**Councillors present**: Cllr. J. Borrett, Chair (JBo), Cllr. M Collier, Vice Chair (MC), Cllr. P. Borrett (PBo), Cllr. P. Butler (PBu),

Cllr. P. Forster (PF) & Cllr. F. Stennett (FS).

**Also present:**  SCC /DC Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger and one member of the public.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM**  **21/11/1**  **21/11/2**  **21/11/3**  **i**  **21/11/4**  **21/11/5**  **i**  **ii**  **iii**  **iv**  **v**  **vi**  **vii**  **21/11/6**  **i**  **ii**  **iii**  **iv**  **v**  **vi**  **vii**  **viii**  **ix**  **x**  **xi**  **xii**  **21/11/7**  **i**  **ii**  **iii**  **21/11/8**  **i**  **ii**  **ii**  **21/11/9**  **i**  **ii**  **iii**  **21/11/10** | **Chairman’s Welcome & Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)):**  The Chairman welcomed everyone and reported it was unlikely that a temporary Clerk could be found and it was acceptable to still continue as we are, without a Clerk, for the time being.  **Apologies:** Cllr. Gary Hubbard (GH) and The Parish Clerk.  **Absent:** None.  **Declaration of Members’ Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:**  None.  **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings:**  **PC meeting held on 14th October 2021 - LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):**  **Resolved 21/11/3.01**  The minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2021 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (JBo).  **Local Authority Reports:**  **County & District Councillors:**  SCC/WSD Cllr. Hopfensperger (RH) presented her monthly report via email, earlier in the day. At this meeting RH gave updates and comment on items under 21/11/6, below: (Highways, Footpaths & Trees) and warned of the alarming rise in the number of Covid cases in the area, particularly in Children, and outlined WSD Council's response, advising every resident of precautions for the coming winter...  To help reduce the spread, residents in Suffolk are now being encouraged to  Get fully vaccinated and your booster when it’s due  Wash your hands regularly with soap and water  Always wear a face covering in crowded areas  Ventilate indoor spaces  Get tested regularly & stay home if you feel unwell  **Planning Applications (For Information):**  **Update on Enforcement Ref: St Johns Plantation/Golf Course Trees Ref: EN/21/0057.**  **RH -** The 'Enforcement Team' had visited site and agreed with The Hotel a scheme to include replacement planting and landscaping. The Parish councillors were adamant that this was not sufficient and would effectively 'let the culprit off the hook.' They were insistent that, at the very least, some form of penalty must be employed as otherwise a very bad example would be set and anybody could simply remove TPO trees at will - and why wouldn't they if there were no discouragement at all - and asked RH to probe this further.  **Update on Enforcement Ref: Trees at Land adjacent to the Old Parsonage Ref: EN/21/0115.**  **RH -** Similarly, some form of 'letting-off the hook' deal was afoot and was not acceptable to the PC who protested strongly and again asked RH to take this further. An 'Enforcement Team' with no armaments or the will to impose any kind of discipline in such matters may as well be disbanded, immediately.  **DC/21/1763/HH - Householder planning application; front porch, 14 Hoylake Close, FSM. IP286XB.**  **Resolved 11/11/5.01**  A formal resolution of **No Objections** to Application DC/21/1763/HH was submitted on 15.10.2021.  **DC/21/0445/FUL - Two tennis courts, one pickle court and golf range with fencing. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve IP28 6JQ.**  **Resolved 11/11/5.02**  A formal resolution of **Objection** to Application DC/21/0445/FUL was submitted on 15.10.2021. It was noted that the matter would be handled by the appointed Planning Officer, who was ‘minded to Approve.’  **DC/21/1142/FUL - a. change of use of part of golf course for the siting of 15 caravan lodge holiday homes b. associated infrastructure (as amended).**  **Resolved 11/11/5.03**  A formal resolution of **Objection** to Application DC/21/1142/FUL was submitted on 15.10.2021.    **(For Consideration):**  **DC/21/1940/FUL. - one detached three bay cart lodge - Land Adjacent to The Old Parsonage, The Street, Fornham St Martin, Suffolk.**  **Resolved 21/11/5.04**. The PC commented that the Application as presented is very disappointing in that the building is to be situated on the root area and under the canopies of protected trees and therefore **object** to the proposal for that reason. There is a disparity between the Application form and the drawings in regard to the floor and foundations of the building; assuming the drawings are correct, then digging out for concrete floors and foundations into the RPA would not be acceptable either.  The proposed building could be sited elsewhere on the plot, away from protected trees, and it is possible we would then not have objected.  **DC/21/1933/FUL - one dwelling with new access - The Lilacs Old Hall Lane Fornham St Martin IP31 1SS.**  **Resolved 21/11/5.05**. This Application is somewhat confusing as the means of access is obviously in dispute and seems to be a very steep approach; the neighbouring property owners seemingly have differing records of trees with protection orders that will be affected and they also allege a TPO'd tree on their property will be affected. We would appreciate guidance on this matter from the ‘Tree Officer’ involved as to what exactly the proposal will involve in terms of TPO'd trees, groups of trees, and hedging we would also like an explanation of what this statement in the Applicants' Planning Statement actually means, as it is beyond our experience…  *"The proposal builds on the sites existing landscaping, located with a juxtaposition to allow the trees and the hedges to be an equilibrium with each other."*  **Highways/Footpaths & Trees:**  **Flooding & Drainage Works. Rh -** Finishing off the ditch works and clearing of drainage pipework was arranged to take place almost immediately.  **Village Sign/Highway Gates. RH -** A response from SCC is still awaited.  **30mph Roundels/damaged/missing 30mph signs; also hedge/speed signs at FSG roundabout. RH -** noted the speed sign for the Thetford Road bridge crossing had been missing for some time and SCC are aware of the problems at the FSG roundabout area.  **Old Thetford Road Footpath.** Some clearing had recently taken place and the path was generally passable but needs further work to keep it clear and mud-free.  **Potholes in Manners Road and fences around the green. RH -** Still no works were planned in respect of potholes and RH would be asking again if it could be brought forward. It was noted that the post/rail fencing had almost been completed but one broken post remained in position and Cllr. RH requested further information on this.  **Villages TPO lists/maps. RH -** agreed the presently available maps were difficult to read due to an over layer of red hatching, denoting land subject to Planning Applications, effectively obscuring relevant green markers denoting individual trees or groups of trees or hedging. It was noted that other Councils in different Counties made this information on their maps much clearer. The PC again requested a list of all TPOs in the Parish; multiple requests for this information have been made over many years and it is inconceivable the DC does not have such a list to hand.  **Broadband roadworks at The Fairways.** No further complaints were received so this item will be omitted from the next Agenda.  **Traffic calming.** After much discussion it was agreed we would rather have three VAS machines at fixed positions rather than just two which have to be constantly moved and we would research costings for one further machine and perhaps approach RH for help in perhaps obtaining additional funding. With the expected diversions in place for the works to the Barton Hill Footpath, item xi below, this would be an ideal time to have VAS machines in fixed positions.    **Cycling provision in the Villages.**  SCC have plans for cycling in the County and they are divided into Appendix A – those considered more urgent and likely to happen within the 5 year plan and Appendix B – those considered to be of lesser urgency/importance. There are 9 inclusions for Ipswich in App. A and 3 for Bury St Edmunds, (all around the Eastgate Street, Cotton Lane and Cullum Road area).  The section from the Lark Valley Drive junction to The Tollgate is in Appendix B. This section is one of the more expensive schemes at and is designated in category 1 (most difficult to deliver). Interested parties may like to look at the website:  https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=(16-06-2020)%2c+The+Cabinet  **Village Hall Parking.**  Through continued unauthorised parking in front of the Hall, the Village Hall Committee have reluctantly resolved to erect posts and chains to prevent it from continuing. An unfortunate but, sadly, necessary expense.  **Footpath from Barton Hill to the Hub.** This extensive work is scheduled to begin very soon in November and continue for many weeks. The Parish Council is heavily against this and comments made included the following...  We have been told that there have been ‘a couple of near misses’ to Council employees walking or cycling to work and that the safety of employees is 'foremost in our minds'. Such statements to justify this massive expense is more than annoying. Residents of the Villages have ‘near misses’ every day trying to walk the footpaths we have already which are poorly maintained and are, at times, completely impassable and have been this way - for years.  Pleas for help from the Residents and PC have been roundly rejected - for years.  As concerning as it is that employees have been endangered at all, there is surely a much cheaper option than a hugely expensive footpath. What other employer would spend massive amounts of money on a new footpath without considering alternative means of transport to a workplace.  Not only will residents have to suffer the inconvenience of the work being carried out, as well as traffic diversions through Culford Rd, The Street and Thetford Rd, but they will also continue to have to use the existing rubbish paths. A brand new pristine footpath which will be hardly used at all, certainly in comparison with the existing paths, and a highly dangerous crossing over the dual carriageway, next to what is a high-speed roundabout, will not be welcomed.  Cllr. MC had very real concerns of the potential danger to pedestrians trying to cross the dual carriageway and stated nowhere on the plans is there any information on precautions that will be in place, ie Zebra Lines, beacons, lights, markings, signs etc. It is incredible that money has been found from somewhere to finance this dangerous idea, when we know of many areas of concern around the villages where such money could be spent that would benefit everyone. During the many meetings and discussions around WSOH the idea of a path was mooted and was kicked into touch because of "cost" and half a million pounds was mentioned.  The Councillors are realistic however and accept that, whatever we think or whatever the cost,  it will happen.  **SCC Lorry Routes Review.** Suffolk County Council is undertaking a review of recommended lorry routes across the county, the first major review of the network since 2011.  The review is formed of two parts: a technical review of routes and a community-led review of issues on lorry routes.  The County Council commenced the community-led review on 22nd October by inviting parish and town councils to use a survey link to report issues associated with lorry movements in their community.  Each parish or town council will be invited to provide details of up to three concerns in their area with specific information related to the issue and its cause. County Councillors will then be asked to endorse the issues raised by local councils within their division before submission.  The County Council will collate responses and review feedback to ensure that any changes to the Lorry Network map are appropriate and to gather information about local issues.  The review will help to inform future plans and proposals associated with lorry movements as part of any future developments.  The outcome of the technical and community-led review will be a newly published and more interactive Lorry Route Network map.  It should be noted that in many cases it’s not expected that the current network will change as there are limitations to our highway network.  The link for further information: [https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/lorrymanagement/lorry-route-plan-review-in-suffolk/](https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/lorry-management/lorry-route-plan-review-in-suffolk/)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |   **Parish Matters.**  **Weekly Play Area Inspection Reports & Agree rota.**  Cllr FS will still continue inspections until the January meeting.  **Monthly & Annual H&S Inspection Reports.** As discussed at the October meeting, Cllrs FS and JBo had met on site and agreed a schedule for what work needed to be carried out soon and what would be monitored and planned for a later date.  **Resolved 21/11/7.01.** It was agreed the PC should instruct Messrs. Wicksteed to replace shrouds to the Horse and Elephant 'Springies,' also renew the bolts (with stainless steel bolts) and apply primer and a gloss finishing coat. The likely cost will be £824.80 exclusive of vat.  **Remembrance Sunday Service.** The Service will take place in Fornham St Martin Church on Sunday the 14th November at 10.15am, following 9.30am Communion.  **Correspondence:**  **Complaint as to Cllr. conduct.** We understand a formal complaint will be lodged by M&D developments with The Monitoring Officer.  **PCC consultation on new Police and Crime Plan.** The Police and Crime Commissioner is drafting a new Plan and the link to the proposed Plan is:  [DRAFT POLICE & CRIME PLAN 2022-2025](https://suffolk-pcc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Police-Crime-Plan-2022-2025.pdf) *(PDF 2 MB).*  **Finance & Policies.**  **Formal adoption of the External Audit Report and Publication for 2020/21.**  **Resolved 21/10/9.01**  Formal adoption of the External Audit Report and Publication for 2020/21 was affirmed and adopted.    **Cheques for signing and approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices.**  **Resolved 21/10/9.02.** It was agreed to approve payments of outstanding invoices as follows...   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Cheques paid | | | | | 29/10 | Alan Horne | £15.00 | 002233 | | 11/11 | Poppy Appeal | £20.00 | 002234 | | 15/11 | Mrs D Pott | £108.33 | 002236 |   **Update on the Parish Clerk.** Cllrs agreed the Clerk should receive full sickness pay until the end of November and continue to be paid as her Contract stipulations.  All Cllrs joined in wishing her a full and speedy recovery and a return to work as soon as possible in the New Year.  **Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas.**  None. |  |
|  | **Next Meeting to be held on Thursday 13th January 2022**  **at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall, Fornham St Martin**  Meeting closed at 9.43pm  **Signed: Date:**  **Chair, FSMSGPC** |  |