

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Farningham held at Shand Hall, High Street, Farningham on Wednesday 10th April 2024 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Daryl Burns (Chairman), Andie Fitzsimons, Philip McGarvey, Kevin McGeough, Carol Salmon, Krishna Shanmuganathan, Alan White (SDC, in part) and Roger Gough (KCC, in part).

In attendance: one member of the public (in part), and Helen Penney (Clerk).

1. Apologies and reasons for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted for Laurence Ball (SDC).

2. Election of Vice Chair

None.

3. To fill the current vacancy via Co-option

None.

4. Declarations of personal, prejudicial and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda and updates to members' register of interests.

None

5. To consider, and approve if appropriate, which agenda items are sufficiently confidential as to warrant exclusion of members of the press and public under the provisions of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

None.

6. Trident

To be completed by Cllr Salmon. **Action: Cllr Salmon.**

Members agreed to discuss the agenda in the following order:

8. Report from the District Councillor.

Cllr White reported that the Development & Conservation Advisory Committee at SDC received an update on the Local Plan at their last meeting on Tuesday 26th March 2024 and that the meeting was live streamed on YouTube and available to watch for six months. The next steps and plan moving forwards will be discussed at the next Development & Conservation Advisory Committee meeting.

Cllr White and the member of public left the meeting.

9. A Public Open Session. Members of the public will be welcome to address the Parish Council with any local concerns they have. Please note this item will be limited in time at the discretion of the Chairman.

None.

10. Approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 13 March 24

The Minutes from the Parish Council meeting on the 13th March 2024 were approved and signed.

11. Clerks report.

The Clerk reported that the member of public that requested a memorial bench in Irving's Corner has been back in contact and would like to proceed. Members agreed they can also plant a rose bush and would like to confirm wording for a plaque before it is ordered and installed.

The Clerk advised that from the 1st April 2024 SDC stopped providing black bin bags to residents.

The Clerk advised that a date for the end of year audit is to be confirmed.

The Clerk reported that Laura Trott is due to visit Crockenhill and Eynsford and would Members like for her to include Farningham. Members agreed and asked the Clerk to contact Laura Trott's office. **Action: Clerk.**

12. Planning.

12.1 Planning log circulated by the Clerk on 5th April 2024.

Members noted the planning log.

12.2 Planning Applications. To consider any planning applications and to include any received by the Clerk after the agenda has been served to Councillors.

Reference: 24/00489/HOUSE

Site: Little Pastones High Street Farningham Kent DA4 0DE

Proposal: Conversion of the garage to living accommodation and extend the raised patio to the rear of the property. Alterations to fenestration.

Comments by: 14th April 2024

No comment.

12.3 Planning applications for noting but not for comment.

Reference: 24/00533/WTPO

Proposal: Large Beech tree in front garden to be removed

Site: 1 London Road Farningham Kent DA4 0JP

Noted.

Reference: 24/00836/WTCA

Proposal: Eucalyptus tree (front garden) remove the dead and dying limbs/branches back to the new living shoots.

Site: The Croft High Street Farningham Kent DA4 0DE

Noted.

12.4 Enforcement requests with SDC.

Members noted the log.

12.5 Sevenoaks District Council Local Plan 2040.

Covered under agenda point 8.

12.6 To receive a report from Cllr McGeough on updates from Protect our Greenbelt Together.

Cllr McGeough reported that the group is continuing with its work to campaigning against development of the greenbelt.

Cllr Gough arrived at the meeting.

Cllr McGeough advised that, for the Parish Council to be prepared for Consultation 19, support from a professional strategic planning consultant will be necessary. Members agreed for Cllr McGeough to draft a brief to be used as part of the tender process and asked the Clerk to contact Crockenhill and Eynsford Parish Councils to see if they would like to take a collective approach. The Parish Council would then consider what was feasible, dependent on costs and timings. **Action: Cllr McGeough and the Clerk.**

7. Report from the County Councillor.

Cllr Gough reported that the 20mph roundel outside Cherry Tree Cottage will be installed as per the original consultation.

Cllr Gough advised that he will see if anything more can be done regarding support for flooding at Lion Cottages as the National Flood Forum has not been as helpful as originally thought.

Cllr Gough reported that the A20 safety working group is progressing the potential installation of average speed cameras by engaging with Kent Police, investigating spec and type of camera and obtaining quotes. Cllr Burns asked if average speed cameras would be the most appropriate solution because Kings Roundabout causes drivers to slow down so the average speed of a vehicle over the 40mph zone would naturally reduce. Cllr Gough advised that he would investigate this further. **Action: Cllr Gough.**

Cllr Gough added that an application for the countdown markers has been sent to the Department of Transport for approval, as they are not standard signs, and, although illegal righthand turns along the A20 have not been found to be a contributing factor to accidents, he will ensure they continue to be discussed as the A20 project develops.

Cllr Gough left the meeting.

12.7 Solar Park adjacent to M20.

Members noted the correspondence.

12.8 Neighbourhood Plan.

Members requested that the Clerk ask Eynsford Parish Council if they would like to consider

producing a joint Neighbourhood Plan and deferred the decision to proceed with a plan to a later date. **Action: Clerk.**

13. Finance Items for noting and decision.

13.1 To approve items payable and note items paid and receipts.

Noted.

13.2 Flexed budget March 2024.

Noted.

13.3 Cultural Grants Programme, funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, opens on 15 April 2024.

Members agreed that the Clerk can apply for a suitable project especially if the deadline is before the next meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

13.4 Grant request for the Kent Beekeepers Association.

Members asked for the association to complete a grant request form. **Action: Clerk.**

13.5 Defibrillator cabinet at the Pied Bull.

Members noted that the Clerk has the replacement cabinet and is requesting quotes for it to be installed as quickly as possible at the Pied Bull car park.

14. Highways including

14.1 Traffic Regulation Order to extend the double yellow lines along the High Street.

Members noted that KCC had proceeded with the consultation.

14.2 Correspondence regarding parking on Till Avenue.

Members requested that the Clerk discuss with SDC and ask if logs to prevent parking are possible or if they can suggest any other solutions. **Action: Clerk.**

14.3 Measures to try and prevent fly tipping at Farningham Woods – potential barrier or CCTV.

Members agreed to monitor the situation and, if fly tipping becomes a regular occurrence, a barrier and/or CCTV can be discussed. Members asked the Clerk to progress removing the dummy CCTV cameras along the High Street after asking each property owner if they would prefer for the unit to be removed or, if they would prefer to adopt the system attached to their property. **Action: Clerk.**

14.4 Delays to 20mph Scheme.

Covered under agenda point 7.

14.5 To note the confirmed new KCC Footpath SD350 at Farningham and Definitive Map Modification Order 2024.

Members noted the order and that the Clerk will now arrange for the map of Farningham next to the noticeboard to be replaced. **Action: Clerk.**

15. Aspiring Cross-Channel UNESCO Global Geopark - Kent Downs

Members noted the scheme and that Farningham is included within the Geopark boundary.

16. Family Fun Day – 21st August 2024, 10:30 to 13:30.

Noted.

17. Christmas event – carols and mulled wine, Saturday 7th December 2024.

Members noted that the time for carol singing needs to be confirmed.

18. Emergency Planning / Community Resilience resources.

Members noted the draft emergency plan from SDC. Cllr McGarvey advised that he would let the Clerk know when to add resilience planning back onto the agenda. **Action: Cllr McGarvey.**

19. Friends of Farningham

Cllr Salmon reported that the first working party of the season was very well attended however, there has been another caravan set alight at the Thames Water pumping station and that a skip and machinery would be needed to clear the area. Members asked the Clerk to investigate and ask the appropriate authority to act. **Action: Clerk.**

20. Urgent Business that occurs and requires attention before the next meeting may be reported at the Chairman's discretion.

Cllr McGeough advised that following a power cut on Monday 1st April 2024 if residents are cut-off for 12 hours or more, they can request a claim for compensation.

The meeting closed at 20:55.

Date of next meeting 8th May 2024.

Requests for items to be added to the next agenda to be with the Clerk by 30th April 2024.

Items Paid

**Farningham Parish Council
PAYMENTS LIST**

Vouche	Code	Date	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
162	Salary On Costs (Tax, NI etc)	01/03/2024	Tax/NI	HM Revenue and Customs	X	67.06		67.06
167	Maintenance Assets/Open Spaces	05/03/2024	Fly Tipping	Sevenoaks District Council	S	550.00	110.00	660.00
173	Pension (PC & Clerk's contributions)	07/03/2024	Pension contribution	Nest Pensions	X	97.53		97.53
172	Salary On Costs (Tax, NI etc)	13/03/2024	Tax/NI	HM Revenue and Customs	X			
170	Bank charges	14/03/2024	Bank charges	Handelsbanken	X	9.95		9.95
174	Electricity Charges	19/03/2024	Electricity supply	npower	L	353.32	17.67	370.99
179	Election Expenses	21/03/2024	Election expenses	Sevenoaks District Council	X	155.55		155.55
176	Postage/Stationery/Print	21/03/2024	Printing	Miss H Penney	X	5.00		5.00
175	Telephone /Broadband	21/03/2024	Phone & Broadband charges	Miss H Penney	S	4.12	0.83	4.95
169	Computer	21/03/2024	Acrobat	Miss H Penney	S	16.64	3.33	19.97
177	Anonymous Donations	21/03/2024	Leaf Blower	Miss H Penney	S	274.17	54.83	329.00
180	Donations to Voluntary Organisations	21/03/2024	DONATION	The Space	X	300.00		300.00
178	CIL	21/03/2024	Farningham Woods	Sevenoaks District Council	S	1,400.00	280.00	1,680.00
171	Clerk's salary (net)	23/03/2024	Clerk's salary	Miss H Penney	X	1,071.05		1,071.05

Total	4,304.39	466.66	4,771.05
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Receipts

**Farningham Parish Council
RECEIPTS LIST**

Voucher	Code	Date	Bank	Description	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
27	Anonymous Donation	15/03/2024	FPC Current Account (HB)	Anonymous Donation	X	149.50		149.50
28	Grant	15/03/2024	FPC Current Account (HB)	Kent Winter Support Grant	X	1,000.00		1,000.00
29	Bank Interest	28/03/2024	FPC Deposit (HB)	Bank Interest	X	13.95		13.95

Total	1,163.45	1,163.45
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Items Payable

Farningham Parish Council PAYMENTS LIST

Vouche	Date	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
1	10/04/2024	Membership SLCC	SLCC	X	183.00		183.00
2	10/04/2024	DONATION	Kent County Council	X	1,500.00		1,500.00
5	10/04/2024	Acrobat	Adobe Acrobat	S	16.64	3.33	19.97
3	10/04/2024	DONATION	The Space	X	1,000.00		1,000.00
6	10/04/2024	Bank charges	Handelsbanken	X			
4	10/04/2024	Street Light Repair	Streetlights	S	41.25	8.25	49.50
7	10/04/2024	Clerk's salary	Miss H Penney	X	1,075.08		1,075.08
8	10/04/2024	Tax/NI	HMRC	X	66.86		66.68
9	10/04/2024	Pension contribution	Nest Pensions	X	97.53		97.53
12	10/04/2024	Printing	Miss H Penney	X	5.00		5.00
11	10/04/2024	Phone & Broadband charges	Talk Mobile	S	4.12	0.83	4.95
10	10/04/2024	Electricity supply	npower	L	361.86	18.09	379.95

Total	4,351.34	30.50	4,381.66
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