**Councillors present**:

Cllr. J. Borrett, Chair (JBo), Cllr. M Collier, Vice Chair (MC), Cllr. P. Butler (PBu), Cllr. P. Borrett (PBo), & Cllr. P. Forster (PF).

**Also present:**  SCC/WSC Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger and two members of the public.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM**  **09/09/1**  **09/09/2**  **09/09/3**  **09/09/4**  **09/09/5**  i  ii  **09/09/6**  i  ii  iii  iv  v  vi  vii  viii  ix  **09/09/7**  i  ii  iii  iv  **09/09/8**  **09/09/9**  i  ii  **iii**  **09/09/10** | **Chairman’s Welcome & Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)):**  The Chairman welcomed everyone and reported having made contact with SALC to request a locum Clerk whilst Vicky was recuperating from illness and their response is awaited.    **Apologies:** Cllr. Gary Hubbard 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:**   1. **PC meeting held on 8th July 2021 - LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):**   **Resolved 09/09/3.01.** The minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2021 were  adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (JBo).   1. **Extraordinary Planning Meeting held on 17th August 2021:**   **Resolved 09/09/3.02.** The minutes of the meeting held on 17th August 2021 were  adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (JBo).  **Local Authority Reports:**  **County & District Councillors**  Cllr. Hopfensperger gave updates on outstanding items and discussion took place on the lack of response from The Local Authority’s Planning Enforcement Department, with all Cllrs. Present expressing their frustration in particular regard to the lack of action over the tree protection orders at The Old Parsonage, Ref: EN/21/0115 and the St Johns Plantation/Golf Course Trees, Ref: EN/21/0057. Cllr. Hopfensperger well understood and appreciated the concerns raised and expressed the same annoyance with the situation, including a lack of response to the Gym set-up at the All Saints Hotel (without Planning Approval) that has been bugging many residents throughout the summer. Cllrs. Noted strong objection to the Gym being allowed to continue operating at all. All of this has been dragging on for months.  **Planning Applications (For Consideration):**  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.  Cllrs. were worried by the lack of information on this proposal and many concerns were raised such as: the location is known to flood, the possibility of flood-lighting now or in the future, opening hours/bank holiday use, the height of fencing is questioned from the point of view of safety *from* golfers *to* those using the facility - and vice-versa - and the fact fencing positioned in the centre of the course is likely to present a danger to wildlife (swans & geese for example}.  It was agreed the PC would request more information and advice from the Planning Department before we could properly assess the Application.  DC/21/1582/FUL - single storey extension to eastern elevation of existing facility to create a member’s lounge. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve IP28 6JQ.  Whilst there were no objections raised as to this project, Cllrs. were annoyed at yet another Application being made at a time when other Applications were as yet undecided and, as we are not experts in Planning rules and regulations (and are not required to be) were concerned about the fragmented manner of various matters being presented. The PC agreed that a ‘master Plan’ should be presented so that a proper view can be formed of the future of the area.  Mr Harris of All Saints Hotel has warned that a number of Planning Applications for various projects were to be submitted in the near future so there is therefore a plan of some kind that we, and the Planning Officers, should be made aware of so that a piecemeal hotch-potch of  Applications could be avoided.  It was agreed JBo would try to ascertain more information before the due submission date for our comments.  **Highways/Footpaths/Trees:**  **Flooding & Drainage Works Update - (BMW Garage) Barton Hill, Russell Baron Road & B1106 (Ditches)(RH)**  Cllr. Hopfensperger (RH) noted that some works had been undertaken on cleaning ditches at the bottom of Barton Hill and were to be completed ‘shortly’. Locals are bemused at the ‘do-a-bit-leave-a-bit’ method of working there but at least something has been done to help the flooding situation, and we are grateful for that, but it would be good to see the work finished.  RH reported that unfortunately no works are currently planned in the near future for the bottom of Russell Baron Road. Locals are preparing their flippers and snorkelling gear for the Autumn, and their ice skates for the Winter, yet again.  **Village Sign/Highway Gates Update (RH)**  RH reported the works are due before the Autumn.  **Discuss faded 30mph Roundels/markings and damaged/missing 30mph signs in the villages**  Cllr. MC volunteered to list and take photographs of relevant signage, and road markings/roundels etc and submit them online to get reference numbers to forward to Suffolk Highways.  **Old Thetford Road footpath**  The length running parallel with the new Thetford Road is now much better and is easily passable but the length running from Culford Road is difficult to negotiate due to overgrown hedging on the private land adjacent. We need to contact the owners to see if they will trim the hedges or at least give approval for us to do so. That length is also very muddy and needs to be cleared.  **Lark Valley/ Carnoustie Drive roadworks**  Residents have complained of the state the area has been left in at times and the paucity of reinstatement works undertaken to date, including colour matching of the footpaths. Residents and Cllrs. have not been made aware of what the plans are for this area or other areas of the villages and enquiries of Open Reach will be made by RH and the PC. Mr Peter Jones, of Open Reach was helpful and responded quickly to a particular complaint regarding Turnberry Drive.  **Pothole Repairs & Posts Manners Road/Russell Baron Road Update (RH)**  No works are currently planned as yet.  **Update on Villages TPO List/Maps**  Lizzi Flaherty is still working on the list and West Suffolk Council is yet to provide a list of TPO’s for the villages.  **Update on VAS/SID Data Download**  No update is available at present.  **Cycling provision in the villages**  Cllr. Paul Butler (PBu) raised the fact that cycling provision in the villages is poor and there are no cycle paths in the Fornhams. Cycling on the footpath is illegal but cyclists feel unsafe on the narrow and busy roads. He asked Cllr. Hopfensperger what plans there are for some of the revenue from increased building in the Borough and funds from Central Government to be allocated to this purpose. It was agreed that this issue should continue to be revisited.  **Parish Matters:**  **Play Area Inspections Report / Agree Weekly Inspection Rota**  Cllr. Frank Stennett (FS) would continue weekly inspections until the next meeting.  **Discuss Monthly and Annual H&S Report findings**  Cllr. FS. inspections highlighted problems with edge-boards around one of the trim-trail tasks, moles were beginning to be a nuisance, two of the ‘step-ups’ were broken, a wobbly hurdle post, worn sheaths around the springs of the two see-saws, a worn and frayed steel cable on the bridge of the play house and play-bark generally needs topping up. A recent District Council H&S Inspector’s report raised certain items we were unsure of and it was decided Cllr. JBo should make contact with a view to meet on site and agree what was needed in order to seek quotations, as soon as possible.  **Fly tipping/vandalism – Pumping Station Update**  The alarm had eventually stopped, and has not restarted, and the fly-tipping has been cleared.  **Discuss postponed annual Parish Assembly (APM) and schedule a date**  It was decided to hold the APM on the 14th October 2021 at 7pm followed by the PC Meeting with a scheduled start of 7.30pm or later if the APM were to over-run the anticipated 30 minutes.  **Correspondence:**  None.  **Finance & Policies:**  **Parish Council Bank Reconciliation from List of Payments/Receipts**  **Resolved 09/09/9.1.**  The bank balances and reconciliation of payments and receipts were received and adopted and initialled & signed as such by the Chairman. The bank account balance as of the 30th of July 2021 is £33,759.41.  **Cheques for signing and approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices**  **Resolved 09/09/9.2**  It was agreed to approve payments of outstanding invoices as below.     |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Mrs D Pott | Litter Pickers |  | £108.33 | | M&TJ’s | Grass cutting |  | £480.00 |   **Discuss and Adopt the Annual PC insurance Schedule and Policy**  **Resolved 09/09/9.3**  It was agreed to accept the quotation from Pen Underwriting Limited, in the sum of £839.24; payment is due by the 1st October.  **Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agenda’s:**  Cllr. PBu. Informed the meeting there was a persistent problem with a neighbour of the Village Hall who was leaving their car parked at the front of the Hall, sometimes taking up more than one space. If the situation did not improve then action would have to be taken as hirers and potential hirers of the hall had complained about the lack of parking space available. |  |
|  | **Next Meeting to be held on Thursday 14th October 2021 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall, Fornham St Martin**  Meeting closed at 9.43pm  **Signed: Date:**  **Chair, FSMSGPC** |  |