

FARRINGTON GURNEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 8pm on **Monday 15th January 2024** at the **Methodist Church, Farrington Gurney.**

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, 3 member of the public

Parish Council Minutes – January 2024 Meeting

There was a discussion with members of the public about the street lighting, with a number of lights now having been repaired, but there is still a problem with 2 lights, one in Ruett Lane that still needs adjusting, one in Marsh lane that needs replacing.

23/24 – 10:116 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND WELCOME

Apology from Cllr Bullock.

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

23/24 – 10:117 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Jeffery - SVEZ

23/24 – 10:118 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: Minutes of December 2023 meeting agreed with corrections & signed by chairman

23/24 – 10:119 REPORTS

a. RECEIVED a report/update from the Chairman.

Report on items as they appear on the agenda.

b. RECEIVED the Clerk's report.

Street lighting – Volker Highways have replaced the lights scheduled. They still have to adjust the light in Ruett lane & replace the light on the wall of Keswick in Marsh Lane.

23/24 – 10:120 PLAY AREA

There has been an accident in the play area, with a child slipping on one of the wooden pieces of equipment.

It was agreed to but & affix some anti-slip material. The rubber mats are still with Alan Smith & will need to be collected & laid.

23/24 – 10:121 LOCAL PLAN

There has been an online discussion with BaNES officers about the details & contents of the public consultation, due to start on 24th January 2024. The consultation in February & March will look for suitable sites in BaNES, to meet government set house building targets. There will probably be 2 potential sites in Farrington Gurney, one around Marsh Lane, one near the Co-op store. In December 2024 plans will be submitted to the independent inspectors. It will be useful to have an updated Neighbourhood Plan, also that the Duchy of Cornwall historically have not automatically taken advantage of identifies land. There will be a local consultation on 13th March 3-7pm in the Village Hall.

It was proposed that there should be a local survey of residents by the Parish Council prior to the BaNES consultation, that will include questions about additional services & mitigation needed. It was suggested that a local meeting organised by the Parish Council may be needed. A professional opinion is that there will not be a 'spade in the ground' for about 10 years.

23/24 – 10:122 PLANNING

There is a planning application

23/04707/FUL	17 Main Street, BS39 6UB	Demolition of garden wall to use garden as a driveway
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It was felt it is a shame to lose an old wall & garden, particularly if it will add to run-off & potential flooding. There should be appropriate permeable materials to encourage soak away & an appropriate gradient of dropped kerb.

Past Applications in last 3 months

Date				FG PC	BaNES
Oct 2023	23/03709?FUL	Meadow Farm, Ruett Lane BS396UP	Erection of a single storey dwelling following demolition of existing stable block.	Oppose	Pending
Sept 2023	23/02394/FUL	22 Hill View, Farrington Gurney BS39 6UJ	Erection of 3 bed dwellinghouse including demolition of existing garage and utility to adjoining property	Oppose	Permitted

23/24 – 10:123 SOMER VALLEY ENTERPRISE ZONE

There will be a BaNES Scrutiny panel on the 16th January prior to BaNES cabinet meeting on the 1st February. There will be a number of speakers from Farrington Gurney.

23/24 – 10:124 HIGHWAYS

The local Community Speed Watch group is finding that their presence continues to deter speeding. It is likely that they will soon have 2 groups operating.

23/24 -09:110 FINANCE

Draft budget was agreed for 2024-25

Payments & monthly finance report agreed:

Payee	Details	Amount
FG Village Hall	Playing fields cutting	£1,400.00
Robin Moss	Nov Dec salary & office expenses	£807.83
HMRC	Payroll deduction	£172.29
Farrington Gurney Methodist Church	Hall hire	£112.50
Duchy of Cornwall	Recreation ground	£1,608.00

23/24 -09:111 MEETINGS

A local meeting about the future of the Golf Club will be held in January.

There will be a pollinator event held soon, the first of a series

23/24 -08:098 CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Cllr Heffernan reported on the pollinator events that have secured funding.

23/24 -08:099 UPDATES/ INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLORS WITH SPECIAL INTERESTS

Village Hall – Cllr Hedges reported that the village hall is trading at a profit & continues to be busy.

Police – Cllr Wellman reported that there have been 2 reported incidents in November.

Health – Cllr Bown outlined a number of local health initiatives including smoking cessation, alcohol advice & flu/ covid boosters.

Footpaths – Cllr Bullock; No update as work done until spring.

Allotments – Cllr Radnedge; Scalpings have been washed away during the recent storms & a culvert has had to be cleared at Sunnyside.

23/24 -08:100 INFORMATION/ ITEMS TO RAISE FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

23/24 -08:101 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Mon 19th February 2024 at Methodist Hall.

Signed

19.02.2024