

FARNHAM WITH STRATFORD ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held Monday 14 November 2016 at the Riverside Centre

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

Apologies: None

In attendance: Parish clerk Debbi Tayler, two members of the public, Councillor Andrew Reid (SCC), Councillor Carol Poulter (SCDC)

67/16 Apologies

No apologies were received.

68/16 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

69/16 Minutes of meetings held 12 September 2016

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

70/16 Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public.

71/16 Reports from County and District Councillors

Councillor Reid had provided a report in advance of the meeting. He said that a final decision on Suffolk/Norfolk devolution was due to be made on 23 November and that there was a lack of support for the deal. The Secretary of State may approve a Suffolk only deal. Councillor Reid advised that the Ministry of Defence have announced the closure of Rock Barracks presenting a potential development opportunity. He reminded the council that Stage 2 of the public consultation on Sizewell C was due to begin on 23 November, SCC will publish a statement on this soon.

Councillor Poulter said that the SCDC vote on devolution was due to take place on 21 November and that the council would probably vote in favour. A joint cabinet meeting with Waveney was due to take place the following week to discuss the possible merger. Councillor Poulter said she knew there were broadband issues in her ward and that there was to be an offer to those households receiving download speeds of less than 2mbps.

72/16 Clerk's Report

The correspondence log was circulated.

The clerk has received a response from SCC Highways concerning the repeated damage to The Old Poor House in Farnham caused by large vehicles using the narrow lane and damaging the guttering on the house. The council has suggested several potential solutions including bollards to push vehicles away from the side of the property. There will be costs involved and Councillor Reid has offered to make a contribution, the residents are concerned that they will be liable for ongoing costs if the damage continues. It was agreed that the clerk should write to SCC and suggest a site visit.

Rainwater from workshops on the industrial estate in Farnham continues to flood the footpath due to guttering not being properly connected. It was agreed that the clerk will find out what obligations property owners are under in relation to surface water runoff onto public roads and footpaths before taking any further action.

The clerk will write to the owners of The Old Parsonage in Farnham as their hedge is overhanging the public footpath and obscuring it for walkers.

There have been complaints about the bollards going through the two villages as they do not appear to be lit, the clerk will report this. Also the 50mph sign going out of Farnham northbound is obscured by an overgrown hedge, this will also be reported.

There have been complaints about a van being parked outside The Old Poor House which is preventing traffic coming down Church Hill to the A12. The clerk will ask the PCSO to speak to the owner.

The clerk has received a letter from SCDC about the possible removal of the BT payphone in Farnham which has been used once in the past year. This is part of a planned programme of removal of BT payphones which can be offered to parish councils for the cost of £1 if they don't wish to lobby to keep them. The council agreed that the removal should go ahead and they didn't wish to purchase the kiosk. The East of England Ambulance Trust has written to the clerk offering an annual first aid/AED refresher. A two and a half hour course is £350 for a maximum of twelve delegates. It was agreed to go ahead with this and offer the training to someone from the garage, Riverside Centre and Ian Glover as well as councillors. It was felt that a Saturday morning may be appropriate. The clerk will get some dates from EEAT. SALC have notified councils of a new Neighbourhood Planning Bill which is currently progressing through the parliamentary process. If the Bill becomes statute it will ensure local planning authorities take into account Local Neighbourhood Plans. The clerk will monitor progress for discussion at a later date.

It was agreed that the clerk will get an estimate for the repair and maintenance of the parish council noticeboard in Stratford St Andrew as it is in need of work.

73/16 RFO's report

The clerk asked the council to approve the appointment of SALC to conduct the internal audit for 2016/17. This was unanimously agreed.

The clerk advised that CAS have offered a five year agreement on the PC insurance which will save £30 per annum over the next five years. This was approved.

The current bank balance in Barclays Bank is £5977.10.

There were four invoices for approval:

Clerk's salary	227.78
Incs ICO membership of £35	
PAYE Months 7&8	48.40
CAS web hosting fee	60.00
CAS annual insurance	274.19
SPLG membership	30.00

The invoices were all approved. The balance in the account is now £5336.73. There was one receipt from SCD of £1750 for the half yearly precept payment.

74/16 Communications leaflet

The clerk had circulated the second draft of a communications leaflet to send out to parishioners. It was agreed the Emergency Plan and Twitter should be mentioned.

The clerk has received an estimate from Leiston Press of £128 for 200 copies of the leaflet. It was agreed that the clerk should go ahead and ask Leiston Press to produce a proof for agreement.

75/16 Allotment Manager's Report

Councillor Tayler advised that he had held a meeting of the allotment tenants at which the annual rents were collected. The tenants reported a problem with rabbits and some wire netting that required some maintenance. It was agreed that the clerk should obtain an estimate for the work.

76/16 Reports from external meetings

Councillor Gilbert had attended a SPLG meeting which Tom McGarry, EDF Communications Manager, attended, there was no new news.
Councillor Norman had attended a SALC meeting.

77/16 Items for future meetings

These will include communication, 2017/18 budget and audit related reports. It was agreed to arrange a public meeting to discuss the latest EDF proposals for Sizewell C once Stage 2 of the public consultation had started.

Date of next meeting 12 November 2016.

The meeting was closed at 22.15.

Signed.....Date: _____