

PUBLIC FORUM:

9 Members of the public were in attendance.

Following disruption at the January meeting's Forum, the Chair read out the following:-

"MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO MAKE COMMENTS OR ASK QUESTIONS DURING THE PUBLIC FORUM. The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting in accordance with standing order 3(e) shall not exceed (15) minutes unless directed by the chairman of the meeting. Subject to standing order 3(f), a member of the public shall not speak for more than (3) minutes."

Mr. David Yates raised the subject of City Fibre works being carried out in the villages, causing much disruption, with no prior notice of works being given to residents affected, and the state the various areas had been left in - very much not as was promised. Mr. Yates' correspondence is covered at item 8.vi below.

1. **Chairman's Welcome & Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1):**

Apologies were received from the Clerk, Vicky Bright, and Cllr. Penny Borrett.

2. **Declaration of Members' Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:**

None.

1. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings – LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):**

Meetings held on 11th November 2024 and 13th January 2025:

Resolved 25/02/3.03:

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11th November 2024 and Monday 13th January 2025 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman.

2. **Councillor Vacancies:**

An application was received from Mr Brandon Mahon, a resident of Fornham St Martin. The chair and other Cllrs. questioned him and discussed his reasons for applying. He gave a brief outline of himself and reaffirmed there was no conflict of interest to prevent him becoming a Parish Councillor or with any item on the agenda.

Resolved 25/02/4:

Following a unanimous vote in favour, Mr Mahon was co-opted as Councillor. Cllr Mahon signed the Declaration of Office, countersigned by the Clerk, & agreed he would complete and sign the Register of Interests form to be returned to the Clerk as soon as possible. The Clerk would forward a copy of the Good Councillor Guide, the Councils governing documents and Code of Conduct etc. to Cllr. Mahon after the meeting.

3. **To Receive County, District and Community reports:**

WSD Cllrs. Briefed the PC regarding the parliamentary White Paper planning the merging of Norfolk and Suffolk Councils to form one entity led by a Mayor. The object is to combine resources in the many services provided or carried out with the object of streamlining and thereby reducing overall costs. Negotiations with Norfolk will be fast-tracked and begin in March and until they are completed the precise details of the union cannot be predicted.

Planning Applications (For consideration):

- i. DC/25/0129/HH - a. porch extension b. infill extensions to front and rear elevation c. first floor side elevation d. double doors to replace windows to rear elevation e. single storey rear extension f. new windows to side and rear elevations g. new rooflight to front elevation. Location: 4 Lark Valley Drive, Fornham St Martin.
Resolved 25/02/6. By a majority vote the PC agreed to submit 'NO OBJECTIONS.'
- ii. DC/24/1779/FUL – stand-alone jet wash facility within existing compound. Location: West Suffolk Operational Hub, Bury Road, Fornham St Martin – ***Formal Resolution of 'No Objections' submitted to LPA on 14.01.2025 - *Referred to DCC 5th February 2025***
- iii. DC/24/1660/FUL - change of use of land to equestrian and construction of domestic stables. Location: North Lodge, Fornham Park, Fornham St Genevieve - ***Formal Resolution of 'No Objections' submitted to LPA on 14.01.2025***
- iv. DC/24/1647/HH - a. single storey side extension b. cladding to all elevations c. replace existing front door with one window. Location: Homelea, Church Close, Fornham St Martin – ***Formal Resolution of 'No Objections' submitted to LPA on 05.12.2024 - *Approved 07.01.25!***
- v. DC/24/1671/TPO - TPO 030 (1960) tree preservation order - one Ash (T1 on plan within A5 on order) fell. Location: The Laurels, Parklands Green, Fornham St Genevieve – ***Formal Resolution of 'No Comment' submitted to LPA on 11.12.2024.***

(For information only):

- vi. AMENDED DC/24/0614/FUL - partial change of use of golf course to site six timber pods. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve (Re-consultation) – **Recommended to Approve 17.12.2024 DCC delegated decision.**
- vii. AMENDED DC/24/1072/VAR - Variation of condition 2 of DC/17/0521/FUL to allow for use of amended plans for municipal operational hub comprising waste transfer station, household waste recycling centre (including reuse building), fleet depot (including offices), public realm maintenance depot and associated infrastructure including accesses, paths, internal roads and paths, parking, weighbridges, and landscaping. To make minor design changes to the Waste Transfer Station (WTS) to enable the separate handling of food waste. To insert additional drawings to be listed under condition 2 (approved plans) to include 'Dimension Plan ref: 16-0645-CDP-DR-02-XX-A-4007 C7' and Dimension Plan ref: 16-0645-CDP-DR-02-XX-A-4007 C7'. Location: Land North of Hollow Road Farm, Bury Road, Fornham St Martin (Re-consultation) – **Approved 06.12.2024.**
- viii. AP/24/0034/STAND – (DC/24/0433/FUL) - create a maintenance access into All Saints Golf and Country Club off The Street, Fornham St. Genevieve. LOCATION: Access To All Saints Hotel, Land Off The Street, Fornham All Saints – **Appeal withdrawn by WSDC 15th January 2025.**
- ix. AMENDED DC/24/0538/FUL- two pickleball courts and two tennis courts. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve (Re-consultation) – **Pending Decision.**
- x. DC/24/1123/FUL - reinstatement of 10-metre-high golf ball safety nets to the rear of 23-29 Pigeon Lane on the golf course side of existing tree belt. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve – **Pending Decision.**
- xi. DC/24/1091/FUL - parking area for 15 cars. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve – **Pending Decision.**
- xi. DC/20/0496/FUL - 68 lodges with parking, landscaping, waste and recycling areas and construction compound/maintenance area. Location: St Genevieve Lakes, Road from Bury Road to B1106, Timworth – **Pending Decision.**
- xii. Update on the Bugle Notice responses Ref: The Hotel and communication (WSC Planning Email 15.11.24) **No information on responses was available to consider at this time.**

7.

- i. Update on works date for White lining/hatching outside the Woolpack pub. **Date of works still awaited.**
- ii. Update on Signage/lining Scheme on B1106 towards Culford/West Stow Road. **Cllr JR. to continue with his audit of the signage. Some minor works have been carried out.**
- iii. Overgrown trees next to the Lark Valley footpath Update. **Highways have not responded. Apparently no longer a problem.**
- iv. Damaged wooden fence next to pedestrian exit Oak Close by the Green Update (Ref:00491051). **WSC are not replacing the fence as apparently it is no longer a problem.**
- v. Update on Mud/Flooding on Barton Hill footpath (Ref: 00498752) (RH-SCC). **Some works have been carried out but has created a further problem area and doesn't improve the situation at all - in fact its worse. Also, works carried out by City Fibre have further exacerbated matters by trafficking heavy machinery in the immediate area AND at another length of footpath, further along the same side of the road opposite the BMW Showroom, making it very difficult for pushchairs and disability scooters to pass through.**
- vi. Update on overgrown vegetation on the footpath – Barton Hill to the river bridge (Ref:00500496) (RH-SCC). **The latest information is that SCC will not carry out any works so the PC will have to find funds to get it done, if necessary.**
- vii. Discuss erosion of the highway which immediately abuts the private road of Lark Valley Court (PBu). **Highways declare the erosion is on private land when it is obviously not. Cllr. PBu. to make further attempts to get this repaired. It has already been marked with the yellow spray paint.**
- viii. Update on works for overgrown vegetation on footpaths/traffic islands/kerbs & visibility of 30mph roundels. **Again, the PC will need to obtain quotations from qualified Street-Works Contractors to undertake any work unless volunteers step forward to be trained and kitted out to be able to do it.**
- ix. Discuss Highways Signage Audit & Review & cleaning. **An audit to determine the need for any works including cleaning of signs is needed for both villages.**

8. Parish Matters

- i. Weekly & Monthly H&S Inspection Reports Trim Trail & Play Area / Agree rota for weekly inspections. **Cllr. JR to take on the weekly inspections starting this week.**
- ii. Discuss the Gardening Club's request to use the King George Playing Field for parking for a 3 day-trip. **The PC's insurers are content with allowing parking for the Gardening Club and by majority the PC voted to allow it.**
- iii. Discuss a price increase for the Bugle printing by 10% from January 2025, and the £25. cost of the distribution trolley. **The PC, by majority, voted in favour of the increase.**

- iv. Discuss seating at the new bus shelter opposite Lark Valley, following a request received from a resident.
The PC agreed by a majority vote not to provide seating.
- v. Discuss booking a Defibrillator Refresher Seminar *CHT have quote £175 for a refresher seminar.
By unanimous vote, the PC agreed to go ahead and ask the Clerk to organise the Seminar.
- vi. Discuss CityFibre works in FSM.
The PC agreed with the matters addressed in David Yates' email attempts to have redress for the problems created by the Contractors and the state in which the areas have been left

9.

Correspondence.

The Clerk forwarded relevant correspondence to Cllr's via email and all Cllrs. Confirmed they had read and digested the following:-

- i. WSC – Street Trading Policy Implementation
- ii. WSC – Plug-in Sfk Initiative - **Cllrs. unanimously voted against electric charging points in the villages.**
- iii. WSC – Building Resilience and Nutrition Fund

10. Finance & Policies

- i. Bank Reconciliation from list of payments/receipts.
The PC duly approved & signed.
- ii. Payment Schedule for approval to authorise payment of outstanding invoices.
The PC duly approved & signed.
- iii. To Agree & Adopt the Budget for 2025-26.
The PC agreed to a Formal resolution to adopt £36,870 Expenditure.
- iv. To Agree & Adopt the Precept figure for 2025-26.
By Formal resolution the PC agreed to adopt the Precept figure of £36,870.00.
- v. Discuss an application for a donation from the 'Thursday Stitchers' club.
The PC agreed to contribute £150.00 as a S.137 donation.

11. Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas.

Solar panels for the Village Hall.

Date of Next Meeting:

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 10th March 2025 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed:



Date: 10th March 2025