

FARRINGTON GURNEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 8pm on **Monday 19th June 2023** at the **Methodist Church, Farrington Gurney.**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: James Wellman (Chairman), Mike Hedges, Sally Bown, Chris Bullock, Clint Dando, Paul Radnedge, Andy Jeffery

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, Cllr Morgan (BaNES), 3 members of the public

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Parish Council Minutes – June Ordinary Meeting

23/24 -03:032 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND WELCOME

Apology from Cllr Heffernan

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

23/24 -03:033 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Jeffery - SVEZ

23/24 -03:034 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: Minutes of 15th May 2023 meeting agreed & signed by chairman

23/24 -03:035 REPORTS

- a. To RECEIVE the District Councillor's report.

Cllr Morgan reported on a number of local issues, including the traffic damage to the verge outside the Co-op, that there is a proposal for a pedestrian crossing near the farm shop & safety at the school entrance. There is also the possibility of foliage clearance through the 'Clen & Green' initiative.

- 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.

a. There is an opportunity to place a 'Miners silhouette' figure in the village. This will be donated by the local Somerset Miners Welfare Trust. A number of locations were discussed, Cllr Bown will follow up with the Trust.

b. The BMX track is becoming overgrown. It was suggested that a working group will strim around the track in the short term, upkeep in the longer term needs to be discussed.

c. The Sunnyside allotment inspection, with Cllrs Bullock, Radnedge & a local resident, had been useful. A number of plot holders will need to improve their patches & a number of plots are vacant, but with no notice being given. An inspection of Ham Lane will be organised. It was agreed that an updated, allotment agreement should be issued, as there are a number of different historic agreements in place at the moment.

23/24 – 03:036 PLAY AREA

The safety pads need to be replaced & levelled. Cllr Dando will repair the broken latch. Clerk has contacted the Duchy of Cornwall about the tree that is leaning, they will undertake an assessment.

23/24 – 03:037 PLANNING

There were no planning applications this month.

Past Application in last 3 months

Date				FG PC	BaNES
March 2023	23/00735/FUL	3 Duchy Cottages Pitway Lane BS39 6TU	Erection of single storey rear extension and detached garage	No objection	Pending
	22/04875/FUL	Weaver Demolition Ltd Unit 1 Farrington Fields Trading Estate BS39 6UU	Construction of two storey extension to existing industrial unit.	Support	Approve
Feb 2023	23/00306/FUL 23/00438/FUL	21 Sunnyside Main Street BS39 6UN	#1 - Erection of side extension and loft conversion #2 –garage & parking	Comment on use of space	#1 permitted #2 pending
	23/00609/ADCOU	Meadow Farm Ruett Lane BS39 6UP	change of use of agricultural building to 3 bedroom dwellinghouse	Technical decision for BaNES	Approve

It was agreed that the Clerk should look at what training courses on planning issues are available.

23/24 – 03.038 SOMER VALLEY ENTERPRISE ZONE

Cllr Morgan is due to have a briefing on the current situation with the SVEZ, Cllr Jeffery discussed a number of potential questions she could ask on behalf of the Parish Council.

23/24 -03:039 HIGHWAYS

The local Community Speed Watch has been set up, & training is being provided. The extent to which the Police will follow up the information provided to them is still being discussed. There are a number of fixed location speed cameras that will be available to purchase in the near future.

3 drainage covers have been replaced by Wessex Water, ing set up, & 2 sites have been approved. Clerk to advertise for potential volunteers.

The footpath outside the Co-op, that is continually being damaged, has been reported to 'Fix mt street'. It may be that BaNES can fit bollards to stop parking, as the pavement width may be adequate.

The Drung/ School Lane has been swept, to clear some of the drainage problem, but this is not a complete fix, as the drains still need to be scanned.

WECA have booked the Village Hall for a transport consultation event.

23/24 -03:040 FINANCE

The annual AGAR exemption form was agreed.

It was AGREED to reimburse Cllr Heffernan for the advertising the Pollinator Event to be held at the Village Hall on 15th July.

Payments could be agreed for training courses, to be reported back to the Parish Council.

Cheque number	Payee	Details	Amount
Bank transfer	M.Heffernan	Reimbursement: Journal advert	£47.00

23/24 -03:041 MEETINGS

An online meeting "Nature Recovery" had been held by BaNES, which did not include Farrington Gurney as a priority area.

23/24 -03:042 CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Cllr Heffernan reported that the "Pollinator event" will be held at the Village Hall on 15th July.

23/24 -03:043 UPDATES/ INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLORS WITH SPECIAL INTERESTS

Health – Cllr Bown reported on a number of newsletters received, giving details of health initiatives.

Footpaths – It was suggested that councillors be encouraged to take a pair of shears when they go for a walk ! The current BaNES officer, Sheila Petheridge, is retiring, the name of her replacement isn't yet known.

Volunteers – Cllr Bullock reported that there were volunteering opportunities with Midsomer Norton Carnival & also BaNES are looking for drivers, to give vulnerable people a lift to covid vaccination centres.

Village Hall – Cllr Hedges reported that events have been well attended, there are a number of initiatives to upgrade the hall & to make it more energy efficient.

Churchyard – The kissing gate is damaged & in need of repair.

23/24 -03:044 INFORMATION/ ITEMS TO RAISE FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Allotment review

Green Spaces register

23/24 -03:045 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Mon 17th June 7.00pm at Methodist Hall.

Signed

17.7.2023