

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 at the Methodist Church at 7.00pm on 10 February 2022

Present: Councillors T Brown, Councillors G Cooke, B Dosanjh, S Holmes, A Pratt, M Ratcliffe, R Rose, T Scott, C Smith and M Woodhouse.

Also present: Mrs K Sharpe (Clerk) and 7 members of the public.

2848/21 Apologies for absence

No Apologies, all Councillors present.

2849/21 Declaration of members interests

Councillor S Holmes declared a personal interest in item 11.3 on the Agenda, Recruitment of Parish Warden; he was related to one of the candidates.

2850/21 Public Speaking

Members of the public:

- A resident thanked the Council for their donation to the Derbyshire Blood Bikes charity.
- A representative of Findern Historical Society confirmed that their archive is now being stored at Murray's Funeral Directors.
- A representative of the newly formed Findern Social Group confirmed that they now have a constitution and have held their first meeting. The group propose to hold a Soap Box Race on 18 September 2022; they have applied for a road closure order to hold the event and would have more details available once the road closure is granted. The group had agreed to arrange other events in village; with the aim to raise money to run events with any surplus to be donated to charity such as Derbyshire Blood Bikes – which was their charity for 2022. On the 29 April 2022 they would hold a Race Night at the Village Hall. The group have asked the Parish Council to cover the £71.00 cost of hiring the hall. This request would be added to the next Agenda.
- The resident asked whether it would be possible to have a village diary page – the Clerk would look into setting this up on the Council's website.
- A resident queried whether the sandwich advertising board displayed on The Green by the coffee shop should be there; they are concerned that this would set a precedent for other businesses.
- A resident expressed concern about the building debris left on the pathway to Gostiles.
- A resident expressed concern that the conifer trees on the boundary of the piece of land off Common Piece Lane had still not been cut. The Clerk advised an email had been sent to the owner requesting that these be cut, but no reply had been received.
- A resident wanted to know when the Brook Close Community Room was due to re-open. Councillor Ford said that he would look in to this.
- Murray's have set up a bereavement support group. The first meeting had taken place and had been well received. The next meeting would take place on Thursday 17 February at 11am.

- Steve Tiso was once more Chairman of Findern Footpaths Group. The group had been clearing Blackthorn and carried out planting at Crow Park Way. He advised that he had the offer of some bees for Stanhope Woods. They were also looking into grants to develop the pond in Cardales Meadow and this application could be extended to include the pond at Stanhope Hole.
- One of the organisers of the Christmas event on 22 December 2021, was present at the meeting and thanked the Parish Council for their support with the Santa Sleigh event. She offered the support of the Santa's elves to help with any Jubilee events planned.
- A resident suggested that the Parish Council commission a young artist to create a mural on the walls under the bridge at Crow Park Way. Members agreed to put this on the next Agenda to discuss.
- A resident suggested the creation of a community garden in Findern; asking whether there was any land that could be made available for this; with the aim of helping people who were isolated and improve mental health. Members agreed to put this on the next Agenda to discuss.

Police Liaison Officer:

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

District Councillor Report:

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

District and County Councillor Report:

Councillor Martyn Ford was present at the meeting and gave the following report: -

- Highways at Derbyshire County Council had issued their capital spend programme details for 2022/23. Re-surfacing at Common Piece Lane was included in the list. Re-surfacing of High Pavement would be pulled into capital programme for this year.
- There had been an exciting announcement on The County Deals Pathfinder scheme, of which Derbyshire is one of the lead authorities. More details will be forthcoming in the weeks and months following.
- County, District and Borough Councils are working collaboratively on the levelling up agenda.
- Note also that Derbyshire County Council set a Council Tax rate of 3%, below the 5% that could have been agreed, recognising pressures on households across the county.
- The District Council are proposing a + 1.95% increase, although this is still to be approved.
- Freeport initiative is still progressing.

2851/21

Response to emails from residents

a) Request for support for soap box event insurance

The group organising this event had asked whether the Parish Council's insurance could be used with additional cover taken out specifically for the event. A representative at the meeting confirmed that the group had now made enquiries about obtaining insurance independently. However, they asked whether the funding of the insurance could be included in a donation to the group to organise the event which was one of several events proposed by the new group – Findern Social Group; including a children's event on the King George V Playing Field.

RESOLVED that the request for funding would be included on the Agenda for the next meeting; along with a request for permission to use the KGV for the children's event.

b) Request for volunteer opportunity with Parish Council for DoE

The Council had received a request from a year 9 student at Littleover Community School for 3 months volunteer work with the Council. This would be part of the student's bronze Duke of Edinburgh award.

RESOLVED that the student could volunteer for 1 hour of litter picking on the Highfields development and a Member of the Parish Council would sign the form every week to say the job had been carried out.

c) Concern over three bridges crossing Hell's Brook at Highfields

An email had been received by the Parish Council from a resident concerned about the safety of the three bridges crossing Hell's Brook; these are not yet finished and have been subject to a planning application.

The Clerk advised the resident that this is a matter for the District and City Councils and the Clerk had asked the resident to email the District Councillors to look into this.

d) Issue of dog fouling around Bolton Way at Highfields

A resident had emailed with details of an issue of dog fouling around Bolton Way at Highfields. Councillor Cooke went to meet with the resident taking along the 'pick up or pay up' template to use in the area.

The issue was also reported to SDDC who had put up lamp post signage in the area and advice had been given to the resident about collecting the description of offenders and details of times that the problem occurs, and how to report this to SDDC Environment team so that they can try to speak to offender and/or issue fines.

2852/21

Minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13 January 2022 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2853/21

Variation of order of business

None.

2854/21

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

None.

2855/21

Chairman's Report

The Chairman welcomed all to the February meeting of the Council. Since the last meeting there had been no social events in the village; however, there are a number of events planned in the next few months; therefore, residents are advised to keep a look out on the noticeboards and on the Parish Council website for details of these.

The next phase of work planned at King George V playing field would be a basketball area with a fixed basketball net and goal post. Work on this should begin in the spring.

Councillor Woodhouse had very kindly volunteered his time to plant two new trees at the King George V Playing Field; a Sessile oak in memory of HRH, Prince Phillip, The Duke of Edinburgh and a Field Maple for Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. It was very fitting that the two trees stood close together, just as Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip did for many years.

2856/21

Report of the Parish Clerk

a) License for land at Crow Park Way

The Land Agent at Carter Jonas had advised that Highways England have agreed to renew the Licence to Occupy for the Parish Council. The Land Agent would have the necessary documents drawn up and these would be brought to Council at a future meeting.

b) Additional dog waste / litter bins for Highfields

The representative from the Consortium had emailed all other members asking them for permission for the bins, on the basis that if he has not heard from them by the end of February, it will be understood that they have no objections to the installation of the bins and permission to install would be given to the Parish Council.

c) Gateway signs for village

Photographs and plans of the proposed sites had been submitted to the Highways Officer for him to carry out a Highways Extent search to confirm the locations were suitable. No update had been received prior to the meeting.

d) SDDC – Use of Hillside for Jubilee events

Following the decision made at the January meeting to hold two of the Jubilee events at Hillside, the Clerk approached South Derbyshire District Council for permission to use their playing field. SDDC responded asking for more details of the type of events proposed so they can consult with their Property/Legal Team to check these types of events could be held at the site. There was a Hire of Parks and Open Spaces booking application form and guidance notes, which should be completed, and the Council need to ensure all requirements were in place. Therefore, the Parish Council should confirm the plans as soon as possible and submit the completed form, in order to have confirmation the site can be used for the proposed events.

e) Easter event date confirmed - Saturday 16 April 10.00am-12.00noon

Following on from concerns raised about this event clashing with the church service on Easter Sunday, Easter Saturday 16 April was suggested as an alternative and is provisionally booked for 10am till 12noon. Also, there was a suggestion that an Easter Bonnet Parade could also be held at the same event.

RESOLVED to approve the booking of the event for the morning of the Easter Saturday 16 April 2022.

2857/21

Members Reports

a) Wildflower area at KGV and tree planting at KGV update

Councillor Woodhouse reported that the area alongside the King George V Playing Field needed to be strimmed back as low as possible to be ready for wildflower planting. The planting should be done prior to the end of March.

RESOLVED the Clerk would ask the Ground Maintenance Contractor to trim the area as soon as possible.

Councillor Woodhouse confirmed that the two container grown trees had been planted at the King George V Playing Field; this was the Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee tree and Prince Phillip's Memorial tree. The tree destined for the Doles Lane area would have to be planted in the future, once permissions were obtained from Highways.

RESOLVED that the Clerk would organise commemoration plaques for each tree, similar to the one on the Hornbeam tree.

b) Findern in Relief Fund

Graham Cooke, now confirmed as a Trustee of the charity, would look into the change of bank signatories and administration contact.

c) Stanhope Woods – Licence to Occupy

The Clerk confirmed an application had been submitted to South Derbyshire District Council for permission for the proposed tree works at Stanhope Wood. A decision should be made by 21 March 2022.

d) Platinum Jubilee weekend

Members discussed plans to mark Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. Events proposed include: -

- Thursday 2 June in the evening – Jubilee Lighting Ceremony - prior to this ceremony at 9.45pm, the suggestion was to have a concert from 7pm with a 40s style singer. There was a discussion about whether the concert should be at the Village Hall or at Hillside Playing Field which would allow people to bring picnics. Councillor Ratcliffe had provisionally booked a 40s Singer – videos of the singer would be circulated to Councillors for them to approve.
- Friday 3 June Tree Commemoration at King George V Playing Field. This would be for the new tree especially planted there.
- Saturday 4 June there was a Jubilee Fete planned for The Green in support of the Village Hall.
- Sunday 5 June, joining in the 'Big Lunch' national event at Hillside Playing Field with Children's entertainment.

RESOLVED that a working party would be formed to progress plans for these events. The Clerk would contact those Councillors interested in joining the group and then organise an initial meeting prior to the next meeting of the Parish Council. The Clerk would also approach members of the Santa Sleigh event to ask for their support for the Jubilee events.

2858/21

Matters for discussion or determination

a) Approval of quotes for basketball area at KGV (equipment and groundworks)

Members considered the two quotes received for the groundworks. Members also considered which basketball/goal post to order. Members had already indicated that they preferred the equipment from HAGS.

RESOLVED to approve the quote from HSL Utilities at £12,875.00 + VAT

RESOLVED to order the HAGS Philadelphia basketball/goal post at £5,549 + VAT

- b) Consideration of quotes for new play equipment for the King George V Playing Field
Members considered quotes for several options of new play equipment. However, Councillors were concerned that this could over-crowd the playing area.

RESOLVED to put a hold on the installation of any additional play equipment at the playing field until after the basketball area had been installed.

- c) Recruitment of Parish Warden

Closing date for applications had passed and there had been two applications for the post. Interviews had been set for 17 February 2022. The Clerk asked Members to delegate the appointment decision to the HR Committee; who would interview the candidates.

RESOLVED to delegate the appointment decision to the HR Committee.

RESOLVED that the Clerk could order suitable equipment for the new Parish Warden; also, to look into the location of a bin where any litter collected could be disposed of.

- d) Permission for the Village Hall to use The Green for the Jubilee Fete on Saturday 4 June
Members considered the Village Hall's request.

RESOLVED to give permission for the Village Hall to use The Green for the Jubilee Fete on Saturday 4 June 2022

- e) Request from Councillor Rose to consider moving Parish Room noticeboard to The Green
Councillor Rose made the suggestion that the noticeboard, currently located beside the Parish Rooms, would be more visible if moved to The Green, alongside the bus stop. Members thought this a good idea.

RESOLVED the Clerk would look into whether permissions or licence would be required to locate the noticeboard on The Green.

- f) Request from WI for volunteers to help with the Well-Dressing

Information on the Well-Dressing had been circulated to all Members. It was acknowledged that the skills and knowledge needed were no longer available in the village. It therefore, would be difficult to carry out a Well-Dressing this year. It was suggested that a committee be set up and contacts made to develop the skills and knowledge in the village. Etwell Well-Dressers are acknowledged as experts.

RESOLVED the Clerk would contact Etwell Parish Council to make contact with the Well-Dressing group in the village.

2859/21

Planning Matters

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

Consultations

- a) **Ref. No. DMPA/2021/0680 – Archway Motors, Doles Lane, Findern**
Demolition of existing buildings and the erection of 16 dwellings and associated works.
- b) **Ref. No. DMPA/2022/0023 – 10 Main Street, Findern**
Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed single storey side extension.
- c) **Ref. No. DMPA/2022/0093 – Yusen Logistics UK Ltd, Burton Road, Findern**
Relocation of staff car park to allow external storage area on existing car park area.

Decisions

a) **Ref. No. DMPA/2021/ – Glebe House, 10 The Green, Findern**

The relocation of detached garage (garage as approved under application 2019/0884)
Approved (Delegated Decision).

2860/21

Finance

a) To approve Concurrent Function Return 2021/22

Members considered the prepared figures for the Concurrent Function Return for 2021/22.

RESOLVED to approve the Concurrent Function Return for 2021/22 and submit to South Derbyshire District Council for payment of Concurrent Function allocation.

b) Members approved the following items for payment: -

Authorised BACS payments – Councillors R Rose and C Smith.

Cheque No./BACS	Payee and Description of service or goods	Nett	VAT	Gross
BACS UTB 22/01/22	South Derbyshire CVS - Staff salaries January	£1315.35	£00.00	£1315.35
BACS UTB 10/02/22	Aucuba Ground Maintenance – remarking of pitches January	£54.00	£10.80	£64.80
BACS UTB 10/02/22	South Derbyshire Electrical Ltd. 5-year Electrics check and certification. Test of Emergency Lighting, replacement of failed emergency light.	£285.00	£57.00	£342.00
BACS UTB 10/02/22	Viking Direct – printer and inks for Cllr. T Brown	£110.48	£22.10	£132.58
BACS UTB 10/02/22	Viking Direct – Stationery, inks, pens and paper	£33.56	£6.71	£40.27
BACS UTB 10/02/22	Reimbursement to the Clerk for the purchase of 3 x Tree Guards via Amazon (Black Country Metalworks)	£422.97	£84.60	£507.57
BACS UTB 10/02/22	Clerk's Expenses for 09/12 to 12/01; phone, WFH allowance, mileage, postage, zoom monthly subscription.	£97.56	£2.40	£99.96
BACS UTB 10/02/22	Bee's Tea Rooms – External water usage from Parish Rooms - March 2020 to Sept 2021	£163.52	£0.00	£163.52

c) Members noted Income received: -

Date of credit	From	Into Account	Amount
31/01/2021	Bank Interest A/c No. 99697971	NW Reserve A/C	£0.21
01/02/2022	Sarah Pritchard / Find Ltd. - Parish Rooms Rent	Unity Trust Bank	£333.33

d) Bank Account Reconciliation Report/Budget Monitoring Reports

Members **NOTED** the Bank Account Reconciliation Report/Budget Monitoring Reports up to 31 January 2022 (including Current and Reserve Accounts Balances).

2861/21 **Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were **NOTED**.

- DALC January 1 Newsletter – forwarded 14/01
- DALC January 2 Newsletter – forwarded 28/01
- DALC Details for their Spring Seminar – forwarded 04/02/2022

2862/21 **Reports from Councillors attending meetings of outside bodies**

None.

2863/21 **Date of next meeting(s)**

The next Meeting of the Parish Council would take place at **7.00pm on Thursday, 10 March 2022**, at the Methodist Church, Lower Green in Findern.

2864/21 **Exclusion of press and public**

None.

2865/21 **Exempt**

None.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm