

FARNHAM WITH STRATFORD ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL  
Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 13 April 2021 by video via Zoom

Present: Councillors Ian Norman, Gordon Gilbert, Ian Tayler, Tim Plant, Richard Ayres, Rosemary Conibeer, Jill Pass

Apologies: Michael Light, Carol Poulter (ESC)

In attendance: Parish clerk Debbi Tayler, Andrew Reid (SCC), Sarah Morgan

**1 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Light and Poulter.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

**3 Minutes of meeting held 8 March 2021**

The minutes of the meetings were unanimously approved and will be signed by the chair.

**4 Questions from the public**

There were no questions.

**5 Reports from County and District Councillors**

Councillor Poulter had provided a report which the clerk circulated.

Councillor Reid has forwarded his report which the clerk will circulate. In particular he said that SCC have now planted the 100,000<sup>th</sup> tree since Suffolk County Council committed £228,000 from its Suffolk 2020 Fund to protect biodiversity. Suffolk County Council and Suffolk's Police and Crime Commissioner and Suffolk Constabulary, has launched the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras to detect and deter speeding offences in villages. Improvements have been made with regard to parking around schools. Suffolk County Council, working in conjunction with property specialists Concertus, was successful in gaining over £3M of funding to promote capital energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation projects within buildings used to provide frontline public services. On March 8 an additional £1.4million was awarded to extend a successful initiative that supports young people in or at risk of, criminal exploitation. The Suffolk Against Gang Exploitation (SAGE) Team was established in 2018 as part of Suffolk's three-year work programme to tackle gangs and county lines and is funded by Suffolk Public Sector Leaders. Councillor Ayres asked Councillor Reid what was being done to repair and replace signs that have broken or rotted. Councillor Reid said more money had been put into budgets for drainage and road surface repairs but signs are not a current priority. They should still be reported via the Suffolk Highways website.

**6 Clerk's Report**

The correspondence log was circulated prior to the meeting.

Councillor Conibeer reported that the small noticeboard on the wall of the house now owned by EDF in Farnham had fallen into disrepair and was a potential danger to users. After some discussion it was agreed that Councillor Conibeer will put a notice on the noticeboard advising people not to use it. The clerk will approach EDF to ask

Signed .....(Chair)

Date.....

if they will consider replacing it as a community asset.

The issue of a litter pick was discussed. It was agreed that like last year councillors will do their own area. Litter pickers can be borrowed from Trevor Brame at the Riverside Centre.

## 7 RFO's report

On 31 March there was £5655.40 in the council's bank account. There were four invoices for approval.

Clerk's salary inc admin	£345.52	Legal power
PAYE Month 1	£82.60	LGA 1972 s.112
SALC subscription	£146.05	LGA 1972 s.112
SALC training	£24.00	LGA 1972 s.111

The clerk advised that her invoice includes the monthly Zoom subscription of £14.39. The new balance is £5057.23, there were no receipts during the month. The approvals sheets and bank statements will be delivered to Councillors Pass and Gilbert to sign.

The clerk has received a quote from Suffolk Coastal Norse for grounds maintenance for 2021/22. The increase is 3%, a total of £328.87 plus VAT. Councillor Norman proposed we accept the quote, Councillor Tayler seconded the motion and it was unanimously agreed.

## 8 To consider a parish Nature Strategy

Sarah Morgan explained the concept of a parish Nature Strategy. The Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service suggests forming a parish/community wildlife group. The aim is to increase local biodiversity by allowing areas of land to grow wild and encourage wildlife. Also to encourage others to be more mindful of the subject. Sarah has agreed to lead on the strategy which the council agreed was an important issue. The clerk will forward a copy of the Hedgerow Survey completed in 2012.

## 9 Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council Planning Protocol Survey

The Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council has invited other local councils to participate in a survey as they have concerns about the openness and transparency of East Suffolk Council's planning protocol. The survey questions were discussed and it was agreed the clerk will complete the survey on the council's behalf.

## 10 Planning Update

Councillor Pass gave a brief presentation on recent changes to planning policies.

## 11 The Sizewell C Project - update

The clerk attended the virtual Preliminary Meeting on 23 March. Over 100 people attended the meeting and most of them spoke. Many people want the examination to be delayed for a variety of reasons including that PINS have not yet decided whether to accept the latest EDF changes to the application. The clerk asked the Examining Authority to consider having a full session to discuss the issue of the proposed

Signed .....(Chair)

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bypass rather than including it with other transport issue. This point was also made by several other people. The examination is due to start on 14 April.

**12 Reports from external meetings**

There have been no external meetings.

**13 Items for future meetings**

The Annual Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Tuesday 4 May via Zoom. This is because the legislation allowing councils to meet remotely expires on 7 May and the Government have said they will not extend it in spite of indoor meetings not being allowed until 17 May. SALC's advice is to hold meetings virtually before 7 May.

The clerk has invited representatives from The Riverside Centre, the Alde Valley Luncheon Club and the Parochial Church Council to attend the Annual Parish Meeting. They have all said they are unable to attend but will forward their reports to the clerk.

The clerk will present the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21.

The meeting was closed at 21.06.

Signed .....(Chair)

Date.....