

FINDERN PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Kate Sharpe

Findern Parish Rooms, Lower Green, Findern, Derbyshire DE65 6AS

Tel: 07444 085807

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Findern Parish Council held via Zoom Meetings software at 7pm on 10 September 2020

Present: Councillors T Brown, M Ratcliffe, R Rose, C Smith and M Woodhouse.

Also present: Mrs K Sharpe (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

The meeting was recorded for accuracy of minutes. The recording would be deleted once Minutes were approved at subsequent meeting.

2552/20 **Apologies for absence**
None, all Councillors present.

2553/20 **Declaration of members interests**
Councillor Woodhouse declared an interest in Item 12.3 on the Agenda.

2554/20 **Public Speaking**

Members of the public:

A resident/business owner close to Findern Primary School had highlighted the issue of inconsiderate parking at school pick up and drop off time, with cars blocking access to spaces for his customers and access for delivery trucks.

RESOLVED that, although parking is not within the remit of the Parish Council, the Clerk would write to the school on behalf of the business owner, to request that a letter be sent out to parents highlighting the issue and asking for more considerate parking.

The resident business owner also highlighted an issue of visitors to the Pump track parking and visiting his business to use toilets and request water bottles to be filled.

RESOLVED that Councillors would visit the site and then discuss the issues at a future meeting.

Police Liaison Officer:

No Police officer was present at the meeting and no report had been received.

District Councillor Report:

Councillor Andrew MacPherson was not present at the meeting and had not submitted a report.

District and County Councillor Report:

Councillor Ford was not present; however, he had submitted the following report: -

- An Extraordinary Group meeting was taking place at Derbyshire County Council on 10 September 2020 to discuss the growing issues around Local Government reform, that

are outlined in a forthcoming White paper expected late September or early October 2020. This paper would have a massive impact on local government going forward, with the possibility of the creation of Unitary authorities and the dissolving of District and Borough Councils amongst proposals up for future consideration; also bringing changes to Town and Parish Councils. These would be a “once in a generation” changes, with significant impact for South Derbyshire and its residents. Councillor Ford would continue to keep the Parish Council and residents informed of progress. County, District and Borough Councils had been working on ‘Vision Derbyshire’, a concept where all the 8 Districts and Boroughs Councils work more closely and formally together with the County Council, excluding Derby City. The County Council were hopeful this proposal would be acceptable to the Secretary of State.

- There was also a Planning White paper on the table, which proposed substantial changes to the Planning process. All councillors were urged to read this. The document had been made available on line at www.gov.uk . Consultation ends around the 3rd week in October 2020.
- Locally, Councillor Ford had attended a presentation at the Highfields Spencer Academy to look around the new Primary school which had recently opened its doors.
- Councillor Ford was monitoring the planning applications for sites at Sycamore Avenue and Doles Lane in Findern.
- Councillor Ford had pressed the Highways team at Derbyshire County Council again to complete the lining work on Heath Lane/Longlands Lane.
- South Derbyshire District Council were reviewing the sustainability and safety of the Saturday freighter service; a considerable amount of commercial waste had been found in the freighters when they had been emptied and this is totally unacceptable and dangerous.

2555/20

Co-option of Councillors

RESOLVED that Graham Cooke and Baldip Dosanjh be appointed as co-opted Members of Findern Parish Council, joining once the Acceptance of Office has been signed.

Response to emails from residents

- The Council had received an email from a resident expressing concern about a large vehicle parking at Longlands Lane. Although the vehicle was parked legally, the Clerk would write to Highways to report the electric cables crossing over pavement.
- A resident had reported to the Council the lack of clear signage at Longlands Lane causing delivery drivers to overshoot the lane for Longland Mews and then having to turn round on Hillside. It was suggested that extra signage be erected on the corner with Hillside to indicate clearly the properties on Longlands Mews. Clerk would contact South Derbyshire District Council to enquire if signage could be erected.

2556/20

Minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9 July 2020 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2557/20

Variation of order of business

None.

2558/20

To determine which items, if any, of the Agenda should be taken with the press and public excluded

It was **RESOLVED** that the item already listed on the Agenda should be taken with the press and public excluded.

2559/20

Chairman's Report

The Chairman welcomed the public to the monthly meeting of Findern Parish Council and took the opportunity to welcome Councillors Baldip Dosanjh and Graham Cooke onto the Council.

The village was actively campaigning against the planning application for storage containers on the land off Common Piece Lane. Leaflets were delivered to every house in Findern with guidance on appropriate objections and where they can be submitted before the deadline of 11 September 2020. The Chairman thanked the volunteers who helped with delivering the leaflets.

The Chairman reminded residents that the Councillors are all volunteers, who give their time freely to help the community. Councillors have to follow the rules and regulations that govern Councils and this can sometimes seem as if the Council are not acting quickly enough or that it does not care. The Chairman assured residents that Councillors do care for their village. The Chairman also advised that whilst Councillors did pay attention to the Findern Community Facebook page, they do not comment on posts, as this is not how Findern Parish Council conducts its business. Any resident wishing to contact the Council regarding an issue please do so via the Clerk at clerk@findernparishcouncil.org or 07444 085 807 or through the website at www.findernparishcouncil.org

The Chairman thanked everyone who continued to help friends or neighbours through to Coronavirus crisis.

2560/20

Report of the Parish Clerk

a) **To update Councillors on Speed Watch scheme for the village**

The Community Speed Watch Co-Ordinator had confirmed that should the Council wish to proceed with a scheme, the first step would be to arrange the initial training session. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions this would be delivered via Microsoft Teams and takes between 60-90 minutes. There is a follow up training session, on another day, at the side of the road and is more an equipment and safety familiarisation session.

The Clerk had contacted those residents who have previously expressed an interest in Road Safety in the village; and the information had been posted on the Parish Council's website and Facebook page and the Community Facebook page.

Three people had come forward so far. This may need to be publicised to every household via a newsletter to achieve a greater response.

b) Update on FP12 Canal footpath repairs

The Clerk had spoken to the Canal Trust and the planned work from June – August had not been scheduled by them. The Footpath Closure order was issued by Derbyshire County Council and the Clerk had approached them to find out whether they had scheduled the work and if yes, requested a new start date for the work. No response had been received from Footpaths Officer.

c) Update on FP20 Baxter's Way

This is the pathway that leads from Heath Lane up to Willington Road round the KGV playing field. Derbyshire County Council have confirmed that this was Footpath 20 and the path was maintained by DCC but they have no plans for any work on the route. At the last meeting the Parish Council resolved to have the whole length cut back, and with the bird nesting season now over (end of August), that work would commence shortly. The Clerk had submitted a search to the Land Registry to find out who actually owns the land.

d) DCC Action Grant

The Clerk had submitted an application to Derbyshire County Council Action Grant scheme to support the funding of the installation of the Pump Track. The bid had been successful and the Council was awarded £10,000.

e) Update on dog bins for Highfields

The Consortium of developers had advised they are happy for the Parish Council to install 4 dog waste bins at site on the development. They said that they would then ask the Green Space management company to take on the emptying of the dog bins. This however would add an extra £1.40 on the service bill of each household.

The Council was asked to consider that as the Parish Council receive a significant contribution in Concurrent Function specifically because of the Highfields development, that the Parish Council takes on the responsibility of the emptying too. The cost from SDCC for emptying the bins would be £173.68 per year per bin = an extra £694.72 per year on bill from SDDC.

RESOLVED that the Council would take responsibility for the bins and ask SDDC to add these to their schedule.

The Consortium have asked the Council to check with the planning department at South Derbyshire about any restriction on the type of bin and the site, and then send information to the Consortium to get a final approval on type and proposed sites. The 4 sites have been identified by Councillor Smith and the Clerk.

f) Update on Noticeboard for Highfields

Councillor Smith had obtained a plan from Western Power showing clearly that electric cables run under the site proposed by landlord for the noticeboard. The Clerk will have the site scanned by an electrician with a CAT Scanner; and then go back to landlord with an alternative, if the proposed site is too dangerous to dig because of electric cables.

g) ROSPA report on equipment at play area on KGV Playing field

The annual ROSPA check of the play equipment has been carried out on the Council's behalf by SDDC's insurers. This has demonstrated that the majority of the play equipment meets required standards. Just one item on the set of swings at the KGV had an issue with worn suspension shackle bushes. These should be replaced and this work will be carried out by SDDC. This annual ROSPA check augments the monthly operational checks carried out by SDDC and the visual weekly checks done by the Council's Lengthsman. In the report, on the General Notes for the playing field it was noted that b) one perimeter gate is missing and should be replaced.

RESOLVED that the gate at the KGV should be discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

h) Response from DCC following report on condition of stiles on FP7 & FP10.

The Clerk had reported the issue of the wobbly stiles on FP7 & FP10 over Gostiles and Rushymeadow Way. A reply had been received from the Footpaths Officer at DCC as below:
I inspected both footpaths yesterday and at the time of my inspection I can advise that the stiles on Footpath 10 were all in a satisfactory condition. There was one stile on Footpath 7 with a wobbly lower step, I've discussed this with the landowner this morning and they have agreed to repair their stile urgently today.

RESOLVED that the report and actions be noted.

2561/20

Members Reports

a) Garden of Remembrance/Cemetery update

Councillor Ratcliffe reported that South Derbyshire District Council had responded positively regarding the suggestion that the Parish Council submits a quote to replace the whips that had died in the hedge that was planted earlier this year. Councillor Ratcliffe and Woodhouse would work together on this and report on their progress at the next meeting.

b) Findern in Relief Fund

Councillor Brown gave an update on this fund. She is making progress on changing authorised signatories on bank account. A further update would be brought to the next meeting.

c) 'Bug Hotel' at Stanhope Woods

Councillor Radcliffe had had a positive meeting with the landowner; who had asked for more time to consider the Parish Council's request for access to the land to rebuild the Bug Hotel and to carry out maintenance required on some of the trees (reported at earlier meeting).

d) VAS Signs

Councillor Ratcliffe had not been able to progress this project. He would bring a report to a future meeting.

2562/20

Matters for discussion or determination

a) To receive update on food bank and consider review of funding

Currently there was no one who needed any help from the food bank for various reasons such as benefits now in place or health improving. Therefore, any remaining items had been donated to a local charity. There was £69.81 still on account at The Village Store. This would remain on account there in case an emergency comes in. Penny and her team of volunteers continue to help where needed.

The report was **NOTED**.

b) To review and consider adoption of amended Health & Safety Policy

RESOLVED to adopt the amended Health & Safety Policy for the Civic Year 2020/21.

c) To consider the request from Woodgrow Ltd. for permission to site storage and erect poly tunnel on land owned by the Parish Council

Members had no objection to the proposals. Councillor Woodhouse had declared an interest in this item and did not speak or vote on the item.

RESOLVED to give permission to Woodgrow Ltd. to site storage and erect poly tunnel on land owned by the Parish Council, subject to the necessary planning application being made.

d) To consider a request to apply for a TPO on tree adjacent to public footpath at Gostiles

RESOLVED that the Clerk would approach the Tree Officer at South Derbyshire District Council for advice on applying for a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on this tree.

e) To consider the suggestion to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for the village

Members were keen to look into the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for the village. It was suggested that a steering group be set up to explore how this can be done. Hilton Parish Council were currently consulting on their Neighbourhood Plan and could be a good source of information.

RESOLVED the Clerk would contact Hilton Parish Council to seek a meeting with their steering group to learn from their experience of developing a plan.

f) Consideration of Remembrance Day event

It was acknowledged that the Remembrance Day event may not be able to go ahead in the usual format. A decision would be taken at the October meeting.

RESOLVED that the Clerk would order a Poppy wreath from the British Legion.

g) Consideration of Christmas event

Members acknowledged that the Parish Council may not be able to arrange a Christmas event this year, but would certainly ensure that tree and lights were installed for the Christmas Period.

RESOLVED that item would be discussed at the October meeting of Council.

h) To discuss parking at KGV Playing Field

Members discussed the issue of parking at the playing field, which was sometimes an issue now the Pump track is attracting visitors from the village and beyond. Members discussed signage for the field gate, which regularly gets blocked, and moving timber gate to give additional parking north of its current position.

RESOLVED that the Clerk would explore ownership of land north of the gate with Land Registry and make enquiries with Highways and Rights of Way officer at Derbyshire County Council about what would be possible.

i) To discuss phase 2 of development at KGV Playing Field

With the installation of the Pump Track now complete, Members considered the next stage of development at the playing field.

RESOLVED that the Clerk would look into the types and prices of outdoor gym equipment and bring this information to the October meeting.

2563/20

Planning Matters

Members **NOTED** the following planning applications: -

Consultations

- a) **Ref. No: DMPA/2020/0721** – 36 Alton Way, Littleover (Highfields).
Single storey rear extension, with eaves of 2.25 metres and maximum height of 3.45 metres extending 4 metres from the rear wall.
- b) **Ref. No: DMPA/2020/0613** – 4 Willow Farm Court, Findern,
Extension to the existing attached garage.
- c) **Ref. No: DMPA/2020/0854** – Dhami Acres, Bakeacre Lane, Findern
Replacement outbuilding

Decisions

- a) **Ref. No: DMPA/2020/0682** - Tower House, Findern
Approval of details required by conditions 3 and 4 of permission ref. DMPA/2020/0323 (relating to external alterations to existing attached garage to facilitate its conversion to living accommodation)
Approved (Delegated Decision).
- b) **Ref. No: DMPA/2020/0557** – 2 Cardales Close, Findern
The replacement of the existing conservatory roof.
Approved (Delegated Decision).
- c) **Ref.No: DMPA/2020/0553** – 5 Wallfields Close, Findern
The erection of front and side extensions.
Approved (Delegated Decision).

- d) **Ref. No: DMPA/2020/0526** – 142 Doles Lane, Findern
The erection of a 2-storey rear extension and alterations including a garage conversion.
Approved (Delegated Decision).
- e) **Ref. No: DMPA/2020/0625** - 65, Longlands Lane, Findern
The felling of 2 Field Maples and 1 Horse Chestnut covered by South Derbyshire District Council Tree Preservation Order no. 70
Approved (Delegated Decision).
- f) **Ref. No: DMPA/2019/1234** – Land to the south and east of Hollybrook Way, Portico Road and Bowbank Close (Highfields Farm), Rykneld Road, Findern
Approval of reserved matters (access, layout, scale, appearance and landscaping) for 44 dwellings and associated infrastructure, including new roads and junctions pursuant to outline permission ref. 9/2016/0592
Approved (Committee Decision 26 08 20).

2564/20

Finance

- a) Members approved the following items for payment: -
Authorised BACS payments – T Brown and C Smith

Cheque No.	Payee and Description of service or goods	Nett	VAT	Gross
NW C 27/07/2020	Eon Electricity Bill – village green	£13.39	£0.67	£14.06
UTB BACS 04/08/20	South Derbyshire CVS - Salary payment July	£1227.25	£0.00	£1227.25
UTB BACS 04/08/20	Aucuba Landscapes Ltd. - Cut & strim at KGV, Hillside and The Green. Hedge Flail at KGV July	£333.35	£66.67	£400.02
UTB BACS 04/08/20	DALC Training Fees - 2 places Law and Good Practice October Course TB & KS	£100.00	£0.00	£100.00
UTB BACS 04/08/20	DALC Training Fees - 1 place Risk Assessment Course KS	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00
UTB BACS 04/08/20	Pictorial Ltd. Printing of 2 aluminium signs for KGV Pump track	£172.00	£34.40	£206.40
UTB BACS 04/08/20	Tudor Landscapes- installation of 2 aluminium signs for KGV Pump track	£137.54	£0.00	£137.54
UTB BACS 04/08/20	Advanced Gas Services (Boiler Service Parish Rooms)	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00
UTB BACS 04/08/2020	P Hawker (Mowing)	£45.00	£0.00	£45.00

P1039

P1039

NW C 31/08/2020	Eon Electricity bill	£13.84	£0.69	£14.53
UTB BACS 01/09/20	South Derbyshire CVS - Salary payment July	£1279.57	£0.00	£1279.57
UTB BACS 01/09/20	Easy Growing Landscapes Maintenance of Planters and Garden of Remembrance	£110.00	£0.00	£110.00
UTB BACS 10/09/20	Firs Farm Nursery – Bespoke filled planters, empty, water and refill Findern Planters	£659.20	£131.84	£791.04
UTB BACS 10/09/20	Page Wheelan – printing of leaflets for village about planning application	£81.00	£0.00	£81.00
UTB BACS 10/09/20	DALC Purchase of 2 x Good Councillor Guides plus postage	£11.64	£0.00	£11.64
UTB BACS 10/09/20	Aucuba Landscapes Ltd. - Cut & strim at KGV, Hillside and The Green. Hedge Flail at KGV August	£363.35	£72.67	£436.02
UTB BACS 10/09/20	Reimburse Martin Woodhouse for purchase of 2 large storage containers	£23.33	£4.67	£28.00
UTB BACS 10/09/20	Viking Direct Stationery order - 1 x colour Ink cartridge	£16.49	£3.30	£19.79
UTB BACS 10/09/20	Viking Direct Stationery order - 1 x black Ink cartridge and 2 reems of paper	£27.79	£5.56	£33.35
UTB BACS 10/09/20	Clerk's Expenses for July-September	£143.33	£4.80	£148.13
UTB BACS 10/09/20	Broxap Ltd. – Purchase of litter bin for KGV	£185.00	£37.00	£222.00

b) Members noted Income received: -

Date of credit	From	Into Account	Amount
31/07/2020	Interest	Nat West R	£0.21
28/08/2020	Interest	Nat West R	£0.19

c) Bank Account Reconciliation Report/Budget Monitoring Reports

Members **NOTED** the Bank Account Reconciliation Report/Budget Monitoring Reports up to 31 August 2020 (including Current and Reserve Accounts Balances).

2565/20

Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were **NOTED**. No action to be taken.

- DALC Circular July 2020 - forwarded 13/07
- SDDC Risk assessment and guidance signage for play area reopening – forwarded 13/07
- Toyota Motor Manufacturing UK - Community Liaison Committee Communication – Yearly meeting Burnaston - forwarded 23/07
- DALC August 2020 Newsletter and Training Update – forwarded 10/08
- From NALC, Consultation Re Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's proposed reform of the planning system - forwarded 11/08
- From DALC - Climate Emergency survey and invitation to sit on Climate Committee - forwarded 19/08
- DALC Circular August 2020 - forwarded 10/08

2566/20

Reports from Councillors attending meetings of outside bodies

Village Hall Committee – Councillor Rose reported that finally, after individual risk assessments had been done for various groups, activities had now started back up at the Village Hall.

2567/20

Date of next meeting(s)

It was **NOTED** that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council would take place at **7.00pm on Thursday, 8 October 2020**.

2568/19

Exclusion of press and public

RESOLVED that in view of the nature of the business about to be transacted it was advisable that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw

2569/20

Exempt item(s)

Items considered: -

Bee's Tea Room update

Meeting Closed at 9.30pm
