

Forncett Parish Council  
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council  
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 19 November 2015 at 7.30pm.

In Attendance: Cllr B Frith (Chairman) Cllr B Humphreys, Cllr J Bowers, Cllr A Coleman, Cllr G Barnes  
Cllr D Welsby

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner  
4 members of the public

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – District Councillor Barry Duffin sent his apologies.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** – Cllr Humphreys declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6b on the agenda.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (15<sup>th</sup> October 2015)** – The minutes were approved without alteration and signed as correct by the Chairman.
4. **To consider matters arising from the minutes (for information only)** – Nothing to report.
5. **Open forum, to hear from members of the public, including reports from District and County Councillors** – A member of the public reported that a new planning application has been submitted for the Hope Valley site (2015 / 2550) and gave an outline of the major changes since the original (refused) application. The parish council have not received any notification and will contact South Norfolk Council.
6. **To consider planning applications, including:**
  - a) **2015 / 2462 – 19 Bentley Rd, Forncett St P – Two storey extension to the rear** – Councillors discussed the plans and generally felt that the size of the extension seemed too large for the plot. It would be a significant change to the line of the houses at the rear and would seem to be extremely close to the neighbours at the rear. With the plans showing windows in the gable end, parish councillors raised concerns about the close proximity and the lack of privacy for the neighbour behind the plot.
  - b) **2015 / 0505 – Laynes Farm – Planning appeal** – Due to the extremely tight deadline, the Chair had circulated a statement for submission to the Planning Inspector prior to the meeting and, with the approval of all Councillors, this statement was submitted on 18 November.
7. **To hear planning decisions from South Norfolk Council:**
  - a) **2015 / 1536 Tasway House – Erection of storage building – Approved**
8. **To consider any correspondence**
  - a) **NCC – Strategic and financial planning 2016/19** – Norfolk County Council have opened a consultation period from 30 October 2015 to 14 January 2016 for any interested party to comment on their budget consultation plans for 2016 – 19. Comments can be submitted via their website [www.norfolk.gov.uk/reimagining](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/reimagining)
  - b) **South Norfolk Local Plan documents** – Confirmation has been received from South Norfolk Council that the three local plan documents “Site Specific Allocations and Policies

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Document”, “Development Management Policies Document” and Wymondham Area Action Plan” have all been adopted.

**9. To receive the RFO report and consider the approval of the following payments:**

The clerk reported that, in the past, she and the Chair have independently monitored the bank balances and agreed a reconciliation prior to the meeting which stated a final bank balance including the payments to potentially be approved at that meeting. However, in light of the new transparency regulations and the new parish council website the clerk would instead produce a financial report each month, listing all transactions and reconciling to the banks statement. This will be circulated with the agenda and will also be placed on the website. Councillors agreed to the revised procedure.

Ch. No.	Amount	Payee	Notes
100052	£245.49	A Rayner	November salary
100053	£800.00	Forncett Flyer	Grant – 2 <sup>nd</sup> payment
100054	£750.00	Forncett Village Hall	Grant – 2 <sup>nd</sup> payment
100055	£45.00	NPTP	New councillor training

All payments were approved. It was also resolved to transfer additional funds into the savings account in order that the balance of this account reflects the sum of: Money being held for the village hall £13050, money being held in the defibrillator fund £1831 and the CIL payment £792.00 – total £15673. This would leave the balance in the community account as a true reflection of parish council funds. Therefore an additional £673 will be transferred to the savings account.

- 10. To hear information regarding Station Rd land and consider how to proceed** – The Chair reported that he and the clerk had met with Nick Hancox and his assistant at the land, in order that Nick could establish if there were clear boundaries to the land in question. His subsequent report confirmed that, although the parish council previously thought that because the name of the parochial charity had been removed from the Charity Commission register, this indicated that the charity no longer existed, this is not the case. As such, the land still belongs to the charity and the parish council remain managing trustee. There are several potential courses of action but in order to pursue any of them, it was recommended that the land be registered in the name of the charity in the first instance. It was resolved to proceed with the registration of the land in the name of the charity.
- 11. To review the use of the parish council noticeboards** – The Chair reported that he had removed a couple of large notices from the noticeboard near the school. Guidelines about adverts are shown on each noticeboard and it was agreed the clerk would repeat these in the Flyer report this month.
- 12. To consider projects for the parish partnership scheme 2016 / 17** – There had been no ideas put forward for consideration and Councillors agreed that they would not submit an application for the 16 / 17 year.

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- 13. To consider the New Rd gritting project** – This scheme was discussed again but, with no firm information being available on the current status, Councillors felt unable to make an informed decision.
- 14. To hear recommendations from the working party for the 2016 / 17 precept and budget** – The Chair provided everyone with information relating to the budget and the recommendations from the working party. Taking into account the projected spend for next year it was provisionally agreed to leave the amount of the precept at £12000, however, given the reduction in the council tax grant, it was agreed to wait for the tax base information to be issued by SNC before making a final decision.
- 15. Update on ongoing matters and outstanding issues**  
**a) Village sign** – The sign is still being worked on and it should hopefully be replaced in the Spring.  
**b) Village Hall** – A report from the Village Hall Secretary advised that the mobility ramp to the front entrance is complete and work should begin on the outside area in the Spring. Finances are in good order and events at the village hall continue to be well attended. Future events are published in the Forncett Flyers and new volunteers would be very welcome.  
**c) Highways and Public Rights of Way, including feedback from the rangers** – the rangers have visited and made contact prior to their visit. The Chair was able to meet with the highways ranger and the visit was very successful, with some long awaited tasks being undertaken. The Chair has passed his thank on to Highways. Footpath warden, John Wilde, assisted by Graham and Brian, has been very busy installing more Footpath signs.  
**d) Defibrillator** – The phone box public consultation period will end shortly.
- 16. To receive reports from:**  
**a) Safer Neighbourhood Police Team Report** – The clerk reported that crime statistics are not currently available due to a change in the reporting method from Norfolk Police. However, three Councillors reported on known crimes in the area. The Long Stratton Safer Neighbourhood team are holding two open days at Long Stratton Police Station on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> November and 30 minute appointments are available between 8.00am and 8.00pm by calling 101 and booking a slot.
- 17. Open forum, to hear from members of the public** – A member of the public asked if the parish council would support the introduction of a speed limit near the old CPS site. The Chair advised that, when advice was previously taken on this matter, it was suggested a speed limit may be considered once the houses are occupied and the request was backed up by residents.
- 18. Date of the next meeting is confirmed as Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10pm.