

Forncett Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 18 February 2016 at 7.30pm.

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
4 members of the public

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – District Councillor Barry Duffin sent his apologies.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** - None to declare
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (21st January 2016)** – The minutes were approved without alteration and signed as correct by the Chairman.
4. **To consider matters arising from the minutes (for information only)** – South Norfolk Council have confirmed our chosen date of 2 April for the litter pick is acceptable. Arrangements will be made to pick the equipment up nearer the time.
5. **Open forum, to hear from members of the public, including reports from District and County Councillors** – Cllr Duffin sent a brief report confirming he will keep the parish council up to date with any developments at Hope Valley. Cllr Duffin also advised he had spoken to Gary Overland, Highways Engineer, to ask about extending the 30mph speed limit further along Aslacton Road. Gary thought an application for this would be unlikely to be successful.
6. **To consider planning applications, including:**
 - a) **2016 / 0236 – Old Court Farm, Wacton Road – Variation of Condition 1 and removal of condition 4 of planning permission 2015 / 1518 for empty gas cylinder tank compound to provide a fence rather than a hedge** – Following discussion, it was agreed Councillors had no objections to these plans.
 - b) **2016 / 0269 – Old Sale Yard, Station Rd – Variation to change boundary treatment on east side, from post and wire to timber fence** – Councillors had no objections to the plans but noted that the application was retrospective.
 - c) **2016 / 0276 – Northfield House, Northfield Road – Proposed alterations and extension to dwelling and alterations to vehicular entrance** – Councillors raised no objections to these plans, the majority of the work seems to be to the rear of the property and there appears to be little or no impact on neighbours.
 - d) **To hear planning updates relating to Hope Valley** – The Chair reported that an appeal has been lodged against the refusal of planning application number 2015 / 2550, as well as an appeal relating to the enforcement action. It was agreed that the Chair and the clerk would draft some wording, based on previous objections, circulate to Councillors for agreement and then submit to the Planning Inspector.
7. **To hear planning decisions from South Norfolk Council** – None
8. **To agree arrangements for the clerk's annual review** – It was agreed that Brian and Bev, as Chair and Vice Chair, would undertake the clerk's annual review in advance of the March

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meeting.

9. **To appoint an additional bank signatory** – Cllr Barnes agreed to be the third signatory on the bank account, to replace Jackie Bowers.
10. **To consider broadband provision at the village hall** – Cllr Coleman provided information about possible internet access for the village hall, which could be provided by BT at a special offer rate of £5 per month, unlimited access, for 12 months, with a possible small additional charge for delivery of the hub. If at the end of the 12 months it has not been deemed successful then the contract can be terminated. Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Coleman would propose this at the next village hall meeting, with the offer that the parish council will reimburse the village hall for the first twelve months of charges. If the village hall decide to go ahead with this, BT confirmed the service would be up and running within about a week.
11. **To consider any correspondence**
- a) **District Boundary Review timetable** – The clerk gave information from South Norfolk Council about the key dates for the boundary review. The consultation begins on 28 June 2016 with the results being implemented at the District Elections in May 2019.
 - b) **Streamlining the planning process – site notices and consultations** – The clerk reported that from 15 February 2016 South Norfolk Council will only be posting a site notice for a planning application where there is a statutory requirement to do so i.e. in a conservation area or listed building, defined as a major application, has an environmental impact assessment, affects a public right of way, does not accord with the provisions of the development plan or is adjacent to open land. SNC will continue to write to neighbours adjacent to the boundary of the site, or opposite the site if there are any front alterations.
 - c) **South Norfolk Older People's Forum – next meeting date** - This will be held at South Norfolk Council on Wednesday 16 March 2016, commencing at 10am. It was agreed that the clerk would put further information relating to this in the Flyer report.
12. **To receive the RFO report and consider the approval of the following payments:**
The financial report, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved. The payment listed was unanimously approved.
- | Ch. No. | Amount | Payee | Notes |
|---------|---------|----------|----------------------|
| 100062 | £245.29 | A Rayner | February 2016 salary |
13. **To consider co-option of a councillor** – South Norfolk Council have confirmed that, given no call for an election, the parish council can co-opt to fill the one vacancy. It was agreed to appeal in the Flyer.
14. **To agree a date for the annual parish meeting** – It was resolved to hold the annual parish meeting on 21 April, in advance of the standard parish council meeting. The clerk will begin to write to village groups and clubs for their reports.
15. **Update on ongoing matters and outstanding issues**
- a) **Village sign** – Nothing to report

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b) Village Hall - The secretary of the village hall has resigned and the village hall committee are keen to recruit volunteers for all aspects of running the hall, including events. The new PA system will be fitted shortly. The pudding night was well attended.

c) Highways and Public Rights of Way, including an extension to the 30mph limit on Tabernacle Lane – Works on Long Stratton Road have been completed today. A member of the public confirmed that highways located an obstruction which was considered to have caused all the problems. The road was dug up and further drains located that highways did not seem to be aware of. However, it was noted that regular maintenance and clearing of ditches and gullies would almost certainly have prevented the problem in the first place. Also, a request has been received to consider extending the 30mph speed limit to include the last two houses on Tabernacle Lane. Councillors discussed the request but felt that, given previous experience of speed limit requests and extensions, it was extremely unlikely to be considered by Highways. Councillors also felt that the nature of the road was self-limiting.

d) Defibrillator – Keith Fromings provided a report which confirmed that the Forncett End phone box has been officially adopted and the second defibrillator will shortly be installed. Keith is hoping that training sessions can be arranged shortly.

e) SAM2 report – Phil Whiscombe provided statistics from the SAM2 machine for the 11 weeks it has been in use. The machine has recorded 85000 vehicles during this time (one way only). More detailed statistics will be provided for inclusion in the Flyer.

16. To receive reports from:

a) Safer Neighbourhood Police Team Report- Crime statistics are available for December 2015 and these show four crimes during the month, one “other theft” and three “violence against a person”.

17. Open forum, to hear from members of the public – A member of the public asked if statistics from the SAM2 machine could be used as a tool to encourage police to attend with actual speed guns. The Chair advised that this could certainly be considered, when there was enough evidence to do so. Another member of the public asked about the section of road on Station Road which has almost collapsed. It appears Highways are aware as a cone appeared to mark the spot but the cone has since been removed. The clerk will raise this with Highways and also inform County Councillor Spratt.

18. Date of the next meeting is confirmed as Thursday 17 March 2016.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm.