/FUL 7 Townfield Lane Farndon Single storey side extension.

24/01483/PDQ APP/AO665/W/24/3350214 REF 24/00108/REF Lodge Farm Worthenbury Road Crewe by Farndon Chester Change of use of 2 agricultural buildings to 5 residential dwellings. (The current planning permission **23/03286/FUL** on the site is for the conversion to create 3 dwellings with associated gardens and parking. This subsequent LDC

application has been submitted which seeks to convert the other agricultural building on site to 5 dwellings utilising Permitted Development Rights. Should that be granted and this application the entirety of the site would become residential use).

24/03060/LDC 51-52 High Street Farndon Chester CH3 6PU The application seeks lawful confirmation that the entirety of the building as residential use from September 2020.

DECISIONS:

23/00449/EOPDEV 18/03599/FUL Riverside chalet with refused planning: CWAC have ruled now immune to enforcement action. No further action.

151.24 FINANCE

Resolved: that the payment of salaries and expenses, the payment of invoices for goods received and services rendered for October be approved and the receipts and balances be noted.

Proposed Cllr P Roberts and Mrs M Jones

i) External auditors limited assurance opinion 2023/24 with 'except for matter.' **Noted:** To record: "We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2024. **Except for** the matters reported below, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. Section 2, Box 4 incorrectly includes items which are not staff costs. Employment expenses, reimbursement for postage, stationery or other outlays made on behalf of the smaller authority, payroll processing costs, are not staff costs."

ii) To agree projects to be included at budget setting and a date for finance subcommittee to meet to formulate precept proposal for January meeting. Cllr V Roberts informed members that the Memorial Hall may consider requesting a grant from the Parish Council in the next financial year. (Cllrs V and P Roberts declared an interest).

Members highlighted the following for consideration at budget setting: History board (sub group to advise likely amount of funding to be requested at December meeting), fishing pews, cliff side path, boardwalk.

Resolved: Clerk to convene a meeting of the Finance Sub Committee to draft budget/precept proposal to be presented for agreement to full council at January meeting. (Finance Sub Committee members to be convened: Cllrs P Roberts, P Amphlett, F Henderson, H Williams, and the Clerk).

152.24 CORRESPONDENCE, PUBLICATIONS AND INVITATIONS

Received:

i) Complaint from The Crofts resident regarding pathways, trees, and gardens. **Noted:** The Clerk and Cllr Waddelove were dealing with CWAC and Sanctuary Housing over this complaint.

ii) Defibrillator match funding. An offer had been received from London Hearts for match funding for anyone (meeting specific requirements) who would like to apply for it to provide an additional defibrillator in their area. Cost to the PC would be £750 plus (recoverable) vat of £150, plus cost of installation. **Resolved:** Clerk to enquire of Crewe by Farndon Methodist Church if they would be willing to have one sited on their external wall.

Ongoing cost of consumables to be met by the Parish Council (and cost of electricity to the cabinet if this was a barrier to its installation). The Church would be responsible for its care and would need to identify a custodian. As the offer was time and availability restricted ordering was delegated to the Clerk if the Church confirmed they would like to go ahead on this basis.

iii) Litter picking request: Bronze Duke of Edinburgh. **Noted:** Cllr P Roberts was dealing with this request.

153.24 FARNDON COMMUNITY CLUB

i) Mowing of field. **Noted** that the Clerk had paid 50% of the cost to FCC to cover mowing of the area around the football pitches as agreed.

ii) Clearance of area at back of field. **Noted** that the contractor had now completed the work.

Cllr Williams reported further: The Raise the Roof Fund had received a very generous offer of funding of £100K which meant with funding already raised they had a further £40k to raise to reach the approximate total £200k required. Other grant applications were in progress and it was to be hoped that they would be successful. Bonfire night event had been very successful and there were 2 other events coming up. Another successful grant application meant that they would be taking delivery of a container to be sited on the club car park.

Resolved: Noted and very pleased to hear that funding for the roof was looking so optimistic.

154.24 STANDING CONSIDERATION OF HIGHWAY MATTERS

i) Kerb opposite Dandelions. **Resolved:** Discussed at agenda item 4.

ii) Kerb at Cottesloe House. Request received for a dropped kerb from a Shocklach resident. **Resolved:** Noted that the Clerk had written to the resident of Cottesloe House.

iii) Wall around public toilets. **Noted:** The Clerk had raised that the wall was crumbling at the base. CWAC had agreed to monitor.

iv) Autumn planters. **Noted:** The Clerk had ordered.

v) Light outside FCC reported as slow to come on as darkness falls. **Resolved:** Clerk to speak to electrician.

vi) PROW application. **Resolved:** Clerk to ask CWAC if there has been any progress.

vii) Street lights outside Monument burial ground reported as not working. **Resolved:** Clerk to report.

viii) 20 mph sign by Brewery Motors reported as being obscured by plants. **Resolved:** Cllr Henderson to speak to resident.

ix) Complaints received regarding weeds on Parker Drive South and wild flower patches around the village in general being overgrown and in need of cutting down. **Resolved:** Clerk to report.

155.24 CHRISTMAS

Arrangements for Village tree lighting on 6 December at 6.30pm confirmed and contractor has installation of small street trees in hand.

156.24 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

To confirm that the date and time of the next meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd December 2024.

.....