

FARRINGTON GURNEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of an **ordinary meeting of the Parish Council** held at **7.30pm on Monday 25th April 2022** at the **Methodist Church, Farrington Gurney.**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Clint Dando, Mike Hedges (Chairman), Phil Wade, James Wellman, Sally Bown
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, 2 members of public

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There was an update on progress with the BMX track, work has started & should be completed within a few weeks. Also there will a BMX display at the Village Day later this year. It was also raised that there was a street light that is permanently 'on', near 'Plummers'.

Parish Council Minutes

22/23-04:001 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND WELCOME

Cllr Alan Smith, Cllr Margaret Heffernan, Andy Jefferies & Cllr Ryan Wills (B&NES)

22/23-04:002 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Jeffery (absent but submitted report) made the standing declaration of interest reference the Somer Valley Enterprise Zone. A standing dispensation has been agreed & granted

22/23-04:003 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: Minutes of March 2022 meeting agreed & signed by chairman

22/23-04:004 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was AGREED that the Annual Parish meeting should take place in May. The APM will be followed by the AGM, then the Ordinary meeting of the Parish. 16th May, starting at 7pm.

22/23-04:005 REPORTS

- a. To RECEIVE the District Councillor's report.
Report on the SVEZ. Plot 3 which was previously proposed as retail, is now planned for warehousing with a trade counter, Funding bid for land acquisition to be submitted at end of April, Ground investigation works to be completed end of April, Transport assessment and travel plan finalised end of May, Buildings will be predominantly 6-10 metres high, the food and beverage unit will likely be (fast food?) and was informed it will likely be a "Greggs type operation", the preference is for the council to be the developer of the land, this will mean that there is greater ability to apply policy controls and act as a "double lock" - such as greater control over which businesses operate on the land
- b. To RECEIVE a report/update from the Chairman.
Report on items as they appear on the agenda.
- c. To RECEIVE the Clerk's report.
Clerk updated councillors on BMX track, bark chip for the playground, no parking to be painted on the turning circle, allotments, parking outside the Co-op, drainage at A37/A362 traffic lights junction & street lighting.

22/23-04:006 PLAY AREA

Bark needs to be spread, as it has been delivered. Some of the rubber matting is in need of repair & some of the poles need fixing in place.

22/23-04:007 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No applications this month.

22/23-04:008 SOMER VALLEY ENTERPRISE ZONE

Cllr Jefferies has submitted a written report on the recent 30th March stakeholders meeting. Points included:

- # Issue of B&NES being the developer as well as the planning authority.
- # Drive through 'Greggs' type bakery/ fast food will damage local independent retailers.
- # Transport links need to be in place first
- # Cyclelink needs to include Farrington Gurney in the plans.

22/23-04:009 HIGHWAYS

- # Problem with 30mph sign
- # Continual speeding on the bypass
- # Overtaking on the bypass, suggestion that there should be central bollards at the A362 – Farrington Way junction should be submitted to B&NES
- # Some drivers are speeding on the High Street during the school run. Clerk to ask Mr Dicks at the school to include in the next newsletter.
- # There are a number of drain covers that have been stolen, this does appear to be a wider problem than Farrington Gurney.

22/23-04:010 FINANCE

Cheque number	Payee	Details	Amount	
1264	M.Heffernan	Tree stump removal	£100	
1265	A.Mowat	Chipper hire (BMX track)	£77.22	
1266	R.Moss	Salary Feb/ March 2022	£631.46	
1267	HMRC	Tax	£137.74	
1268	Farrington Gurney Village Hall	Village Day contribution	£500	

AGREED

Clerk is working with NatWest to change bank details, including online access

22/23-04:011 MEETINGS

SVEZ stakeholders reported above.

22/23-04:012 CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Margaret Heffernan reported via email:

- A discount with CHEESE, the thermal-imaging organization, so that we can do one full survey of a house and share that information and advice with all the similar houses in the village, from the old miners' cottages to the newer homes. So that should provide a ton of detailed insulation advice to most of the houses in FG for a very low cost. We are working through the logistics and the surveys would start in the autumn.
- Another student is training as a Climate Fresk facilitator. This is a programme for educating the public and especially teachers in teaching about climate change. She is planning to offer a workshop on this later in the summer.
- We are pulling together a Cycle team to organize a campaign to support the cycle path
- We are pulling together a Tree team to see if we can plant 100 new trees in FG. We've already done 25...
- The Food team is planning something for Village Day.
- There will be electric cars brought to talk about them on Village Day to anyone who is thinking of making the change

22/23-04:013 UPDATES/ INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLORS WITH SPECIAL INTERESTS

Village Hall – Mike Hedges reported that the winter skittles league is nearly over, & there will now be a summer league.

Crime – Alan Smith reported there had been 3 incidents reported in the last month. There has also been a number of reports of wing mirrors being damaged/ broken on High Street

Other items – It was suggested that a plan of the village would be useful, Cllr Dando said he may have one to share.

22/23-04:014 INFORMATION/ ITEMS TO RAISE FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

The hedge between the hall & the new BMX track may need relaying, this should be discussed prior to the setting of the 23/24 budget.

22/23-04:015 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Mon 16th May, 7.30pm at Methodist Hall.

Signed
16.5.2022