

Forncett Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 18 January 2018 at 7.30pm

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
District Councillor Barry Duffin
4 members of the public

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Gale.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** – None to declare.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (14 December 2017)** – The full minutes were not available due to a printer malfunction. The minute will be signed at the next meeting.
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** – District Councillor Duffin reported that there are no proposed changes to the parish boundary for Forncett, as a result of the Community Governance Review. Councillor Duffin also reported that Saffron Housing are going through a period of change. Their Chief Executive and Chairman have both recently left. One of the issues in the past has been that there was no-one (other than employees) on the board with housing experience but Cllr Duffin confirmed he will be fulfilling that role and Andy Radford (ex SNC) has been appointed as the interim Chair.
6. **To consider planning applications**
 - a) **2017 / 2824 – Cuthays, Low Rd – New first floor roof conversion with dormers and alterations** – Councillors considered the plans and agreed they were fully supportive of this application.
7. **To hear of planning decisions**
 - a) **None**
8. **To hear of planning applications considered between meetings**
 - a) **2017 / 2832 – The Grove, Wacton Rd – Demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of single new dwelling** – Comments were submitted confirming that, whilst Councillors didn't specifically object to this application, they did not feel the detail in the plan was sufficient. Cllr Humphreys advised that he understands that the applicant has recognised that the plans did not contain enough detail and this application has been withdrawn and revised plans will be submitted in due course.

Whilst discussing planning, the Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting at South Norfolk Council regarding the consultation for the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP). This covers that amount of housing and development planned for Broadland, South Norfolk and Norwich for the period to 2036. It is important to bear in mind that although the plan is for

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43,000 new homes to be built within the three districts, almost 36,000 of these have already been allocated.

The consultation includes all the information regarding the call for sites, all sites put forward and how they have been assessed. Forncett (St Peter & St Mary) and Tacolneston/Forncett End have been designated "service villages", although the assessment of this contains some dubious information e.g. having a school that is accessible by a footpath from all parts of the parish.

It was agreed to publish the consultation information as much as possible, to ensure residents have a chance to register their comments. It was agreed that the parish council will agree their response at the February meeting. There is a series of roadshows being held to publicise the information, one of these will be at the South Norfolk Council offices on 22 February 2018.

9. **To sign the precept form for South Norfolk Council** – The form was duly signed and the clerk will submit this to South Norfolk Council.
10. **Broadband update** – Cllr Humphreys confirmed that both new cabinets on Low Rd and Aslacton Rd have been enabled. However, a member of the public was present at the meeting to make the parish council aware that the installation of proposed Fundenhall Cabinet 9 has been put back for at least a year. The specific complaints of the resident are a) That the dates referred to in the contract were changed and b) that no-one was informed. The parish council confirmed that they would write a letter of support regarding this matter to Tom Garrod, Chairman of Digital Innovation and Efficiency Committee.
11. **To hear an update on the removal of the post boxes** – The Chairman confirmed that Royal Mail will be replacing the post box which was removed from Station Road, however, they will be siting the new box on Wacton Road. The parish council agreed that the previous sites considered on Station Road would be much more suitable, due to accessibility and road safety. The Chairman has drafted a response to Royal Mail as a last ditch attempt to persuade them to site the box on Station Road. The Parish Council agreed that the letter should be sent.
12. **To consider the potential 40mph speed limit extension on Station Rd and authorise the appropriate payment to Norfolk County Council** – The Chairman gave a brief summary of this project. NCC have confirmed the total cost to the parish council, including the cost of the sign, is £1900. If the final cost is not as much as this the parish council will receive a refund of the balance. Following discussion, it was unanimously agreed to proceed with the project and to use the CIL funds available of £1604.90.
13. **To receive the RFO report and consider the approval of the following payments:**

Ch. No.	Amount	Payee	Notes
100142	£ 287.59	A Rayner	Jan 2018 salary
100143	£ 800.00	Norwich Sunblinds	Blinds for village hall
100144	£1900.00	Norfolk County Council	Speed Restriction – Station Rd

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The Parish Council confirmed that they unreservedly donated the blinds to the village hall. All payments were unanimously approved. The Chairman also confirmed that he met recently with Robert Hosea regarding the Low Rd phone box project. Paint and plywood would soon need to be purchased and the parish council authorised this spend, to come from the grant received from South Norfolk Council.

14. To consider correspondence

a) Forncett St Mary War Memorial – Councillors were happy with the document from Historic England and had no further comments to add.

b) Litter Pick 2018 – It was agreed to undertake a litter pick again this year and a date of 7th April 2018 was agreed.

15. Update on ongoing matters and outstanding issues

a) Village Hall – The new blinds have been installed. The New Year's Day walk was extremely successful with 60+ people attending. Work on the change of constitution is progressing. Cllr Welsby said that there had been debate and discussion about the changes needed, mostly surrounding the safeguarding of the future provision of trustees and the role of the parish council as Custodian Trustee. The Chairman noted his thanks for the time taken dealing with this by Cllrs Welsby and Allen. The Chairman, Cllr Welsby and April Carlin (village hall management committee) would be visiting the solicitor this week to look at a revised draft constitution.

b) Highways and Public Rights of Way – Signs have been installed indicating the turn off to Ashwellthorpe, when leaving Wymondham via Silfield. New road name signs have been installed on Aslacton Road and Valley Farm Road. Two more are in poor condition, Long Stratton Rd at the Jolly Farmers junction and at the start of Station Road near the River Tas bridge. The clerk will report these. Tabernacle Lane will be closed at the junction of Gilderswood Lane at the end of the month, for repairs to the house which was hit by a lorry last year. A member of the public reported the edges of Cheney's Lane are crumbling away again, mostly due to the excess water flowing down the road. It was noted that the pot holes reported on Aslacton Road have still not been repaired.

c) SAM2 report – Phil Whiscombe was not present but did report that, yet again, Mill Road was the worst location for speeding vehicles.

16. Open forum, to hear from members of the public – No further comments.

17. Date of the next meeting is confirmed as Thursday 15 February 2018 to commence at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm.