

# GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 held remotely via Zoom platform

Present: Cllr Simon Tarabella (chair) Cllr Peter Turner Cllr Simon Waspe  
Cllr James Spencer Cllr Norman Vendittelli Cllr Sharon Shipp  
Paula Gladwell – Clerk County Cllr Penny Otton (part)  
0 member of public District Cllr John Matthissen (part)

- 2020/2210 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Sebastian Reeves
- 2020/2211 **Declarations of Interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct and requests for dispensations relating to Discloseable Pecuniary Interests** – Cllr Tarabella declared a pecuniary interest in item 11b (min no. 2020/2227)
- 2020/2212 **Co option of vacancy** – It was resolved to co opt Sharon Shipp to fill the councillor vacancy. Proposed by Cllr Tarabella, sec Cllr Turner, with all in favour. Cllr Shipp will complete a Declaration of Office and was welcomed to the table.
- 2020/2213 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** - It was proposed by Cllr Spencer that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved, with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 will be signed as a true record.
- 2020/2214 **Public Participation** – No questions
- 2020/2215 **County Cllr Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report which had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2020/2216 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Deferred.
- 2020/2217 **Clerks Report** – Nothing new to report.
- 2020/2218 **Planning** - There were no applications to consider.
- 2020/2219 The following MSDC decisions were noted; DC/20/03512 Application under S73 for the variation or removal of conditions relating to DC/18/04311 Condition 2 (approved plans and documents) - Revised scheme as per drawing ref no 3958-07D to include provision of day room – Keepers Cottage, Finborough park – GRANTED and DC/20/04097 Erection of Half Way Hut building - Stowmarket Golf Club, Lower Road, Onehouse – GRANTED and DC/20/04720 Erection of a single storey rear extension, 2 Dairy Farm Cottages, Valley Lane - GRANTED
- 2020/2220 **Finance** – The Finance report for December 2020 was approved.
- 2020/2221 The following payments were approved. Prop Cllr Turner, Sec Spencer with all in favour, Staff salaries for November 2020,
- 2020/2222 Gipping Press £202.80
- 2020/2223 Wickes - wood stain PT £39.00
- 2020/2224 MSDC Play Inspection £66.76
- 2020/2225 Following the excellent chipping work carried out by Timber Wolfe at Woodpecker Hill, it was Resolved to donate £30 to the Woodpecker Hill Volunteer Group. Proposed by Cllr Tarabella with all in favour.
- 2020/2226 **Middlefield Drive Play Area** – The risk assessment was reviewed with concerns expressed at the numbers of children using the play area at school drop off and pick up times. It was suggested that the play area was becoming an extension of the school playground and that all the hard work done by the school to keep children segregated was undone by the irresponsible use of the public play area. The numbers in the play area between 3.15 and 4pm often exceed the 20 permitted by the rules showing that parents/carers are not abiding by the written rules for COVID safety which is a growing concern. It was suggested that an article be placed in the newsletter to highlight the issues and ask that people using the play area please adhere to the rules. It was noted that only Great Finborough residents would be made aware by using the newsletter and that a high percentage of school pupils come from outside the village. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Stephen Dodd, headmaster at the primary school to ask for his help in highlighting the issues by writing to parents/carers before the end of term. The play area usage will continue to be monitored over the final few days of term. It was acknowledged that the school holidays will probably negate the problems but that they would return once the new term began. It was agreed that a review of the play area's use will be undertaken during the first week of the new term and if compliance with the safety rules does not improve following the letters to parents/carers then the play area will be closed.

Cllr Tarabella left the meeting

- 2020/2227 Discussions took place regarding the improper use by some children of the buffer zone around the play area following the letter of complaint received from a resident. Residents whose gardens back onto the play area are being harassed by children looking over and under fences and throwing items over garden fences from the buffer zone. Temporary fencing put up at either end of the buffer zone to prevent entry has been pulled down almost every day. It was agreed that a more permanent fence was required with additional signage requesting no entry to the buffer zone. It was also suggested that additional planting be added to further deter children from entering the buffer zone. Cllr Turner will seek quotes for additional fencing to match the play area boundary.
- Cllr Tarabella re entered the meeting.
- 2020/2228 **Footpaths** – The Footpath Warden had nothing new to report. It was noted that the finger post in Valley Lane for FP22 was still in the wrong place. The landowner will be asked to re site it correctly and perhaps create a permissive path as an alternative route for the start of FP22 or apply for an official diversion. Cllr Waspe will contact the landowner.
- 2020/2229 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2020/2230 **Wildflower Meadow Information Board** – deferred
- 2020/2231 **Street Lights Working Group** – It was agreed that no working group be set up at this time. Cllr Spencer agreed to send an article to the newsletter asking for support for a group to consider the future of the Street Lights. Cllr Spencer will submit any recommendations or conclusions to Council in due course.
- 2020/2232 **Babergh & Mid Suffolk DC consultation on the legal compliance and soundness of the Pre Submission Joint Local Plan** – It was agreed that no further comments be submitted at this time.
- 2020/2233 **District Cllr John Matthissen** – Cllr Matthissen gave his report which had been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
- 2020/2234 **Local Housing Needs Survey** – It was agreed that Sunila Osborne, Community Development Office for Rural Housing at Community Action Suffolk and Delia Cook, Community Housing Enabling Officer at Mid Suffolk DC be asked to attend a meeting to provide further information on the process involved in providing affordable local housing for Great Finborough. Further consideration of a Local Housing Needs Survey was deferred.
- 2020/2235 **White Entrance Gates** – Deferred
- 2020/2236 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – None

Next meeting of the Parish Council - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm