

FARNHAM WITH STRATFORD ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL  
Minutes of the meeting held Monday 14 August 2017 at the Riverside Centre

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

Apologies: Jill Pass, Councillor Carol Poulter (SCDC), Councillor Andrew Reid (SCC)

In attendance: Parish clerk Debbi Tayler, one member of the public

**86/17 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Jill Pass and Andrew Reid (SCC). Carol Poulter (SCDC) did not attend.

**87/17 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**88/17 Minutes of meeting held 10 July 2017**

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

The clerk has written to SCC and the county councillor concerning safety issues reported at the junction of the A12 and A1094.

Councillor Ayres wrote to the Better Broadband for Suffolk project concerning the reach of superfast broadband in the area. He has received a response and Open Reach may use funding to rewire local houses currently unable to take advantage of faster broadband speeds. This may take a year.

**89/17 Cooption of Tim Plant**

Tim had expressed an interest in the parish councillor casual vacancy for Farnham. He has lived in the village all his life and would like to play a more active role in the community. His cooption was voted on and unanimously approved.

**90/17 Questions from the public**

There were no questions.

**91/17 Reports from County and District Councillors**

No reports were tabled by either the county or district councillor.

**92/17 Clerk's Report**

The correspondence log was circulated.

The clerk advised that the recent planning applications for Farnham and Stratford St Andrew are still pending decisions. The clerk advised that SCC have agreed to inspect and then cut the hedgerows along the A12 between Farnham and Benhall Low Street following complaints from parishioners who were having to walk in the main road due to overgrown trees and bushes.

**93/17 RFO's report**

The current bank balance in Barclays Bank is £4772.04.

There were three invoices for approval:

Clerk's salary	157.75	Legal power
PAYE Month 5	37.60	LGA 1972 s.112
Replacement electrodes	77.82	LGA 1972 s.111

The invoices were all approved. The balance in the account is now £4498.87. There were no receipts.

**94/17 Expenditure v budget report quarter 1 April – June 2017**

The clerk presented an amended layout of the expenditure v budget report for the first quarter. This shows that after earmarked reserves have been accounted for 40% of the precept and allotments rents (budget) has been spent in 25% of the year but only 17.7% of total available funds which include the carry forward from last year. This shows that the council is managing within its budget. The figures were approved.

**95/17 Financial Regulations 2017**

These were presented to the council and approved.

**81/17 LGA 1972 s.137**

The clerk presented the policy document which was unanimously approved.

**96/17 Financial Risk Assessment (Management) and general reserves**

The Financial Risk Assessment was presented, some minor amendments to the risk levels were discussed and agreed.

The level of general reserves to be held were discussed. Councillor Norman proposed these should be £2500, this was seconded by Councillor Gilbert and agreed by a majority.

**97/17 AQMA response**

The clerk had forwarded a link to the SCDC draft action plan for Stratford St Andrew following the Air Quality Assessment. This is now out for public consultation.

It was agreed that Councillor Garland will take the lead on this and draft the response. The council agreed that they should query the move of the 30mph sign 200 metres, is this 200 metres from the village boundary or from where it is now?

The council believes the sign should be moved as far as possible out of the village and beyond the Blaxhall turning ideally. There was also disagreement that the effect of additional traffic during the potential construction phase of Sizewell C will be far more than minimal as suggested.

**98/17 Allotments update**

Councillor Tayler advised that he had received advice from SALC that allotment plots can be offered to people from outside the parish. He will contact the person who has recently expressed an interest in Mr Cocker's half plot.

**99/17 Reports from external meetings**

Councillor Norman and the clerk attended a meeting a EDF to meet the new Communications Manager John McNamara and Tom McGarry. EDF hope to begin the stage 3 consultation on SZC in the autumn this year.

It was agreed that the clerk will request an update on the bypass from SCC.

**100/17 Items for future meetings**

Items will include a review of Standing Orders.

Date of next meeting 11 September.

DRAFT UNTIL SIGNED

The meeting was closed at 21.06.

Signed.....Date: \_\_\_\_\_