

Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council
held on Monday 11th November 2024 at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall

Councillors present: Cllr. J. Borrett – Chair (JBo), Cllr. M Collier - Vice Chair (MC), Cllr. P. Borrett (PBo), Cllr. P. Butler (PBU), Cllr. J. Rushman (JR) & Cllr. C. Last (CL).

Also present: Vicky Bright, Clerk PC. Cllr. Sarah Broughton – WSC. David Yates – PCC.

ITEM	<u>PUBLIC FORUM:</u>
24/11/1	<p>3 members of the public were in attendance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Yates raised a complaint from the Ladies Club; they are upset that the new Bugle Compiler has been editing their articles before they go to print, they believe the articles have been edited dramatically until they are unrecognisable. They have advised that if it happens again, they will reconsider submitting articles in future editions. The Clerk and Chair reiterated that the Bugle Compiler is just that and should not be editing submissions, other than spelling/grammar errors. The Clerk was asked to contact the Ladies Club directly and apologise, and suggest that they cc. the Clerk/Chair on future articles submitted. The Chair is to speak with Justin regarding editing submissions.• Residents in attendance raised concerns over the tennis courts/pickleball courts at the Hotel application on the agenda; noise, no bearing on the location being a 'sound vault', loss of rural amenity.• Residents in attendance raised concerns over the pods at the Hotel application on the agenda; lack of clarity/what's the difference between the superseded Type A version and the new Pod A 3rd version? Drainage and no proper Impact Assessment, pods being raised up and causing noise levels to increase, no lighting plan (loss of dark space for wildlife), the 10th fairway sign has been removed from the golf course with no confirmation of where the 10th fairway is to be located when the pods are built.• Residents in attendance raised concerns over several believed breach of planning by the hotel; the tarmac is being laid for the 15 car park spaces (retrospective?), current lodges are breaking conditions with overnight parking, new brick signage on the main road (FSG) has planning for these been granted? Drainage is being put in at 10th fairway, with digging being very near to the oil line.
24/11/1	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome & Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)):</u> Apologies: None.</p>
24/11/2	<p><u>Declaration of Members' Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:</u> None.</p>
24/11/3	<p><u>Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings – LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):</u> <u>Meeting held on 14th October 2024</u> <u>Resolved 24/11/3.01</u> The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th October 2024 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (JBo).</p>

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Councillor Vacancies

The Clerk confirmed that an application had been received from Clive Last. Cllr. Collier asked Mr Last to say a few words about himself; Mr Last mentioned he is a businessman and is the Director of Class Holdings Ltd, as well as Troston Farms Ltd and Fornham Business Court. Cllr. P. Borrett proposed co-option of Clive Last, this was seconded by Cllr. Collier, a vote was taken that was unanimous in favour.

Resolved 24/11/4.01

Clive Last was co-opted as Councillor. Cllr. Last signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and this was countersigned by the Clerk.

The Clerk is to email a Register of Interests form and guidance along with a copy of the Good Councillor Guide, the Councils governing documents, Code of Conduct etc. to Cllr. Last after the meeting.

24/11/5

Local Authority Reports:

County & District Councillors:

Cllr. Hopfensperger (WSC/SCC) sent her apologies.

Cllr. Broughton (WSC) gave the following report for the District Council;

- There is currently a review of the Transport Plan and Cycleways.
- The Local Plan enquiry started last week and is expected to last another 5 weeks.
- The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is looking at a review of Enforcement with its aim to get Councillors more up to speed!

24/11/6

i)

Planning (For consideration):

AMENDED DC/24/0538/FUL- two pickleball courts and two tennis courts. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve (Re-consultation)

Resolved 24/11/6.01

The Parish Council Objects to application DC/24/0538/FUL, we believe the application is still incomplete and does not offer any noise reduction schemes or mitigation in relation to site-specific percussive noise impacts.

We believe that the noise disturbance to neighbouring properties will be significant, and will have a detrimental effect on the lives of the people in Clay Hall Cottages and Birkdale Court and will cause a loss of rural amenity.

The noise from Pickleball is a percussive noise and is therefore likely to be more unbearable to humans and wildlife, it will have a negative impact on the well-being of the humans and wildlife in the area and upon the natural environment.

We are aware that residents in Clay Hall Cottages have raised their own concerns and objections and the Parish Council supports these comments wholeheartedly, we also agree that there is scope for the courts to moved closer to the hotel and away from the neighbouring boundary.

ii)

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)

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Resolved 24/11/6.01

The Parish Council offers 'No Objections' to application DC?24/0614/FUL.

iii)

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)

Resolved 24/11/6.03

The Parish Council offers No Objections or comments on application DC/24/1072/VAR.

iv)

(For information only):

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 – Pending decision!

v)

DC/24/1211/HH - a. single storey front extension, b. conversion of garage to habitable room. Location: Oak House, Barton Hill, Fornham St Martin – Approved 30.10.2024!

vi)

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!

vii)

DC/24/1091/FUL - parking area for 15no. cars. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve – Pending decision!

viii)

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!

ix)

Update on the FOI request RE: Enforcement data from WSC

The Clerk circulated the data received from WSC regarding the Council's FOI request, she presented the data to the meeting and to Cllr. Broughton (WSC). It was discussed and agreed that the data was totally inadequate and was in fact an insult! There was no clarification or details of any enforcement actions taken, many only stated 'Closure – not expedient to pursue'. Many of the trees/TPO's enforcement cases were recorded as 'No Breach', when we have clearly provided evidence & proof to the enforcement team. Cllr. Broughton reiterated that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee are looking into the adequacy of the Enforcement at WSC, she suggested that the Clerk forward the committee's minutes from the 07.11.2024 to the PC members for their information.

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i)

Highways/Footpaths & Trees:

Update on Old Thetford Road footpaths Maintenance and adoption by PROW

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The Clerk reported that there is currently no update on the adoption of the footpaths.

- ii) **Update on works date for White lining/hatching outside the Woolpack pub**
The Clerk reported that there is currently no update. The Clerk is to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger.
- iii) **Update on Signage/lining Scheme on B1106 towards Culford/West Stow Road**
The Clerk reported that there is currently no update. The Clerk is to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger.
- iv) **Footways Overgrown vegetation reports update (Ref: 00480632, 00493327 & 00493256).**
The Clerk reported that there is currently no update. The Clerk is to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger.
- v) **Damaged wooden fence next to pedestrian exit Oak Close by the Green Update (Ref:00491051)**
The Clerk reported that there is currently no update. The Clerk is to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger and the Open Spaces Team.
- vi) **Overgrown trees next to the Lark Valley footpath update**
The Clerk reported that there is currently no update. The Clerk is to follow up with Cllr. Hopfensperger and WSC.
- vii) **Overgrown vegetation on traffic islands/kerbs, bus stop Barton Hill & visibility of 30mph roundels in The Street - Quotes**
The Clerk presented quotes for the works needed to overgrown vegetation and weeds etc. in the villages. It was agreed that the Clerk would report to Highways online the overgrown vegetation on the footpath from the bottom of Barton Hill to the first bridge, before accepting any quotes for these works, as Highways have not yet been advised of the problem.

Resolved 24/11/7.01

It was agreed to accept the quote from Steve Moore – Garden Tyme for the following items;
1/. Cut back vegetation at Barton Hill bus stop, so cars can see traffic coming around the corner, and some hedging along footpath by bus stop. £100-
2/. Cut back vegetation by the 30mph roundel signs in the Street before the church. £60-
3/. Remove weeds/moss from the three traffic islands on the roundabout. £40-
4/. Strim the grass/weeds from the kerbs in the street from before Lark Valley Dr to the roundabout. £30-

Resolved 24/11/7.02

It was agreed to accept the quote from Tilbrook's Landscapes Ltd for the following item;
1/. Strim the nettles by the 5-bar gate at the playing field and also from the entrance gate (RHS The Street) up to Bleak House. £71.44-

The Clerk is to submit the application to Highways for permission for us to carry out the works via our own contractors.

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i)

Parish Matters.

Weekly & Monthly H&S Inspection Reports Trim Trail & Play Area / Agree Rota

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The Clerk was asked to request that Tilbrook's address the issues at the wooden trim trail in the playing field and clear away the fungi (mushrooms) from the barked areas and also clean the algae build up from the wooden equipment.

The Clerk was asked to enquire if David Randall uses the compost bin at the playing field, as there are concerns that it is not being used and is just full up with large branches.

The Clerk is to look at quotes for repairs to the play area and trim trail in the New Year.

Cllr. Butler (PBu) agreed to do the weekly inspections until the January meeting.

ii) Dog Fouling Signage Update

The Clerk managed to get some Dig Fouling signs FOC and these are to be installed at both locations that were identified as a problem recently.

iii) BMW garage – Discuss Traffic obstruction/obstructing the footway due to deliveries

It was discussed that lorries are loading/unloading on the verges and obstructing traffic and the footpath on both sides of the road, it is thought this is due to parked cars in the service road, so lorries can't get in and turn around. There is a previous agreement in place that this should not happen, but since new ownership this has been ignored. The Clerk was asked to write to the BMW Garage owners and refer to the previous agreement and ask if this cannot happen going forward.

iv) Discuss Business advertising boards (Meadow View, top of Old Hall Lane)

The Clerk advised that she had received complaints that businesses were advertising using boards on verges at Meadow View (top of Old Hall Lane), she advised she would report it to the appropriate department at WSC.

v) Touring Caravan Complaint Update – Gleneagles Close

The Clerk advised that Enforcement at WSC had provided the following advice;
'Investigations have been carried out and from the information before me at this time, the use of the caravan is incidental to the enjoyment of the host dwelling; permission would not be required for the placement of the caravan. Therefore, no breach of planning control has been identified at this time. The complaint also mentioned Covenant issues with the placement of a caravan and the storage of gas bottles within the caravan, neither of these elements are planning related, rather civil matters. Therefore, at this time and with the information before me, this enforcement case will be closed with no further action recommended.'

It was agreed that no further action could be taken by the PC and that neighbours should try to approach the owner first to reach a compromise, alternatively neighbours could look into civil action.

**vi) Agree Grass Cutting Quotation from WSC for the King George Playing Field 2025-26
Resolved 24/11/8.01**

It was agreed to accept the quote from WSC for the grass cutting at the playing field, for 2025-26, for a total of £1,567.76 + VAT

vii) Bugle Distributor Update

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The Clerk has confirmed that Donna & Laurie Pott wish to take on the roll and it was agreed that Mathew Kelmsley would be a back-up. The Clerk is to arrange for Donna & Laurie to have training with Peter Forster on the next edition, in the hope that they can then take over the role for the Feb/March edition.

24/11/9

Correspondence:

The Clerk advised the following update received from the Village Hall Committee;
'We are trialling an increase in the thermostat rather than turn on more than two heaters. We have had some complaints regarding a cold hall mainly from those that are sitting there for several hours. We have also had some damage again to the blinds, the new one this time, but this has been able to be fixed. Importantly someone has pulled the alarm cord out of the ceiling in the Accessible toilet; we have requested a visit from the electrician as we are unable to repair it ourselves. We have made an application to Solar Together Suffolk; the committee members are considering this and the PC may want to debate the merits of solar energy at the hall and possible funding that may be required.'

24/11/10

Finance & Policies:

i) New Lloyds bank account update

The Clerk confirmed the new Lloyds account is now set up and the Bank of Ireland account is now closed with all funds been transferred to the new Lloyds account. The Clerk will now get the mandate amended to add Cllr. Rushman and Cllr. Last as signatories as well.

ii) Parish Council Bank Reconciliation from list of payments/receipts

Resolved 24/11/10.01

The bank balances and reconciliation of payments and receipts were received and adopted and initialled & signed as such by the Chairman (JBo). The bank account balance as of the 11th November 2024 is £31,612.14

iii)

Payment Schedule for approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices

The payment schedule for outstanding invoices was checked and signed by two signatories; Cllr. M. Collier & Cllr. P. Borrett.

Resolved 24/11/10.02

Payee	Details	Invoice number	Payment Option	Total	Power to pay*
Mrs V Bright	Expenses & Mileage	-	BACS	£31.93	3
CHT	Defibrillator Annual Support fee	23484	BACS	£151.20	2
Mr P Forster	Bugle distribution costs	94	BACS	£15.80	8
Mr M Collier	Signage play area	4169	BACS	£70.00	14
Mrs D Pott	Litter Pickers	00010/24	BACS	£145.09	9

***Power to pay**

1.	Local Government Act 1972 S.112
2.	Local Government Act 1972 s.137
3.	Local Government Act 1972 S.111
4.	Local Government Act 1972 S.133
5.	Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 ss.23,25
6.	Public Health Act 1875 s.164
7.	Public Health Act 1980 ss.43, 50

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8.	Local Government Act 1972 S.142
9.	Litter Act 1983 ss. 5,6
10.	Post Office Act 1953, s.51;
11.	Highways Act 1980, section 274A
12.	Charities Act 1993, section 79
13.	Public Health Act 1936, section 87
14.	Open Spaces Act 1906, subsections 9, 10

iv)

Discuss & Agree Staff/Volunteers Christmas Gifts

Resolved 24/11/10.03

The Following was agreed for the Staff/Volunteers Christmas Bonus/Gifts;

Paid staff:

Clerk = £0

Donna & Laurie Pott, Litter Pickers (now also Bugle Distribution!) = £100

Peter Forster, Bugle Distribution Overseer = £50

Bugle Compiler (now Justin Hook) = £25

Volunteers:

David Randall, Planting etc. = £50

Matthew Kelmsley, VAS = £50

Brandon Mahon, Defibrillator = £50

Simon Loughe, Defibrillator = £50

v)

Agree the Clerks COL Salary Increase in-line with the NJC Pay Award 2024-25

Resolved 24/11/10.04

It was agreed to approve the Clerks cost of living pay-rise in line with the annual NJC Pay Scales increase for 24/25, from £18.10 per hour to £18.72 per hour (SCP 26), and to approve that it be backdated to 1st April 2024.

24/11/11

Councillors Reports and Items for Future Agenda's

Cllr. Rushman requested that the Clerk send a thank you letter to Adrian Frost for his hard work and time cleaning the sign at the FSG roundabout towards the Hotel.

The Clerk was asked to put a piece in the Bugle regarding the Defibrillator cPAD and what to do in a case of suspected cardiac arrest.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 13th January 2025 at 7:30pm, in the Fornham St Martin Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9:43pm

Signed: *J. Barrett*

Date: 10th February 2025