

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Farningham held at the
Village Hall, High Street, Farningham at 7.45pm on Wednesday 3rd July 2019**

Present: Cllr. D. Burns (Chair)
Cllr. L. Bourne
Cllr. R. Hirons
Cllr. C. Salmon
Cllr. G Williams (Vice-Chair) Mrs. J. Gray (Clerk)

45. **Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for absence:**

1. The Chairman welcomed four Parish Councillors, and two members of the public.
2. Apologies had been received from the County Councillor, Roger Gough, District Councillor, P. McGarvey, and Cllr. K. Shanmuganathan.

46. **Declaration of Interests:**

The declarations of interest stood as previously recorded in May 2019. Councillors were asked to inform the Clerk should they have any changes.

47. **Matters Arising and Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting:**

1. It was agreed Cllr Salmon, would write the report for Trident.
2. The Chair signed the minutes from the meeting held on 5th June 2019, which had already been agreed, to confirm they were a true record.
3. The Clerk had received no further news as to when the River Darent walk through was being undertaken by the Darent team (DRIPS, EA, South East Rivers Trust and NW Kent Countryside Partnership.) She had asked to be kept informed but would follow up.
4. Following a complaint from a parishioner regarding the extent of coppicing work being carried out in Farningham Woods, the Clerk obtained and circulated the current Management Plan. She had also spoken to the Countryside Ranger who confirmed the Plan was being followed. The Clerk was asked to write to Ian Finch to alert him of parishioners concerns and to ask for him to draft a paragraph to put in Trident magazine explaining the coppicing programme in Farningham Woods.
5. Thames Water had advised the poor repair of the High Street footpath near Potager would be completed by 9 September but a High Street closure may be necessary.
6. The Clerk had met a representative from Mitchells and Butlers who was supervising the renovation works at the Lion Hotel. A new lintel needs to be inserted in the front of the building to support the balcony; Listed Building permission is currently being sought. She asked the Clerk to report any incidents of empty glasses left outside

on the tables; the Manager and Area Manager have been told of the concerns. The Clerk had also been in touch with the Licensing Officer at Sevenoaks District Council to discuss these concerns and he had offered advice and asked for photographic evidence if tables are not cleared each evening. A private parking company has taken over running of the car park and a charge will apply to unauthorised visitors.

7. The Clerk was asked to confirm exactly what CIL monies can be spent on.
8. The Clerk was asked to check with KALC if invoices for the Village Hall could be settled by the Parish Council and repaid to the Parish Council minus the VAT.
9. It was agreed the dilapidated bench in Irving's Corner is beyond repair and should be broken up and taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centre at Swanley, possibly at the next Friends of Farningham meet.

48. **Correspondence:**

1. A quotation of £480.00 had been received from a local builder for taking down the oak post and Millennium sign and to establish whether the post needed replacing or could be satisfactorily repaired. The Clerk had sought a price of a new post in both oak and metal with a view to getting the work done concurrently.
2. The Scope charity had written to explore the possibility of finding new locations in Farningham for the public to donate their old clothes, to help support and raise funds for Scope; it was agreed there are no suitable sites within this parish.
3. It was agreed preparation of a Resilience Plan, in liaison with Eynsford Parish Council, should be an Agenda item at the forthcoming Darent Valley Consortium meeting.
4. PSR, a street lighting contractor from Ashford, had stated they could offer a monthly contract (with no tie in) to repair street lights that have failed for £90.00 per month and will send a formal quotation in March 2020 if reminded.
5. The Clerk had circulated information regarding possible filming for an ITV drama on two dates in July at the Manor House and Lion Hotel. The company stated they understood the village had a negative experience with a previous film crew and wanted to reassure their crew will be respectful and would keep disruption to a minimum. They also hope to hire the Village Hall and car park. They have offered a donation for the Parish; it was agreed the Clerk suggest a donation towards a new park bench or refurbishment of the Millennium village sign post.
6. Cllr Shanmuganathan reported during the recent rain deluge, the main sewer drain outside Protea Cottage's front door had flooded causing

flooding on the High Street and nearby house(s). The Clerk had reported to Thames Water.

7. Councillors were grateful to local residents who have undertaken litter picking and this will be reported in Trident. Cllr. Hirons reported she had recently removed eight bags of rubbish (mainly cans) in Eglantine Lane and suggested some permanent signage might curtail it. It was agreed the Clerk find out if there is any appropriate signage available. The Clerk would report a fridge dumped in the lane.

49.

Planning;

1. The current planning application SE/17/02424/FUL 'Area of Land Between Button Street and M20 Slip Road Button Street' for the development: 'The use of land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes together with dayroom ancillary to that use' is due to be considered at the meeting of the Development Control Committee at the Council Chamber, Sevenoaks District Council Offices, Argyle Road on Thursday 4 July 2019 at 7.00pm and it was understood that District Councillor, Brian Carroll would be attending the meeting.

2. It was agreed the following comments be sent regarding planning applications received from Sevenoaks District Council:

SE/19/01400/LBCALT Maplescombe Farm House, Maplescombe Lane
Replace existing roof tiles with new **No Objection**

SE/19/01847/ADV Acer House Practice, High Street Installation of wall mounted sign and double side post mounted sign **No Objection**

3. Planning Decisions:

SE/19/01288/HOUSE 6 Hillside, Demolition of existing conservatory and chimney. Erection of single storey rear extension with skylights. Alterations to fenestration. Associated landscaping works. GRANTED

4. Notice of Tree application:

SE/19/01837/WTCA South Hall, High Street Fell one fir tree

50.

Highways, Footpaths and Street Lighting:

1. The Clerk had reported to Kent Highways that sandbags used to secure temporary road signage are often abandoned at the site as well as the signs themselves. Kent Highways promised these would be removed but it was resolved Councillors send photographic evidence to the Clerk showing specific locations to assist.

3. Kent Highways had installed a kerb on the middle entrance of the access road off the A225 Eynsford Road to try to alleviate flooding

problems. Sandbags had also been delivered during the heavy downpours during June.

4. Kent Highways had advised they would be carrying out patching repairs on the carriageway of Button Street between the junctions of Wood Street and Farningham Hill Road for five days from 15th July.

5. The Clerk had circulated a draft Highway Improvement Plan. The list of priorities was discussed and amended. It was resolved this be sent to Kent Highways.

6. It was agreed to ask Kent Highways to reduce the speed limit in Sparepenny Lane.

51. **Public Participation:**

A member of the public present queried the comments made by the Parish Council on planning application no. SE/19/01241/FUL at Hazeri Button Street. At the meeting she understood the comment would be no objection, when in fact an objection had been lodged. She was informed that following the meeting the Clerk circulated the previous objection and Councillors had all agreed was the comment they wished to send to Sevenoaks District Council's Planning Department.

52. **Update of FPC Policies:** The Clerk had circulated policies for Councillors review and it was agreed to discuss at the next meeting.

53. **Finance:**

1. Members resolved to authorise the Schedule of Payments.

Lothlorien Landscapes	Grasscutting churchyard	£588.00
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Eynsford Parish Council	Family fun days donation	£250.00
Village Hall	Hire of Hall	£21.38
Sevenoaks District Council	Dog waste bin emptying	£136.50
HMRC	Tax and National Insurance	£241.62
KCC	Pension contributions	£413.10

2.

Signed **Wednesday 4th September 2019**

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council of Farningham will be held at 7.45 pm. on Wednesday 4th September 2019

