

Forncett Parish Council  
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council  
held remotely on Thursday 15 April 2021 at 7.35pm

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

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

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – County Councillor Spratt sent his apologies.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** - None to report.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (18 March 2021)** – 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 cheque and paperwork for the flashing school speed signs has been prepared and will be sent off shortly.
5. **Open forum, to hear from members of the public, including reports from District and County Councillors** – As we are within the period of Purdah in the run up to the election, there is little to report. District Councillor Duffin confirmed that the County results should hopefully be available on 7<sup>th</sup> May.
6. **To consider planning applications:** None to report within Forncett. It was noted that the welfare unit at the Old Vineyard has been approved and work has started on the development of a building which was passed for planning permission in 2005 for a winery / shop.
7. **To hear of planning decisions and other information: None to report**
8. **To report planning comments agreed via e-mail in between meetings:**  
a) **2021 / 0451 Church Farm Barns, Low Rd – internal alterations to layout, air source heat pump and fenestration changes** – No objections, subject to the satisfaction of the listed buildings officer
9. **Neighbourhood Plan Grant 2021 / 22** – Following discussion, it was agreed that the parish council do not intend to consider a Neighbourhood Plan at this time.
10. **To review the Financial Regulations** – The Regulations were reviewed and it was agreed that no changes are needed at this time.
11. **Christmas Eve Flooding – Update** – Councillors Humphreys and Welsby reported that contractors had been surveying the river along its length through the village and as far as its junction with the River Yare, on behalf of Water Management and the Environment Agency, as a result of the flooding. A structure has been fitted within one of the ditches on

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Aslacton Rd, however, Councillor Humphreys believes this is in the wrong place, so awaits further information. The railings at the ford have been removed. The parish council is still waiting to hear as to when Natural England will attend, as this visit seems to be a crucial step towards any real progress. It does appear that as the flooding was classed as a 'major event' large sections of the River Tas are being surveyed but it was agreed that the Chairman will chase Natural England for a proposed date for a visit and Councillors were keen not to lose impetus on the progress made so far. Councillor Duffin advised that Graham Minshull is the South Norfolk representative on Lord Dannatt's Norfolk Flooding Alliance team, so it may be worth getting in touch with him.

- 12. Fly tipping – Spicers Lane** – The fly tipping on the land at Spicer's Lane has not been removed as yet although South Norfolk Council have confirmed they will attend. The officer at SNC is also investigating who the landowner is, in order that discussions can take place as to how to stop this happening again in the future.
- 13. To agree meeting arrangements – May 2021 onwards** – The legislation allowing parish council meetings to be held remotely ceases on 7 May 2021 and it seems there are no plans to extend this deadline. It is possible that the May meeting will therefore be held in the village hall, with all necessary precautions included. Members of the public can attend but this will need to be carefully managed. A final decision will be taken nearer the time.
- 14. Speed limits – update** – The Chairman and Councillor Bezkorowajny met with our Highways Engineer, Bob West, to discuss speed limits in the village. Councillor Bezkorowajny reported that the consideration for wide ranging speed limits did not appear to be generally supported and, whilst it may be considered on individual lanes within the remit of the Norfolk County Council Speed Management Strategy, Councillor Bezkorowajny felt this did not take into account all users of roads, not just those that live on them. Again, private fund raising to pay for changes to be implemented did not seem to be supported by NCC but Cllr Bezkorowajny advised that he would like to continue to pursue options relating to this. The Chairman reported that Bob West has recently announced he has been promoted to a role elsewhere within Highways, so the parish council can possibly raise the matter again with our new Highways Engineer, when appointed.
- 15. To consider the approval of the following payments:**

Ch. No.	Amount	Payee	Notes
SO	£ 357.06	A Rayner	April salary
DD	£ 52.68	A J Bell	April pension contribution
BACS	£ 261.06	Norfolk ALC	Annual Subscription
BACS	£ 330.00	Community Heartbeat Trust	Annual Maintenance x 3

- 16. To consider correspondence: None to report**

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- 17. Items for information and comment** – There has been flooding again on the footpath running alongside the sewage works. Anglian Water attended very quickly, with a second visit taking place today. A representative from the Ramblers was due to install steps at the start of the footpath from Tabernacle Lane towards the Turnpike but rain postponed the installation. Hopefully this will be done soon. The Chairman carried out a mini litterpick with the help of Peter Schmidt-Hansen, mainly concentrating on the ditch along Long Stratton Road. The village hall is hoping to open up to more clubs and groups as the lockdown regulations ease.
- 18. To confirm the date of the next meeting, the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, as 20 May 2021, commencing at 7.30pm – other arrangements to be confirmed.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.