

# Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council  
Held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall

**Councillors present:** Cllr. J. Borrett, Chair (JBo), Cllr. M. Collier (MC), Cllr. P. Forster (PF), Cllr. P. Borrett (PBo), Cllr. P. Butler (PBu), Cllr. F. Stennett (FS) & Cllr. G. Hubbard (GH).

**Present:** Vicky Bright, Clerk. 6 members of the public was present also.

ITEM	
21/07/1	<p><b><u>Chairman's Welcome &amp; Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) &amp; (2)):</u></b> The Chairman welcomed everyone.</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> None. <b>Absent:</b> None.</p>
21/07/2	<p><b><u>Declaration of Members' Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:</u></b> Cllr. Frank Stennett declared an interest in Item 6 (v) and 6 (vi).</p>
21/07/3	<p><b><u>Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021- LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):</u></b> <b><u>Resolved 21/07/3.01</u></b> The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (JBo).</p>
21/07/4	<p><b><u>Election of Vice Chairman:</u></b> Cllr. Mike Collier was proposed by Cllr. Forster, this was seconded by Cllr. Stennett. The vote was unanimously in favour and Cllr. Mike Collier was duly elected as Vice Chair and signed his Declaration of Office, this was duly countersigned by the Clerk.</p> <p>Thanks were offer to Cllr. Hubbard for all his hard work and time as Vice Chair for many years.</p>
21/07/5	<p><b><u>Local Authority Reports:</u></b> <b>County &amp; District Councillors</b> Cllr. Hopfensperger sent apologies. Cllr. Broughton also sent apologies.</p>
21/07/6	<p><b><u>Planning:</u></b> <b>(For Information)</b></p> <p><b>i) Boundary Commission Review of SCC Electoral Division Boundaries – Public Consultation Update</b> The Clerk confirmed the PC submission had been sent and confirmation of receipt had been received.</p> <p><b>ii) Update on Enforcement Ref: Trees at Land adjacent to the Old Parsonage Ref: EN/21/0115 (RH)</b> No update. Clerk to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger and Rachel Almond.</p> <p><b>iii) Update on Enforcement Ref: St Johns Plantation/Golf Course Trees Ref: EN/21/0057 (RH)</b> Retrospective application for the outdoor gym and parking is still pending. Clerk to chase Cllr. Hopfensperger and enforcement.</p> <p><b>iv) Update on Application DC/21/0547/HH – 1-2 Rectory Cottage, The Drift</b> Approved 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021</p>

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v) **Update on Application DC/21/0426/FUL – Park Farm Business Centre, Culford Road**

Approved 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**(For Consideration)**

vi) **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. Location - All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve IP28 6JQ**

The applicant, Mr Harris gave the following statement to the Council and Public Forum;

There is a need to diversify, due to Covid-19. This proposal is different to previous proposals, and we have tried to consider feedback from the Council and residents. It is now a smaller part of the site; the 18-Hole Golf Course will not be affected. 96 additional trees will be planted behind the existing arc of conifers. It is on the furthest point away from Pigeon Lane neighbours. They will not be permanent structures and will have mesh bases, to not disturb the ground. They will be 3-bed, with 2 people per room, and the plan is to use them for 75% of the year. It is estimated that the scheme will bring in £500,000 extra spending in the local area and will create 32 new jobs.

Residents raised the following points and concerns;

Residents do not object in principal, however it is at risk of setting precedent for future developments and we need to protect the environment and village feel for future generations. It will create more noise and disruption for local neighbours. The Planning Inspector said, regarding the last proposal, that it would be over urbanisation, and any reduction in the number of lodges would not address this concern. We believe the extra employment basis to be over stated, and it would be more realistic to say 7 new jobs. How can this PC or the local PI approve this application, “do they have a better understanding than the Planning Inspector?” Working with the local community, such as maintaining footpaths and cycle plans, to show good guardianship is not shown in the proposal nor has been addressed, and public consultation has been poor. It is felt that not all financial options have been fully explored. Planning Policy and law should be adhered to, it is there to protect the village life. Noise issues regarding the Gym were raised and Mr Harris assured he was dealing with it.

The Chair, Cllr Borrett made the following comments;

The units are mobile. Check in is to be on site and not at the hotel? It is going to create more traffic. Concerns that the lodges could be sold off as a separate business in the future. There were 5 letters of support on the portal, all from people who are not local residents, with 130 letters of objection. It would create a loss of Green Space and thus cause coalescence with Bury town. The NPPF and JMDP are there to protect villages and the countryside from encroachment. FAS PC submitted objections based on, over urbanisation, loss of Green corridor and setting precedent for future development.

Cllr. Butler made the following comments;

The golf course in its current state is non-sustainable, so there is a need to diversify. The applicant has spent a lot of money on the business and improvements. Housing on the site would be a much worse alternative. The nearest neighbours are industrial and there is no visual impact. The LPA

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measures each application on its own merits. There is a great deal of opposition on the porta, but yet only 5 people have turned up tonight to object and raise concerns.

Cllr. Collier made the following comments;

Thanks to Mr Harris for showing the Councillor's around the site and explaining the proposal. The applicant has discussed his future plans for the hotel and discussed financial implications candidly. The PC has supported 90% of application historically, we want to see the business thrive and create jobs, but not at the detriment of the village. There would be a loss of Green Space and buffer meaning there would be an effect on visual amenity, which contravenes DM2 and other Planning Policy and law, the Planning Inspector did state at the appeal for the last proposal that it would have an effect on the character and landscape. I am torn between being concerned about the hotels future and ruining the visual amenity and green space.

Cllr. P. Borrett made the following comments;

It will cause coalescence with Bury, thus losing countryside and green space. There are less lodges this time, but the loss of green space etc. still applies.

Councillors took a vote, with 5 voting against and 1 voting or the proposal. It was agreed to submit objections with the 5 to 1 vote.

## **Resolved 21/07/6.01**

It was agreed to submit Objections to application DC/21/1142/FUL on the following grounds;

'the development would negatively impact on the visual amenity & the character and appearance of the landscape and environment. It would also cause loss of countryside and coalescence with the town (Bury St Edmunds), thus resulting in a loss of the green corridor, creating urbanisation within the rural environment.'

21/07/7

**i) Highways/Footpaths/Trees:  
Flooding & Drainage Works Update - (BMW Garage) Barton Hill, Russell Baron Road & B1106 (Ditches)(RH)**

No update. Clerk to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger.

**ii) Village Sign/Highway Gates Update (RH)**

No update. Clerk to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger.

**iii) Discuss faded 30mph Roundels/markings and damaged/missing 30mph signs in the villages Survey (MC/RH)**

Clerk to send list of roundels/markings and damaged or missing 0mph signs to Cllr. Hopfensperger.

**iv) Weeding/Skirting Footpaths Update (RH)**

No update. Clerk to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger.

**v) Pothole Repairs & Posts Manners Road/Russell Baron Road Update (RH)**

No update. Clerk to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger.

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- vi) **Old Thetford Road Footpath Update (RH)**  
No update. The path is still impassable. Clerk to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger.
- vii) **Update on EV Charging Units Scheme**  
No update. Take off Agenda.
- viii) **Update on Villages TPO List/Maps**  
Cllr. Borrett is still working on the list and the information passed on by Lizzi Flaherty. West Suffolk Council is to be approached about a list of TPO's for the villages.
- ix) **Update on VAS/SID Data Download**  
The SID Unit will be moved to the Barton Hill site after the next charge in approximately 1 week. Cllr. Borrett is going to liaise with Westcotec regarding download of the data software and training etc. Once the data is downloaded, the data will be placed in the Bugle and forwarded to the Police.
- x) **Discuss Tut Hill Closure**  
Cllr. Borrett (JBo) advised that FAS PC had held a public meeting to consult on the proposed closure of Tut Hill; the meeting was contentious with a majority of those attending voting to close Tut Hill, the question was asked whether FSM & FSG should be consulted and the PC said 'No'. It was discussed and members agree that FSM/FSG should have been consulted too, as it will force traffic onto Marham Park roundabout, causing more traffic movement through the villages using it as a cut through, thus affecting FSM/FSG as well. It was agreed that we would prefer closure to HGV's but remain open to local traffic. The Clerk is to approach Highways and Cllr. Hopfensperger regarding the lack of consultation with FSM/FSG.
- 21/07/8
- i) **Parish Matters:**  
**Weekly Play Area Inspection Reports & Agree rota (PBU)**  
No issues highlighted. Cllr. Stennett is to do the weekly inspections until the September meeting. The Clerk is to order a No Dog Poo sign for the bin at the play area.
- ii) **Discuss Monthly & Annual H&S Inspection Report Findings +/- Quotes for Works needed**  
The Clerk is still to liaise with Tim McGhee regarding the monthly and annual report and to clarify what work is urgent and get quotes.
- iii) **Fly Tipping – Pumping Station, Lark Valley Update (RH)**  
The alarm has been going off again, the Clerk is to report it to SCC. Anglian Water/WSC need to be chased regarding the fly-tipping and vandalism and making the site secure.
- iv) **Update on Village Welcome Pack (MC)**  
Several amendments were needed, almost now completed. Hopefully the final draft will be available for the next meeting. A regular notice in the Bugle will be placed advising new residents who to contact for a copy.
- 21/07/9
- Correspondence:**  
None.

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21/07/10

i)

## **Finance & Policies:**

### **Parish Council Bank Reconciliation from List of Payments/Receipts**

The Clerk advised that due to a delay in the bank statement being received in the post, she was unable to reconcile the accounts. A full Income/Expenditure spreadsheet and bank account reconciliation, will be available for the next meeting.

ii)

### **Cheques for signing and approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices**

#### **Resolved 21/07/10.01**

It was agreed to approve payments of outstanding invoices below and the cheques were approved and signed by Cllr. M. Collier (MC) and Cllr. G. Hubbard (GH).

Mrs V Bright	Mileage, expenses & hrs owed	002209	£160.35
Worlington PC	Printer cartridges contribution	002210	£82.35
Mrs D Pott	Litter picker	002211	£108.33
Mr A Horne	Mole catcher	002212	£25.00
M&TJ's	Grass cutting	002213	£720.00
Mr J Borrett	Pesticide	002214	£51.98

iii)

### **Asset Risk & Maintenance Inspection Report (MC)**

Cllr. Collier reported no issues.

iv)

### **Update on Thanks Gift for COVID-19 Community Help Team**

Cllr. Stennett advised that Stacey would rather have help and support from the PC to apply to Covid Re-Start grants etc.

21/07/11

### **Councillors Reports and Meetings Attended / Items for Future Agenda's**

- Air Quality Monitoring

### **Next Meeting to be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall, Fornham St Martin**

Meeting closed at 9:26pm

Signed: *John Borrett*  
Chair, FSMSGPC

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021