

FARRINGTON GURNEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting & an **ordinary meeting of the Parish Council** held at 8pm on **Monday 15th May 2023** at the **Methodist Church, Farrington Gurney**.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Mike Hedges (Chairman), James Wellman, Sally Bown, Margaret Heffernan, Chris Bullock

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, 1 member of the public

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Parish Council Minutes – Annual General Meeting

23/24 – 02:014 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr James Wellman was elected as Chairman for the 2023-24. Cllr Mike Hedges was thanked for his many years in the post.

23/24 – 02:015 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Andy Jeffery was elected as Vice Chairman for 2023-24.

23/24 – 02:016 CO-OPTIONS

Following the May 2023 uncontested election there is the opportunity to co-opt to fill vacancies. Clint Dando & Paul Radnedge were nominated & agreed as co-optees. There is still one vacancy to fill.

23/24 – 02:017 MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL INTERESTS

It was agreed that the following councillors take on responsibilities in the following areas of interest, to report back to the parish council:

- Health. Sally Bown
- Memorial Hall, Social Club & Playing Field. Mike Hedges
- Somer Valley Enterprise Zone / Planning. Andy Jeffery
- Playground, crime / Police update. Clint Dando
- Climate Change. Margaret Heffernan
- Allotments. Paul Radnedge
- Highways James Wellman
- Volunteering Chris Bullock
- Community Speed Watch (CSW) James Wellman

23/24 – 02.018 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mike Hedges reported on 2022-23 – He thanked Andy Smith & Phil Wade, who had stood down at the recent elections. The Village Day & coronation event was a successful day, with over 300 people attending. The BMX track was well used & a good example of fundraising. There are still issues with street lighting & road markings. He thanked James Wellman for the Speed Watch initiative, & Margaret Heffernan for the environmental projects. The Playpark is well used. The major issue currently is the enterprise zone. He thanked everyone for their support as chair.

Parish Council Minutes – May Ordinary Meeting

23/24 -02:019 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND WELCOME

Apology from Clint Dando

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

23/24 -02:020 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Jeffery - SVEZ

23/24 -02:021 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: Minutes of 17th April 2023 meeting agreed & signed by chairman

23/24 -02:022 REPORTS

- a. To RECEIVE the District Councillor's report.
Cllr Ann Morgan reported on a meeting being organised about the SVEZ, she also talked about the problems with the new ID rules at the lection, also that she was having some problems getting 'logged on' to the BaNES IT system.
- 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 has been a query about the village hall lease from the National Business Ratings department. Clerk is providing them with the paperwork.
 - b. The allotments rental is arriving slowly, it was agreed the clerk would provide a report.
 - c. The lock on the noticeboard has broken, but it is still usable.
 - d. Volker Highways have taken payment for the street lighting repair, but have not yet done the work. Clerk following up.

23/24 -02:023 PLAY AREA

It was reported that as the weather improves volunteers will be needed to replace the safety matting. There was a discussion over the existing matting & how the new matting will be overlaid.

23/24 -02:024 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

23/01506/FUL	5 Manor Close, Farrington Gurney,	Erection of new single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory.
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No comment was made on this application.

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

xxxxx .

23/24 – 02.025 SOMER VALLEY ENTERPRISE ZONE

There is a meeting & briefing being organised for June, & there are questions about the future of this project without significant changes.

23/24 -02:026 HIGHWAYS

The local Community Speed Watch has being set up, & 2 more volunteers have gone through the training & checks.

Some of the drain covers, owned by the utilities, have not been repaired yet, although it appears some may be tarmacked over.

It was agreed that the turning circle markings need to be completed, even if that means a premium has to be paid.

There continues to be a problem with flooding in Church Lane.

23/24 -02:027 FINANCE

Following payments AGREED

Cheque number	Payee	Details	Amount
001423	HMRC		£166.23
001424	R.Moss	Salary March April 2023 & office expenses	£743.87
001425	Hiscox Insurance	Annual Insurance	£966.82
001426	ALCA	Annual subscription	£242.00

23/24 -02:028 MEETINGS

Speed Watch quarterly meeting will be held in June

23/24 -02:029 CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Cllr Heffernan reported that she is applying for funding to the WECA & also ACRE.

23/24 -02:030 UPDATES/ INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLORS WITH SPECIAL INTERESTS

Health – Cllr Bown reported on a number of newsletters received, giving details of health initiatives such as Child Safety week, Mental Health awareness & vaping advice..

Village Hall – Cllr Hedges reported that events have been well attended, including the village day.

Police – there were 8 crimes in Farrington Gurney in March.

23/24 -02:031 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Mon 19th June, 7.00pm at Methodist Hall. This will also be the Annual Parish Meeting preceding the ordinary meeting

Signed

19.6.2023