

FORNHAM ST MARTIN CUM ST GENEVIEVE PARISH COUNCIL

There was a meeting of the Parish Council held on 18th June 2015 in the Village Hall, Fornham St Martin

MINUTES

PRESENT

Councillor M Collier (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs J Hubbard
Councillor N Owen
Councillor P Butler
Councillor P Forster
Councillor G Hubbard

IN ATTENDANCE

Borough/County Councillor Mrs R Hopfensperger
Mr P MacLachlan
The Clerk
11 Members of the Public

AGENDA ITEM

1. APOLOGIES - None

The Council adjourned for:

2. MR PHILIP DUNCAN, PLANNING CONSULTANT FOR PARK FARMS.

Due for certain protocols relating to planning matters, the Borough had advised Mr Duncan not to make a presentation to the Parish Council.

3. VILLAGE HALL PARKING MATTERS

Councillor Butler, the Parish Council's representative on the Hall Committee, outlined the long running issues relating to this matter. The Hall Committee had tried extremely hard to reach a solution in trying to stop residents close by who park their cars in front of the Hall.

The car park is for people using the hall and is private property and after much deliberation, the Hall Committee had basically three options. (1) putting the car parking in the hands of an outside company who would employ clamping.(2) erecting lockable posts. (3) the option much preferred by the Committee – saying to residents they may park their cars between the hours of 10:00pm and 8:15am. This will leave the front free for those using the hall. If option 3 is not complied with, then the posts will be erected.

From the floor questions were asked about the non-usage of the car park at the rear of the Hall and whilst it was accepted that it was the case, this had little or no bearing on the issue in hand. The Hall Committee said that they would install improved signage in respect of the rear car park.

It was pointed out that residents were free to park along the lane. The Chairman said that he thought that there was some parking available in front of the cottages along the lane but some of the residents park at the top. The Village Hall Committee would look into this.

Councillor Butler said that the Committee were exploring the possibility of having some resurfacing work undertaken and some suppliers had been contacted to see if they were willing to donate materials.

One resident said that they had been troubled by noise from the Hall. It was pointed out that there is a notice asking hirers to keep the door closed but it was thought to be an isolated case.

The Chairman thanked members of the Hall Committee for their attendance.

4. BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Hopfensperger.

On the widening of the footpath, Councillor Hopfensperger told the meeting that the contractors are currently digging trial holes and the actual work is likely to take place during July/August.

With regard to flashing signs, she said that unfortunately all the past paperwork has been lost, so Hen Abbott is having to start all over again but Councillor Hopfensperger is on the case.

On the Tollgate Interchange, Councillor Hopfensperger said she has arranged a meeting with Susan Buck and Chris Rand from St Edmundsbury, together with Richard Mortlock of the Mildenhall Residents Association, who has come up with, what looks like, an interesting plan.

Councillor Butler, speaking for all Councillors, said it was imperative that the Station Hill issue must be tackled in tandem with the Tollgate interchange, otherwise the problem is moving from one place to another.

Councillor Hopfensperger said she is trying to arrange a meeting with the new transport portfolio holder to press for a proper transport plan for Bury and surrounding villages.

On the bus stop at the bottom the Barton Hill, Councillor Hopfensperger said the work is now in progress.

On the matter of the footpath opposite Flint Cottages (work scheduled to be commenced in May 2014), Councillor Hopfensperger said she had spoken to Matt Riches, asking that he unblocks the logjam on numerous outstanding matters, due to the inability of the contractors to manage their workload.

Councillor Hopfensperger said in regard to the DREAMLODGE application, she had been advised by Sarah Drane (planning officer) that this would receive a delegated refusal. However, she has been required to speak with the applicant, giving reasons for this proposed decision and must now wait for the response.

Regarding the proposed HUB, Councillors had been circulated with the Cabinet document which, being a lengthy tome, took some digesting and understanding.

Philip Reeve of Great Barton Parish Council is meeting with SCC new leader, Colin Noble next week. Sarah Bartrum and Councillor Owen will be attending, as will Councillor Hopfensperger. Unfortunately Councillor Collier will be on holiday and cannot attend but he has written to Mr Noble, outlining the Parish Council's objections and also sending Mr Noble a copy of the Parish Council's letter of objection to Ian Gallin, the Chief Executive of St Edmundsbury.

Councillor's attention was drawn to an article in the East Anglian Daily Times by Councillor John Griffith's on his "Statement of Community Involvement"

Councillor Hopfensperger said that she had attended a meeting where she requested Mark Walsh to publish on the Borough's website, all the responses/objections to the HUB. She further said that applications had been made under "Freedom of Information" so they will have to publish the information.

The Borough has indicated that they propose to have another pre-planning consultation on alternative sites. Both Councillors and Councillor Hopfensperger are somewhat sceptical and as Councillor Hopfensperger said "This MUST be a genuine consultation as there are sites which should be considered as they are not close to dwellings. The Suffolk Business Park would be most suitable as, with the relief road, it would have easy access to the A14 and would be away from dwellings.

Another site was at Saxham – again a suitable access to the A14.

Councillor Hopfensperger said she was totally in tune with the wishes of the Parish Council and that of the parishioners. She also indicated that Councillor Noble was not in favour of the Hollow Road site.

Councillor Butler said he was convinced that the decision had already been made which was evidenced by their pompous and patronising language in their Cabinet document, totally ignoring the 1340 responses. Fellow Councillors were of similar mind. Councillor Hopfensperger said that this was NOT the right location and she understood why parishioners felt that they were being taken for a ride. The Borough has said that they will be carrying out a feasibility study on alternative sites during the summer.

Paul MacLachlan drew attention to the Cabinet document paras 4.2 and 4.3 relating to time scales.

He pointed out their error.

Councillor Jayne Hubbard said it was really important that we keep the parish informed at all times.

Councillor Butler said we must keep focused .

Councillor Hopfensperger said that Councillor Noble will be holding a drop in session on Saturday in the Apex between 10:00am and 2:00pm.

Councillor Butler stated that we should consider using the power of the press.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Hopfensperger for her attendance and for her continued and robust support on the HUB issue.

5. POLICE REPORT – There was no report to hand

6. AGENDA ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC

These had been covered.

The Council reconvened

7. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Butler declared a prejudicial interest in planning application DC/15/1113/HH

8. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

Sarah Bartrum and Penny Borrett had both indicated that they would be willing to fill the one vacancy and be co-opted. They would attend the July meeting when they would make a brief statement of their reasons and any relevant experience.

9. MINIUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes were signed by the Chairman as being a true record.

- a. Plans for widening the footpath
 - b. Flashing signs
 - c. Tollgate Interchange
- } discussed in Councillor Hopfensperger's report

- d. Footpath opposite Flint Cottages
 - g. Bus Stop bottom of Barton Hill
 - j. Possible Traffic Plan for Bury and Surrounding Villages
 - k. Station Hill interchange
- } as above

e. Cycle Paths

With the impending issues relating to Park Farm, Dreamlodge and West Stow caravan park, it is vitally important that the cycle path requirement is addressed. Costs should be part of any planning approval and presumably can be made a condition under Section 106. This item will be kept on future agendas.

f. Rooks

The Chairman said that as time was rather short, this matter would be placed on the July agenda. He did thank Mr and Mrs Hilder for their very comprehensive appraisal of the rook issue which had been circulated to Councillors.

h. Time limit on temporary signs

In answer to the question of whether there was a time limit, SCC state "Fly postings on signs, railings etc. that are SCC property are dealt with by them through the Highways Department. If there are local events that have passed, then we will take the posters down on our rounds of street cleansing but there is NO fixed time after an event has taken place"

From the floor it would seem that notices of intent to remove signs within seven days have been placed on those which refer to stopping the HUB but others have been ignored. Councillor Hopfensperger said she would look into this. Mr Yates said that he would be placing signs to advertise the Church fete. Councillors felt that there should be no problem.

i. Cutting vegetation to the rear of the limes

M&TJ's have quoted £50 per cut. Councillors agreed to accept this.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

SALC

Councillor Mrs Hubbard would be attending the meeting at Horringer. The Clerk would make sure she receives the full details

Details of various courses had been circulated to Councillors.

Playing Field

There was still a problem with moles. The Clerk would contact AIDA and request that they try again. It was felt that this should be FOC.

Councillor Forster had refreshed the chippings along the trim trail and had removed the weeds.

The Chairman said that he had made a really good job of the trim trail. Councillor Forster had made repairs to the gate and had made some metal ties for the trim trail.

A quote had been received in the sum of £120 for the removal of the fallen tree. A quotation would be sought for trimming the hedges, which in some places is overhanging. The main gate required at least three coats of teak oil. Councillor Forster agreed to do this.

Tree Warden - Nothing

Rights of Way

The cable which is sagging and touching shrubs on the footpath running parallel with the bypass is not a power cable but is a BT one. The Clerk has informed BT

The Clerk has requested a visit from the little sweeper. An acknowledgement has been received

The manager of the Pines Home has promised to remove the hedge clippings from the grass by the end of the week

The missing dog bin will cost £166.32 + Vat to replace. Councillors agreed that this quote should be accepted.

Planning

The following were discussed:

DC/15/1113/HH Mr Paul Butler, 6 Gleneagles Close. First floor extension over existing garage
NO OBJECTION

TPO177(1992)5 and TPO164(1971)3. Tree preservation order application to fell 1 no Oak (T005 on plan T5 on order 177) Re-pollard 1 no Oak (T013 on plan within Area A1 on order 164) Park Plantation, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve. As this was impossible to find the exact location, Councillor Owen would make further enquiries.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Councillors had been circulated with many pieces of correspondence which did not require an answer.

Letters from Mr Zarattini would be answered by the Clerk.

Councillors thanked Mr Yates for his letter and photographs regarding the Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

A resident from Park Avenue had written regarding the state of the lay by. The Chairman said he would take a look and advise the Clerk.

A few comments had been received about the Woolpack sign which had been replaced by a more modern one. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should write to Greene King asking that they re-instate the original one.

Councillor Mrs Hubbard had received an email regarding the fete and being refused a pitch for her stall. Mr Yates explained the situation. The Church fete to be placed on the next agenda

12. ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were presented and passed for payment

Mr Forster	Bugle expenses/playing field issues	208.46
Denny Bros	Paper and toner	207.51
Mr Hoggett	Litter Picking and Playing Field	421.26
M & TJ's	Grass Cutting	324.00
AIDA	Pest Control	162.00
Realise Futures	Printing Bugle (2 issues)	375.82
P & S Brooklyn	Bugle Editors	187.27
N Pitcher	Final salary and postages	366.73
BT	Telephone/fax/email	148.68
Revenue and Customs	PAYE	89.00
Mrs Buxton	Planters	40.00
Fornham PCC	Churchyard Maintenance grant	1000.00

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 16 July 2015 at 7:30pm

The Chairman presented the Clerk with a gift, thanking him for his past services and wished him a happy retirement. The Clerk thanked Councillors for the gift and their kind words and said he would greatly miss the work and the people but it was time to go and he wished Paul MacLachlan well.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.