

Farrington Gurney Parish Council Meeting

Minutes

Monday 16th May 2016

Present	M Hedges (Chair)	S Griffiths
	T. Marston (Clerk)	D Teal
	D Deakin	A Jeffery
	A Jeffery	I McLennan
	Cllr Kew	
	11 Public	

1. To receive any apologies for absence.

Cllrs Bown, King and Davis. Serg Peard.

2. Police

Report read by Clerk

3. Public

11 public present for discussion under item 4

4. Public participation

- (i) Feedback from Parish Liaison Meeting A37 improvements – Cllr Hedges.
Meeting attended by Cllr Hedges and McLennan. Useful and informative. Devolution and Metro Mayor Concept explained together with possible financial opportunities over a 30 year term
Atrium Website – a resource for public and PCs to be launched by BaNES
A37 Improvements. Currently a variety of speed limits between Whitchurch and Rush Hill. This will be changed and a regularised limit of 30 mph introduced in the village from Coop to Rush Hill. Farrington bypass not currently in scope.
- (ii) Review of Village traffic improvements 2015
Sunnyside scheme in operation for approx. 6 months. Cllr Hedges gave a back ground. Several residents from Sunnyside were invited to provide their views on the scheme.
- It encourages speeding from MSN to FG in order to clear the parked vehicles.
 - Has made the situation worse
 - Cars coming from FG think they have right of way
 - Causes problems / congestion when accessing driveways
 - It is an unfinished scheme
 - Why isn't there a build out at the FG end
 - Why is there a give way only at the MSN end
 - There was no consultation over the "hatched area" Keep clear and it obstructs a driveway
 - 2 cars have been damaged
 - Poor response from BaNES to Tel Calls over concerns
 - Issues over visibility
 - Issues over queuing
 - Issues over pollution from idling traffic
 - Some protection for cars provided by buildouts

- Can the pavement be removed
- What about traffic lights
- Was a speed review ever done

The clerk highlighted some similar issues contained in the Correspondence from Lyn Deakin, Cllr Deakin, Mr Witchell, Mark Cassidy, Helen Winstone.

After representations from the Public, Cllrs Teal, Jeffery, Griffiths, Deakin and McLennan all added their views and it was agreed by Cllr Hedges that a letter would be prepared from the PC and sent to the LA outlining the concerns raised and a meeting would be sought with BaNES Highways to discuss the matter further. Mr Bury raised the point that funding may not be available for any significant work ie the pavement removal option.

5. Declaration of Interest

6. **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 18th April 2016** – agreed as correct and signed by Cllr Hedges

7. Matters arising

Commemorative Medal for HM Queens 90th Birthday – received and delivered to School
Signflex (Frome Signs) for Allotment and Playground – installed

8. Correspondence requiring a decision, action or for special note

(i) Farrington Gurney Annual Accounts 2015-16 - Clerk

Approval sought by the PC of the Annual Governance Statement – to be forwarded to Cllr Hedges in advance of the meeting

Certification and approval sought by the PC of Accounting Statement - to be forwarded to Cllr Hedges in advance of the meeting

Governance and Accounting Statement agreed by PC and signed off by Cllr Hedges and the Clerk.

Some discussion took place over further arrangements for the Audit of smaller authorities and a view that some external audit would be required. Also agreed that a ¼ financial review was a useful exercise

(ii) Agreement from the Parish Council to purchase 1-2 2500x750 banners to promote the Annual Village Meeting

Agreement to purchase “Farrington Gurney Parish Council” magnetic signs for 2 village notice boards. Quotes awaited from Signflex (Frome signs) in Westfield. Agreed. Clerk to order

9. Correspondence for information only (available to view before or after meeting)

10. **New business** (Items presented to Clerk for inclusion on Agenda)

11. Planning

Current Applications:

16/01179/LBA & 16/01178/FUL The Manor House – PC comments submitted & pending

Applications dealt with by BANES: None

Other Planning Items:

12. Reports

District Councilor – Cllr Kew provided some further view on Devolution

Liaison Meeting- see 4 (i)

Footpaths- Payment received from BaNES FOR 16-17 and Cllr Bowns report was read out by the clerk and backing information available to view

Memorial Hall & Playing Field – as always busy keeping the hall and surrounding area tidy.

Maintenance re drains, grass cutting and the goal area all taking place. Cllr Jeffery shared a comment that a recent football team had acknowledge the FG pitch as the best they had played on.

Play Area & BMX Track – Some work needed at BMX track. Site meeting to be arranged between Cllrs Hedges and McLennan.

Update from Clerk on playground inspection conducted by GB sport which had identified £1500 maintenance to be done, the majority of which was for new bark. Cllrs suggested that a quote be obtained from Fountain Forestry who had supplied in the past and were competitive. Clerk to follow up. Cllr Hedges and Clerk to meet at playground to assess works needing doing as a matter of urgency.

Allotments –Clerk attended MSN Meeting and came away with some good practices / suggestions which she has shared with Cllr Deakin, our Council lead for allotments. Cllr Deakin is keen to introduce some improvements incl setting up an FG association and possibly preparing a bid for Lottery funding. Current issues too with Rabbits and Cllr Deakin will follow up the services of a “ferreter” to bring the situation back into balance if necessary.

School Governor – Update from Cllr Hedges. OFSTED inspection has taken place and conducted over 1 day. Result awaited. Also discussion followed on the merits of the school becoming part of an Academy and several options and associations have been considered with the Norton Hill Partnership currently the preferred option.

ALCA – nothing further

Highways – discussed at item 8 (ii)

Parish Plans

Web Site

Telephone Box & Bus Shelter

Church Yard - Cllr Griffiths informed that a tidy up had taken place but some stimming work was needed. Cllr Jeffery offered his help

13. Financial Matters

Balances - Current account @29th April 2016 £20008.79 (1/2 year precept, VAT payment, BaNES vegetation clearance, Allotment rents)

Cheques for Payment –The Tower Mint, Shiny and Bright, Cllr Bown for footpath maintenance Annual Insurance due 1st June. Clerk has current and a new supplier quote. To approach Companies to see if a better deal can be negotiated.

Grasscutting costs in from BaNES – over £800 +vat but agreed to sign 2 contract for BMX & Sunnyside Account signatories – Cllr Jeffery has been added as a signatory

16-17 Accounts – discussed at Item 8 (i) and have been agreed ready for submission to the internal auditor and then Grant Thornton

14. Other Reports (Includes Items for inclusion on agenda for next meeting)

Cllr Hedges had attended a presentation by Truespeed. Provided a background but in summary the company can provide very impressive levels of service in rural areas. The Company would need some level of interest to consider service provision in an area but a presentation may be beneficial if not now then at some time in the future. Left with Councillors to consider

15. Dates of the next meetings

20th June 2016 and 18th July 2016. No August Meeting