

Farningham Parish Council
Minutes of a Full Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 2 December 2020 at 7.00 pm via zoom

Present: Cllrs Liz Bourne (Chair), Daryl Burns, Philip McGarvey, Latif Oztosun, Sam Pointer, Carol Salmon and Krish Shanmuganathan

In attendance: Cllr Roger Gough (County Councillor) (in part), Amanda Barlow (Clerk) and Jane Gray (previous Clerk) (in part)

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting. There were no declarations of Interest.

2. Comments by the County Councillor

Cllr Gough reported that the results of extensive work carried out in the flood prone area in Eynsford Road looked quite positive. New curbing had been laid along with new drains. Cllr Gough also said another traffic survey would be carried out in the High Street following our request for a further look at the possibility of instituting a 20mph zone. Cllr Gough informed the meeting that the numbers of Covid19 infection in areas of Kent are much higher than in others and he had written to the Health Secretary and discussed with the MPs in Kent regarding dividing Kent into tiers. However, he also added that the NHS Trusts are under pressure in Kent. Cllr Gough informed Members that there are plans in place to help with testing and vaccinating.

Cllr Gough advised that it is unlikely that there will any impact from Brexit on 31 December 2020 on the M25/M20 as there has been a lot of preparation. Members asked if a public convenience can be placed in the A20 layby to stop anti social behaviour. In response to questions Cllr Gough advised that he would look at the progress with regard to Junction 3.

Cllr Gough left the meeting.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Policing

Cllr Pointer said he had noted what he considered to be potentially criminal activity in London Road and requested the police be asked to patrol this area more regularly. **Members agreed that the Clerk should contact the PCSO to arrange meeting to discuss issues further. (Action: Clerk)**

5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting and Matters Arising

Members resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2020.

Matters Arising:

Members agreed to the coppicing of the tree.

Members noted that at Old Stables at Maplescombe Lane there is now a caravan and mobile home, as well as security gates enormous signs.

6. Correspondence: (Circulated to Councillors)

Noted.

7. Planning:

Application No: SE/20/00095/ENF

Site: Maplebank Poultry Farm, Maplescombe Lane, Farningham DA4 0JY (but in WEST KINGSDOWN Parish)

Appeal against Enforcement Notice for: Change of use of the land & associated buildings from Agriculture to storage for building supplies (PPE, site tools, site equipment, plant hire & others) office supplies, trailers & containers and creation of office spaces & asbestos removal spaces including B1 & B8 uses

Members resolved that the Parish Council should object to the appeal being upheld and that Cllr Bourne would respond on behalf of the Parish Council that the Appeal should be upheld.

Application No: SE/20/030260/FUL

Site: Land south of Philip Springs, Farningham Hill Road, Farningham, DA4 0JR

Construction of detached dwelling house

Objection.

Members objected as it is in the green belt area and its design is not sympathetic.

Application No: SE/20/03343/HOUSE

Site: Tamarisk, 28 Beesfield Lane

Proposed first floor side extension alteration to fenestration

No comment.

8. Comments by District Councillors

Cllr Philip McGarvey reported that there is a real problem with the SDC accounts as there was a clerical error due on the pension of around £18 million. The funds are in the SDC's favour.

9. Vehicle Electric Charging Points (Cllr. Burns)

Cllr Burns advised that there has been no Village Hall meeting and she will contact the contractors about options. The vehicle electric charging point has to be placed on community land.

Members resolved to continue with investigation into the vehicle electric charging points. Cllr Burns agreed to write to Kent County Council to find out what the current position is with the charging points. (Action: Cllr Burns)

10. Open Spaces: Alban and Oliver Crescents, play equipment, and Farningham Woods

- i. Car parking (Chair)

None.

- ii. Play equipment

It was agreed that the Clerk would check with Sevenoaks District Council who was responsible for carrying out risk assessments on play equipment. (Action: Clerk)

11. Highways, Footpaths and Street Lighting

- i. 20mph speed limit in the High Street; KHS – new traffic survey to be undertaken in January 2021

Cllr Shanmuganathan shared a presentation regarding the High Street regarding the option of putting planters in the High Street to define parking and act as traffic calming. **Members agreed to further investigate this project and that Cllr Shanmuganathan would obtain some costings. Members agreed that they would discuss a proposal at the next meeting for printing and distribution. (Action: Clerk).**

- ii. Lorry Park Lay-By on A20 London Road

This item was discussed at Agenda Item 2.0.

- iii. Renewal of Electricity contract (renewal 31 January 2021)

Members agreed that Clerk would contact Ken Bonner and the ECA. (Action: Clerk)

12. River Darent:

- i. Relighting the river -
A Tree Survey is awaited from Mark Gallant, North West Kent Countryside Partnership.
- ii. Emergency Planning – flood wardens
Cllr Philip McGarvey is a flood warden.

13. Village Hall:

- i. Electricity Sub-Station Lease – rent review requested – May 2021
It was agreed to look at this nearer to the time and the Clerk was asked to make a diary note. (Action: Clerk)
- ii. Extending Village Hall Car Park
No comment.

Members thanked the previous Clerk for her work and Jane Gray left the meeting.

14. CIL Spending Board 10 March 2021: deadline for applications 31st December 2020 (circulated to Councillors)

It was agreed that the Cllr Shanmuganathan and the Clerk would prepare an application for the Farningham village traffic management scheme proposal. (Action: Clerk).

15. Litter Bins (Cllr Salmon)

Cllr Salmon advised Members that it appeared a non resident was using litter bins in Farningham to dispose of his household waste. **It was agreed the Clerk would write to the offender. (Action: Clerk).**

16. Insurance renewal (due January 2021) (circulated to Councillors)

Members resolved to agree the insurance renewal at a cost of £1,285.27. Members asked the Clerk to get a quote for an increased Directors & Officers liability of up to £1 million.

17. General Power of Competence

Members agreed that the Council was not eligible for the General Power of Competence as two thirds of Members are not elected.

18. Village Reopening Festival

It was agreed that due to the Covid19 pandemic continuing this event would not be appropriate.

19. Social Media/Communication/Website

Members resolved to agree that the Clerk should have adobe acrobat on the Parish laptop. Members resolved that the Clerk should set up a zoom account for the Parish Council. (Action: Clerk).

20. Policies and Risk Assessment

Members agreed to adopt the Financial Regulations as presented.

21. Assets of Community Value (Pied Bull and the Lion Hotel)

The Clerk advised that the Council is awaiting paperwork from Sevenoaks District Council.

22. Reports from representatives on other bodies

Cllr McGarvey advised that he had attended the Kent Highways Conference and that the Sevenoaks District KALC meeting was on Friday 4 December 2020.

23. AOB: Items for discussion only (No decisions can be made without prior publication on the agenda)

None.

24. Finance:

- i. Payments (see invoices for payment) circulated to Councillors

Members resolved to agree the payments as at Appendix A.

- ii. Computer support package

Members agreed to terminate the computer support package.

- iii. Budgetary spend to date

Noted.

- iv. Bank signatories at Handelsbanken

Members noted that Cllrs McGarvey and Burns are signatories on the bank account.

- v. Precept

Cllr McGarvey advised that the tax base for 2021/22 had not yet been issued by Sevenoaks District Council. The annual cost per Band D household is £70.17 each. Members resolved to not increase the amount each resident pays so would adjust the precept once the tax base had been received.

Signed

The meeting closed at 21.30pm.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 13 January 2021.

Farningham Parish Council

PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
103	Donations to Voluntary Orga	01/12/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	Royal British Legion	X	50.00	0.00	50.00
104	General contingencies	01/12/2020		FPC Current Account (		KALC course	Kent Association of Local Co	S	50.00	10.00	60.00
105	Maintenance Assets/Open Sp	01/12/2020		FPC Current Account (		Amenity area trees - cutting b	Lothlorien Landscapes	S	185.00	37.00	222.00
Total									285.00	47.00	332.00

27 November 2020 (2020-2021)

Farningham Parish Council

PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
82	Churchyard Grasscutting	04/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Churchyard maintenance	Lothlorien Landscapes	S	260.00	52.00	312.00
83	Lamp replacements and repa	04/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Street Lighting maintenance co	Streetslights	S	1,236.73	247.35	1,484.08
90	Telephone/Broadband	05/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Telephone and Broadband cha	British Telecom (DD)	S	43.81	8.76	52.57
85	Salary On Costs (Tax, NI etc)	06/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Tax/NI	HM Revenue and Customs	X	264.53	0.00	264.53
92	Bank charges	09/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Bank charges	Handelsbanken	X	10.60	0.00	10.60
93	Donations to Voluntary Orga	13/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	Ellenor	X	250.00	0.00	250.00
94	Donations to Voluntary Orga	13/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	NW Kent Volunteer Centre	X	100.00	0.00	100.00
95	Donations to Voluntary Orga	13/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	Citizens Advice Bureau Sever	X	150.00	0.00	150.00
96	Donations to Voluntary Orga	13/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	Kent Air Ambulance	X	150.00	0.00	150.00
97	Donations to Voluntary Orga	13/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	FELHS	X	150.00	0.00	150.00
98	Donations to Voluntary Orga	13/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	EPL Trident	X	60.00	0.00	60.00
99	Donations to Voluntary Orga	13/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	Swanley Food Bank	X	150.00	0.00	150.00
100	Donations to Voluntary Orga	13/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	Darent River Preservation So	X	20.00	0.00	20.00
101	Donations to Voluntary Orga	13/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		DONATION	Dementia Cafe	X	50.00	0.00	50.00
91	Electricity Charges	16/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Electricity supply	E-on (Electricity) (DD)	S	159.77	31.95	191.72
84	Pension (Parish Council and i	19/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Pension contribution	KCC Pensions	X	435.77	0.00	435.77
86	General contingencies	20/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Land Registry fee	Mrs Jane Gray	X	12.00	0.00	12.00
87	Clerk's salary (net)	20/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Clerk's salary	Mrs Jane Gray	X	70.88	0.00	70.88
102	Computer	25/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Computer expenditure	Arron Services Limited	S	1,120.00	224.00	1,344.00
88	Clerk's salary (net)	25/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Clerk's salary	Mrs Jane Gray	X	741.40	0.00	741.40
89	Council Expenses	25/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Parish Council Expenses	Mrs Jane Gray	X	30.00	0.00	30.00
106	Salary On Costs (Tax, NI etc)	27/11/2020		FPC Current Account (		Payroll services	DM Payroll Services	X	60.00	0.00	60.00
Total									5,525.49	564.06	6,089.55