

Forncett Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 18 July 2019 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
3 members of the public

Before the beginning of the meeting, the Chairman welcomed Richard Browes of Saffron Housing Trust Ltd to the meeting.

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Jackson.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** – None to report from parish councillors. District Councillor Duffin noted an interest in item 6 on the agenda, as a non executive director of Saffron Housing.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (20 June 2019)** – The minutes were approved without alteration and signed as correct by the Chairman.
4. **To consider matters arising from the minutes (for information only)** – The Chairman asked for any feedback regarding the new measures put in line to help with parking issues at the school. The general consensus was that the situation is slightly better. The Chairman also passed on his thanks to Councillor Allen for arranging the flower display on behalf of the parish council for the recent flower festival.
5. **Open forum, to hear from members of the public, including reports from District and County Councillors** – District Councillor Duffin reported that 'Go for it' grants of £300 are still available from the District Council. Grants for table tennis equipment (indoor and outdoor) are also still available, as are the usual member grants, although these are no longer available to precepted organisations.
6. **Saffron Housing – Land rear of William Lant Close** – The Chairman displayed the proposed plans onto the television in order that all present could see what Richard was referring to. Richard Browse spoke about a proposed development behind the existing Saffron housing on William Lant Close. A recent housing survey identified a positive need for affordable housing in the area. A small development of 10 rented properties and four shared ownership is being proposed and this includes improvements to the pavements from William Lant Close to the top of Tabernacle Lane. The proposals were discussed at some length and Councillors were generally supportive, although it was noted that absolute consideration can only be given once an actual planning application has been submitted. Some concerns were raised and these included the lack of parking for visitors and the lack of access to public transport, shops, doctors etc. Richard reported that it was hoped to submit a formal application by the end of this year. The parish council thanked Richard for taking the time to come to the meeting to

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discuss the plans.

7. **To consider planning applications – None** – Whilst there are no new planning applications to consider, the Chairman reported that an appeal has been lodged regarding application 2018 / 1944 at Tawny Farm, Station Road. The parish council agreed that their original comments should stand and no further amendment was necessary.
8. **To hear of planning decisions:**
 - a) **2019 / 1021 – 10 Orchard Close – Single storey side extension - Approved**
 - b) **2019 / 0933 – The Poplars, 6 Bentley Rd – Replacement of windows – Approved.**
9. **To report planning comments agreed via e-mail in between meetings** – The Chairman reminded everyone that as there is usually no meeting in August, planning applications would be circulated via email, to agree comments. If there is a significant application, a meeting can be arranged.
10. **Application for litter pick equipment** – South Norfolk Council have recently offered grants for litter picking equipment. An application by the parish council for 20 litter pickers, 19 hi-vis vests, 4 rolls of rubbish sacks and 4 rolls of recycling sacks has been successful and delivery should be taking place soon.
11. **To hear an update regarding Broadband provision** – Fundenhall Cabinet 9 is now live and some residents are already connected. The Village Hall connection has gone live today, with speeds of 50Mb expected. County Broadband held their meeting at the village hall to promote their solution, asking people to pre-order so that they can judge response.
12. **To receive the RFO report and consider the approval of the following payments:**

Ch. No.	Amount	Payee	Notes
100207	£ 335.12	A Rayner	July salary
100208	£ 30.00	Norfolk Age UK	Donation

The financial report, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved. Both payments were approved.

13. **To consider correspondence:**
 - a) **Donation request from Norfolk Age UK** – Councillors agreed to make a donation of £30, approved within the payments listed above.
14. **Update on ongoing matters and outstanding issues**
 - a) **Village Hall** – The fete was a great success, over £3200 profit. Thanks go to all of those who played any part and particularly the steering group led by Sally Hibbler. The success of the annual fete means it is becoming increasingly difficult to organise, so interested parties will be meeting to consider all options for next year. Tickets for the next event, food and the band 'She Said So' will be on sale soon.
 - b) **Highways and Public Rights of Way** – The hedges and general foliage around Austhorpe House are overgrown and encroaching on to the highway. Councillor Duffin confirmed that he will raise this with the owner of the building. Following the recent diversion on to Tabernacle

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Lane whilst the Anglian Water works were taking place, some of the ditches need re-instating as informal passing places have pushed in verges. There is concern as to where all the water will go when the wetter weather returns. It was also agreed to include an appeal in the Flyer report this month to residents to ask them to keep their hedges and borders trimmed back and not to allow them to grow over pavements and the highways.

c) SAM2 report – Following contact from a resident concerned about an increased speeding problem on Low Road, it was agreed to place the sign on an existing post to gauge if there is an issue. Someone made a plywood attachment to the bottom of the sign, possibly intending it to be humorous but Councillors supported Phil Whiscombe's view that it could be seen to trivialise the efforts of the SAM2 team to draw attention to the issue of speeding.

- 15. Open forum, to hear from members of the public** – A member of the public reported that the overgrown hedge is causing visibility issues at the junction of Station Road / Low Road.
- 16. To confirm the date of the next meeting as 19 September 2019.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.