

## FLEMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES

Of the Flempton cum Hengrave Parish Council Annual General Meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at St Catherine's Church, Flempton at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors Andrew Speed, Dave Bambury, Gill Martin, David Hudson, Jean Lindsay

In attendance: Councillor Susan Glossop, Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger, Christine Mason (Clerk) and two members of the public.

#### 1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Bambury that Cllr Speed be appointed Chairman for 2023-2024 - unanimous. To agree a fixed term for Chairmanship, an agenda item at the next meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Speed, seconded by Cllr Martin that Cllr Davies be appointed Vice Chairman for 2023-2024 - unanimous.

#### 2. To sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Interests

To be signed at the next meeting.

#### 3. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting with congratulations given to councillors for their successful re-election. A huge thank you to Cllrs Davies, Hudson, Martin for distributing the Coronation biscuit tins to residents. Ideas were invited for the remaining ten spare tins.

To be discussed further by email.

#### 4. Apologies

Cllr Janet Davies.

#### 5 Declarations of Interest

a) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in the items on the agenda, and their nature

None received.

b) To declare any other Disclosable Interests in the items on the agenda, and their nature.

None received.

#### 6. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Hudson, seconded by Cllr Martin that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### 7. To receive reports from Cllr Susan Glossop and Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger

Reports were included in the Annual Parish Meeting and will be attached to the Annual General Meeting minutes.

#### 8. Public Forum

An issue was raised regarding the lack of minutes being added to the folder in the church.

To be rectified.

## 9. Finance

Proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Hudson that payments as per the schedule are approved. Balances to date stand at £17,895.15. The purchase of the Coronation Bench and costs relating to the new Flempton bus stop are yet to be paid. The AGAR for the financial year 2022-2023 was duly signed by the Chairman.

10. To consider the purchase of two defibrillators, locations, and costs  
Cllr Hudson to investigate suppliers/costs and report back at the next meeting.

## 11. Church and Churchyard

Update from Cllr Lindsay on the damaged flint wall - a faculty is required before any repairs can be conducted, presently being progressed. Councillors agreed the Parish Council are keen to support and have an input into a planned conservation project for the whole churchyard.

## 12. Flempton Bus Stop update

Now ordered, just waiting for an installation date.

## 13. The Links update

Due to difficulties arranging a meeting with all interested parties, the location of a lamp post/telegraph pole/parking restrictions, the Links is proving to be an intractable problem. A compromise solution needs to be found, a Saturday morning for a meeting was suggested, Cllr Speed and Cllr Hudson to action.

## 14. Cottages at Bury Road and Mill Road update

With the first planning application approved, rebuilding is due to start but the second set have many issues with five owners having to agree the way forward with the restoration. Cllr Glossop and Cllr Speed to liaise to advance the situation.

## 15. Speed limits in the village

Extension of the speed limit to encompass Grange Farm developments: Cllr Hopfensperger paid for a speed and traffic survey to be conducted. Unfortunately, the data did not support the likelihood of a speed limit extension, further information from the speed and safety team at highways was received that explained about the area not meeting the criteria for speed limit change.

With regards to the request to extend the 30mph speed restriction on the A1011, unfortunately this cannot be supported as this is open countryside and would not meet the criteria set out within Suffolk County Council's Speed Limit Policy. It is likely that drivers would not see the need for a lower limit and compliance could be poor. This undermines the good speed limits elsewhere in Suffolk and at worst, create a false sense of security if drivers are travelling above the limit. An investigation report into providing a new speed limit can cost between £10,000 and £15,000 without knowing the outcome, it is therefore prudent to take advice before spending that amount of money.

## 16. Entrance gates to both villages update

No quotation as yet from Clarkes of Walsham, another supplier has quoted £3000 per pair, £12,000 in total. Cllr Hudson asked whether re-cycled plastic boundary gates can be

considered as they require virtually no maintenance or painting and have a service life of approximately thirty years. Cllr Hudson to investigate. A street licence from SCC at a cost of £150 needs to be applied for before any decision can be made, Cllr Hopfensperger to forward the link to the Clerk.

17. Planned pruning of the trees on The Green  
Cllr Speed to chase.

18. River Lark pollution testing

Continuing to test water samples, Fornham All Saints, and Flempton cum Hengrave Parish Councils have contributed towards costs. Results are showing Anglian Water have released waste on four occasions, each lasting five hours forty-five minutes. With the testing equipment used, it would be difficult to refute the findings. Further information at the next meeting.

Additional items discussed:

Planning Application DC/23/0566/FUL

With an extension to respond by 15<sup>th</sup> May, planning application DC/23/0566/FUL was now heard. Proposal one dwelling with access, land Adjacent Bungalow 4 Stanchils Farm Stanchils Farm Lane Hengrave Suffolk. Following debate, the Parish Council agreed to a 'No Comment' response. Furthermore, it was proposed a more satisfactory stance be taken on receipt of a new planning application. For the next agenda, an item to read: *The Parish Council will support the hosting of a planning meeting if requested by one of the Parish Councillors.*

Request for a memorial bench to be sited along the river

In principle, and subject to relevant permissions being given, the Parish Council are supportive of a bench sited along the river. With the location of the bench defined, the landowner to be contacted, likewise the Rights of Way Officer to be involved. Cllr Hudson to consult with the family and report back by email prior to the next PC meeting.

Commemorative Coronation bench on The Green

Production of the bench is to be started in August, position on The Green yet to be agreed. Ideas were floated, but no final decision made. Residents to be consulted nearer the time.

Carried forward matters

To be a Standard Item on the agenda.

Purchase of telephone kiosk for £1

To be pursued.

Date of next meeting

Agreed as June 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 6.30pm.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm.