

FARNHAM WITH STRATFORD ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held Monday 12 March 2018 at the Riverside Centre

Present: Councillors Ian Norman, Ian Tayler, Rosemary Conibeer, Viviane Garland, Gordon Gilbert, Richard Ayres, Jill Pass

Apologies: Councillor Andrew Reid (SCC), Councillor Carol Poulter (SCDC), Tim Plant

In attendance: Parish clerk Debbi Tayler

24/18 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Reid (SCC) and Poulter (SCDC) and Councillor Plant.

25/18 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

26/18 Minutes of meeting held 12 February 2018

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved and signed.

27/18 Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public.

28/18 Reports from County and District Councillors

A report had been circulated from Councillor Reid (SCC).

29/18 Community Emergency Plan – Tim Beach, Snape PC

Tim advised that Snape have an Emergency Planning Group that is separate to the parish council and that this has two parish councillors as members. Some are ex-services and ex-police who have experience of this sort of work. They had no CEP until the recent flooding of Snape occurred. Once they had a Plan they advertised it by posting a leaflet through everyone's door. They then had an Open Day on the one year anniversary of the floods. He suggested the Plan could be advertised at the Annual Parish Meeting and the leaflet be published on the website.

Snape had a run through of their Plan during the recent severe weather but did not activate it. Activation must be by the Joint Emergency Planning Unit/SCC or SCDC for their insurance to be valid otherwise the parish council's insurance must be used if necessary.

Snape has a list of volunteers as well as people who are willing to coordinate an event. Everyone on this group has a responsibility to advise the others if they are going away in case of an event.

They went to the JEPU for some kit such as blow up mattresses, vanity sets etc, because although in the last severe weather a centre at Leiston was open, most local people didn't want to travel and some slept at the village hall.

They also have a version of the Good Neighbour Scheme so that elderly and vulnerable people are checked on during an event even if the Plan is not activated. They felt that this filled a potential gap if conditions are bad but not bad enough to activate the Plan, such as a prolonged power outage.

Councillor Norman thanked Tim for attending and sharing Snape's experience.

Councillor Ayres will be attending Rest Centre training at SCDC on 28 March and will report back at the next meeting. The clerk will investigate the Good Neighbour Scheme and find out what other PCs have in their emergency boxes and report back at the next meeting.

30/18 Clerk's Report

The correspondence log was circulated.

It was agreed that the clerk will ask Councillor Poulter how the new Garden Waste Scheme is to be advertised to the wider population. At present letters have been issued to those residents who are paying for additional bins and it is on the website. Some councillors and local residents have started a litter pick and it was agreed that the clerk will now write to SCC and ask them to clear the debris from the Farnham Bridge. A local resident recently became entangled in overhanging dead branches and there is a lot of debris on the pavement and in the gutters.

31/18 RFO's report

The current bank balance in Barclays Bank is £3018.06.

There were two invoices for approval.

Clerk's salary	85.77	Legal power
PAYE Month 12	21.40	LGA 1972 s.112
		LGA 1972 s.112

The invoices were all approved. The balance in the account is now £2910.89. There was one receipt of £300 from SCC towards the cost of the noticeboard. The bank statement and previous invoices paid by online banking were checked and signed off. There is an outstanding invoice for village maintenance which the clerk has chased up.

The clerk has agreed a date with SALC for the internal audit of w/c 21 May. At the next PC meeting the council must decide if they wish to have an external audit. This is no longer necessary under the new audit regime but councils can choose to have one. Before the audit is put together Councillor Norman will perform a 10% check of invoices, approvals and bank statements.

32/18 Planning application DC/18/0322/FUL

This is an application from Major Hope-Cobbold for the construction of an 80,000 cubic metre reservoir covering approximately 3.4 hectares north of Hill Farm Road, Farnham. The reservoir will be used for in hand irrigation of crops. There were no material objections to the application. However, the council will make the following comments to SCDC. The archaeological survey states at para 3.4.1 that St Mary's Church, Farnham, is unused and redundant which clearly it is not. It also states that the church is 800m south-west of the site, whereas the ecological survey states it is 600m north-west. The other concern is of large earth moving equipment accessing the site from the A12. The roads from the A12 to the site are not suitable or accessible for large vehicles and they will need to find an alternative route.

33/18 Reports from external meetings

Councillor Norman attended an update meeting with the police. The issue of the theft of power tools from vans was discussed, this is an ongoing problem and the police are issuing guidance to avoid it. There is also a serious problem with drugs coming from North London and South Essex to Leiston, Lowestoft and Halesworth.

Councillors Norman and Gilbert attended a meeting on 10 March of the Bypass Action Group which is campaigning against the proposed four village bypass. The group is raising funds for legal costs as it claims SCC has been negligent in the planning process and has not followed due process.

The clerk advised that Councillor Reid has suggested a meeting with SCC officers to give parish councils an update on the proposal. She will follow this up.

DRAFT UNTIL SIGNED

Councillor Ayres advised he attended a meeting of the Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership concerning flood defences etc.

34/18 Items for future meetings

Items will include the Emergency Plan, internal audit and a SEGWAY update.

Date of next meeting 9 April.

The meeting was closed at 21.18.

Signed.....Date: _____