

Forncett Parish Council  
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council  
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 17 February 2022 at 7.30pm

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner  
7 members of the public

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Welsby and Allen. 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 (20 January 2022)** – 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, also District & County Cllr** – A member of the public supplied photographs of the bench at St Edmunds Church. It appears the verge at the Church has been worn away and is now used as a turning point for various vehicles but particularly delivery drivers. The bench had been hit a few times but was reversed into quite substantially this week by a van and now has one of the legs missing and is very unsafe. Following discussion, Councillors agreed that the bench should be removed as soon as possible to avoid an accident and either repaired or replaced.
6. **To consider planning applications** – None to report
7. **To hear of planning decisions – 2022 / 0056 – Rear of Four Seasons, Cheneys Lane – Prior Approval for change of use from agricultural building to dwellinghouse** – Approved.
8. **To report planning comments agreed via e-mail in between meetings: None**
9. **To consider plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee June 2022** – The celebrations are taking place over four days between Thursday 2 June and Sunday 5 June. The lighting of the beacon will take place at Forncett Tank Museum at 9.45pm on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and Stephen Machaye, owner of the tank museum, indicated he would be happy to host a small event in the evening in the run up to the lighting of the beacon. Stephen has hosted such events before and is aware of the temporary licence requirements, should it be agreed to proceed on this basis. Councillors supported this event and thought a small event planned at the village hall for Saturday 4 June could also go ahead, possibly along the lines of the scaled down village fete held last year. It was agreed to apply for the grant from South Norfolk Council, with a view that the funds could be shared to support both events. It was agreed to approach the various groups in the village, including Little Tractors, the WI, the school, the art group etc to get as many ideas and as much support as possible. It was agreed to hold a meeting at the village hall on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm

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to begin planning the finer details. All are welcome to attend. The idea of a new bench to mark the Platinum Jubilee was also discussed and this idea was widely supported. There was a discussion about the location and condition of the benches around the village and Councillors and residents were encouraged to think about all possible locations for any addition.

- 10. To consider grant request from CPRE** – This request was discussed and, whilst there was some support in theory for the action the CPRE are taking, Councillors agreed that it was not appropriate to spend precept funds on this.
- 11. Litter picks – 2021 & 2022** – The parish council took part in the scaled down litter pick last September and received the standard £20 payment from South Norfolk Council for taking part. However, the clerk has recently been informed that Forncett are also the winners of the prize draw payment of £200. The Chairman suggested that this amount should be used for a specific purpose and Councillors agreed it would be nice for this money to go towards a new bench. The parish council also agreed to participate in the 2022 litter pick and agreed a date of Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March.
- 12. To agree meeting dates for the forthcoming year** – It was agreed to continue with meetings on the third Thursday of each month (apart from August, when there is no meeting) and the meeting dates were therefore confirmed as: 17<sup>th</sup> March, 21<sup>st</sup> April, 19<sup>th</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup> June, 21<sup>st</sup> July, 15<sup>th</sup> September, 20<sup>th</sup> October, 17<sup>th</sup> November, 15<sup>th</sup> December, then moving into 2023: 19<sup>th</sup> January, 16<sup>th</sup> February and 16<sup>th</sup> March. It was also agreed to hold the Annual Open Meeting immediately before the April parish council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022, commencing at 7pm. Contributors will be asked to limit their reports to 250 words and be present to deliver them
- 13. To review the following policies:**
- a) General Risk Management Policy** – During the internal audit last year it was noted that the Council's policies did not include any mention of what actions would be taken in the event of a global pandemic. It was therefore agreed to include a new section, immediately after point 6, as follows: 'In the event of a regional, national or global health emergency the Parish Council will abide by all legally enforced regulations and take note of advice about procedures and conduct of meetings from Government, NALC and local authorities'.
- b) Health & Safety General Statement** – This policy was reviewed and Councillors agreed no amendments were necessary.
- 14. To receive the financial report and consider the approval of the following payments:**

Ch. No.	Amount	Payee	Notes
SO	£ 286.66	A Rayner	February salary
DD	£ 53.74	A J Bell	February pension contribution

Both payments and the financial report were unanimously approved.

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**15. To consider correspondence:**

- a) Letter regarding proposed academy status for Forncett CEVA School** – Councillors asked the clerk to respond to the letter with support for the Governors views and wishing them well for the future. **Action AR.**

**16. Items for information and comment** – The Chairman reported that the clerk's annual review is due and it was agreed that this would take place prior to the March meeting with the clerk, the Chairman and Vice-Chair. Also, the clerk has made contact with the Lieutenancy Office regarding the covid plaques discussed last year. The Forncett plaque will be presented at the beginning of the meeting next month.

A member of the public reported that no action has been taken regarding the debris in the river at Horsenford bridge. The Chairman reported that the Environment Agency have been in touch asking for landowner details, so the assumption is that they will be attending in due course. Mention was also made of the general disruption caused by the various road closures in the village, however, some of these relate to works being carried out by County Broadband and these works are due to finish in March, so hopefully the situation will improve.

**17. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 17 March 2022.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.