

Forncett Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 15 July 2021 at 7.30pm

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
5 members of the public

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Barnes. District and County Councillor Barry Duffin also sent his apologies.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** – None to report.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (17 June 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 Chairman confirmed that the comments agreed at the last meeting regarding the village cluster sites forming part of the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) have been submitted. Councillor Humphreys reported that a date has been confirmed for the visit from Natural England and the Environment Agency relating to the floods of last year. It is hoped that a walk of the river will be included, although the banks are very overgrown at the moment and the situation is not a true reflection of the situation of last winter.
5. **Open forum, to hear from members of the public** – Nothing to report.
6. **To consider planning applications:**
 - a) **2021 / 1405 – Yew Tree Farm, Low Road – Demolition and rebuild of chimney stack** – The parish council have no objections to this application, subject to the satisfaction of the historic buildings officer.
 - b) **2021 / 1414 – The Honeypot, Aslacton Rd – Erection of self-contained annexe and garage** – The parish council have no objections to this application but did note that they expect the standard condition to be included ensuring that the annexe remain within the curtilage of the main house and is not to be sold off separately at any point in the future.
 - c) **2021 / 1193 – Beech Barn, Long Stratton Rd – Retention of timber store and climbing frame** – The parish council raised no objections to the application but did agree to ask that, should any concerns from neighbours regarding overlooking or lack of privacy be raised, that they are taken into account when reaching a decision.
 - d) **2021 / 1390 – Church Cottage, Low Rd – Conversion of outbuilding to annexe** – The parish council agreed to comment that, whilst they did not object in principle to the application, they did note that the plans with two kitchens, two front and rear exits, seem to indicate the potential for two properties. The parish council trusts that a condition will be included with any permission granted ensuring that the annexe remains within the curtilage of the main house and will not be sold as a separate dwelling in the future.
 - e) **2021 / 1494 Blacksmiths Cottage, Low Rd – Variation of condition to 2019 / 2337 re roof line & windows** – The parish council raised no objections to this application.

7. **To hear of planning decisions:**
a) **2020 / 2107 – Ponderosa, Gilderswood Lane – Conversion of workshop / barn to create annexe – Approved**
8. **To report planning comments agreed via e-mail in between meetings:**
a) **2021 / 1265 – 1 Mill Road – Two storey side extension to existing dwelling and proposal for children's play area in the rear garden** – The parish council did not object to this application but did comment that the lack of a detailed site plan makes it difficult to judge the impact. The plans do not give a true sense of the positioning in relation to the boundary and the road. Councillors did also raise some concerns regarding the height of the play area structure and the safety of the surrounding environment.
9. **Allotments – update** – The Chairman and Vice Chair, together with representatives from the Allotment group, met with the landowner recently and secured a twelve year extension to the lease. The allotments are very successful and there is a waiting list for new plots. After walking round the site, the landowner agreed, in principle to allocate space for two additional plots. It is hoped that he will visit again soon in the not too distant future and sign the agreement to formalise the additional plots.
10. **To consider the future of the Forncett Flyer** – The Editor of the Flyer, Su Leavesley, has indicated that she plans to leave the role after the December edition. Councillors unanimously agreed that Su has done an outstanding job and we have a parish magazine to be proud of and it would be a great shame if it were to stop publication altogether. Following discussion, it was agreed to appeal on the front page of the next edition of the Flyer for anyone to come forwards who may be interested in taking over the role. It will be stressed that it does not necessarily have to continue in the same format, or the same amount of editions as currently produced in a year.
11. **Spicer's Lane fly tipping** – South Norfolk Council have confirmed that the issue of fly tipping in this area has been passed to the Community Protection team for further investigation. They have also confirmed that a crew will check the area for litter and will clear 'what it is safe and reasonable' for the team to do.
12. **Footpaths – West Road** – Although commonly used by all, the hard surfaced section of West Road is not officially a Public Right of Way. This has been raised as a 'lost historic footpath' by Norfolk Ramblers and documentation supporting the claim as been submitted to get it recognised as a PROW before the Government deadline of 2026. All residents have received a letter but it will likely be some time before an official consultation takes place, due to the huge volume of work relating to these cases for NCC legal services.
13. **Highways – inc. Parish Partnership Scheme 2022/23** – The parish partnership scheme will be continuing for the next financial year, on the same basis as the current scheme. A 50% contribution is required towards schemes from parishes, with the other 50% to be paid by the County Council. It was agreed to place this on the agenda for the September meeting for further consideration.
It was also noted that, despite appeals in the Flyer, there are some very overgrown hedges in

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the village, encroaching onto footpaths and roads. The clerk will report these to NCC. Norfolk County Council have advised that they will be bringing back the 'Highway Ranger' Scheme.

Phil Whiscombe reported that data from the SAM2 indicates that volumes of traffic and also speeding are back to pre-pandemic levels. Mill Road, which is the road approaching the school, seems to have the most concerning speed data.

A member of the public reported an ongoing issue with surface water at Spring Lane. Anglian Water have attended but the water is still coming up through the road and it seems no action is being taken. The clerk will report this again. **Action AR.**

14. To receive the financial report and consider the approval of the following payments:

Ch. No.	Amount	Payee	Notes
SO	£ 357.06	A Rayner	July salary
DD	£ 53.74	A J Bell	July pension contribution
BACS	£ 58.08	S Leavesley	E-noticeboard fee

The financial report and all payments were unanimously approved.

The Chairman also asked for approval to release payment on receipt of an invoice to the electrician who will be undertaking lighting work at the village hall during August. The bill can be paid by BACS (with dual authorisation) and the Chairman advised that it did not seem reasonable to ask the contractor to wait until the September meeting. Councillors agreed to authorise that the payment be made on receipt of the invoice, subject to the satisfaction of the completed works.

15. To consider correspondence – The Diss, Long Stratton Safer Neighbourhood Team are running a Summer Tour starting on Monday 19th July where police teams will be visiting every parish/area in the area they cover. They really want to see as many people as possible. All the information is on the website [Norfolk.police.uk/summertour](https://norfolk.police.uk/summertour) The nearest locations are:

28/07/2021	10:30 - 12:00	Forncett St Peter - Aslacton Road by the church
30/07/2021	13:00 - 14:30	Forncett St Mary - Low Road by the Village Hall
28/07/2021	13:00 - 14:30	Tacolneston - West Way by recreation ground

16. Items for information and comment – The Chairman reported that a series of events will be held later in July and throughout August to raise funds for St Peter's Church.

17. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 16 September 2021 – As things stand at the moment, this meeting will be taking place after the removal of legal restrictions relating to coronavirus. Councillors agreed to carry on with additional spacing between tables and leaving plenty of spacing for public seating. Anyone wishing to use a mask can do so.

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