

Forncett Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 19 October 2023 at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Cllr B Frith (Chairman) Cllr B Humphreys, Cllr G Barnes, Cllr S Allen, Cllr D Bezkorowajny, Cllr M Sanders

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
9 members of the public

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Welsby. District Councillor Kim Carsok also sent her apologies. County Councillor Catherine Rowett is attending the parish council meeting at Great Moulton and hopes to come to Forncett as soon as the first meeting has finished.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** – None to report.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (21st September 2023)** – 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 including, if available, a report from District Councillor Kim Carsok and County Councillor Catherine Rowett** – District Councillor Kim Carsok sent a report which said that further information on the sale of South Norfolk House and also the Long Stratton bypass should be available next month. Diss swimming pool will be shut for around 8 months next year for extensive refurbishment, including installation of air source heat pumps and solar panels to reduce the carbon footprint of the building. Councillor Carsok has given £1000 from her Member's Ward grant to Friends of Forncett Primary, to support them with various projects.

County councillor Catherine Rowett also sent a comprehensive report giving updates on the following:

- Highways and road safety, including parish partnership information
- Coastal erosion and the nutrient neutrality regulations
- Public transport updates
- Information relating to the County Council budget (public consultation to be held during the Autumn)
- Recruitment drive for foster parents
- Household Support Fund

6. **To consider planning applications:**
 - a) **2023 / 2844 – Forncett CEVA Primary School, Low Rd – Single storey entrance extension, incorporating offices** – Following discussion, Councillors agreed to fully support this application.
 - b) **FUL / 2023 / 0034 – Old Court Farm, Wacton Road – Change of use to Sui Generis to enable receipt, transfer and temporary storage of asbestos waste. Transfer station to comprise three sealed, free-standing metal containers, pending removal to a licenced**

landfill waste facility (no treatment will take place) – The applicant and the agent were both present and the agent spoke briefly giving some background and further information about the application. Councillors asked several questions and members of the public present were also invited to ask any questions or raise any concerns that they may have. Following discussion, the parish council agreed that they did not have any objections to the application, subject to the control measures detailed in the application being applied appropriately and subject to the satisfaction of relevant agencies and parties eg. The Environment Agency.

7. To hear of planning decisions and information:

- a) **2023 / 0549 – Methodist Church, Long Stratton Rd – Change of use** – Withdrawn
- b) **2023 / 2246 – Balcara, Long Stratton Rd – Extension** – Approved
- c) **2023 / 2592 – The Old Vineyard, Overwood Lane – retrospective permission for coffee shop, associated parking etc** – Withdrawn (NB. Although this information was received from South Norfolk Council and therefore reported at the meeting, South Norfolk Council subsequently reported that the withdrawal notice had been sent in error and the application is still live and pending consideration).

8. To report planning comments agreed via e-mail in between meetings: None to report

9. Station Road land – for information only – The resident of the bungalow which backs on to the land owned by the parish council has recently asked for permission to cut back some branches overhanging into the gardens of the bungalow. The Chairman confirmed this was fine and also approved access on to the PC land, for ease of work, but stressed that this would be at his own risk.

It was agreed to hold a brief meeting of the Trustees of the Forncett Parochial Charity immediately after the November Parish Council meeting.

10. Parish Partnership Scheme 2024 / 25 – The Highways Office and Public Rights of Way Officer have assessed the issues at FP4 (behind the Methodist Church) and will provide a quote in time for the November parish council meeting.

11. Ongoing Highways issues:

- Spring Lane 'Give Way' sign – only reported at the last meeting and has already been replaced
- Village Gateway Scheme – Highways Officer confirms this has been allocated to contractors and should be done before the end of March 2024
- There was a nasty accident at the Jolly Farmers crossroads recently (well within the 30mph speed limit boundary) – it was noted that the overhanging hedge near the new houses at Austhorpe is not helping with the display of the SAM2 flashing sign
- Sign at Northfield Rd / Long Stratton Rd recently demolished by a car and reported to Highways – this has also been replaced
- More concerning issues reported by a homeowner at the junction of Tabernacle Lane / Gilderswood – Highways and County Councillor Rowett are aware and are trying to

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find, if not a solution, something that will at least make vehicles more aware of the situation.

- Further issues have been reported relating to inconsiderate parking at the school, resulting in some residents of Aslacton Rd being unable to leave their homes. The Chairman is in contact with South Norfolk Council regarding this matter.
- A member of the public reported a '7.5 tonne' restriction sign and the junction of Spicer's Lane / Cheney's Lane, which appears to be facing the incorrect way.

- 12. To hear updated information concerning the Forncett Flyer** – A new team will be announced in the October edition of the Flyer. Thanks to everyone involved for working so hard to ensure the Flyer continues.

- 13. To receive the financial report and consider the approval of the following payments:**

Both payments and the financial report were approved.

Payment method	Amount	Payee	Notes
SO	£ 326.05	A Rayner	October salary
DD	£ 61.12	A J Bell	October pension

- 14. To consider correspondence:**

a) Roadworks relating to Gigaclear fibre installation – Gigaclear have sent a long list of road closures relating to fibre installation works, running to January 2024. Please contact the clerk if you would like the full list of closures.

- 15. Items for information and comment** – The parish council usually discuss the budget for the forthcoming year in the November meeting. It was agreed that initial discussions would take place via Zoom, with the Chairman, Councillor Humphreys, Councillor Barnes and the clerk present. Recommendations will then be presented in full at the November meeting.

- 16. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 16 November 2023.**

The Chairman proposed to move the December meeting to Tuesday 19th December. This was approved. The November meeting will therefore be on the usual date of Thursday 16 November and the December meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th December.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.