

Forncett Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 19th September 2024 at 7.30pm

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
County Councillor Catherine Rowett
District Councillor Kim Carsok
5 members of the public

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Humphreys and Welsby. Condolences were extended to Cllr Humphreys whose father, Keith, had been an active member of village life for many years and was a parish councillor between 1976 – 1991.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** – Councillor Barnes declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6e on the agenda
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (18 July 2024)** – 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 reported that there are still various grants available from the District Council. If anyone has any ideas around community projects, groups or clubs, please contact the clerk in the first instance. Councillor Carsok also reported that South Norfolk Council has registered its formal objection to the Norwich to Tilbury pylon consultation, a copy of the document is available on the District Council website. Councillor Carsok also noted that information is available regarding the proposed 'East Pye' solar panel and battery storage project. The Chairman mentioned the recent contact from Long Stratton Town Council regarding their appeal against the refusal for South Norfolk House to become a listed building, which, unfortunately, came too late for the parish council to respond to. Councillor Carsok was not aware of the possible appeal.

County Councillor Catherine Rowett said that she had met with Adam Mayo, Highways Officer, recently, in order to discuss several things including the misplaced Tabernacle / Gilderswood Lane signs. The new Police and Crime Commissioner will be launching a consultation to hear feedback to shape the police a crime policies for the 2025 – 2029 period. Norfolk County Council are asking residents to ensure that any lithium batteries are purchased from reputable suppliers and meet UK safety standards. This comes after a spate of fires resulting from e-scooters and similar being charged. The Norfolk Rail Prospectus, last revised in 2013, is open for consultation: <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/environment-transport-and-development/norfolk-rail-prospectus-consultation-2024/>

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A member of the public present asked if the parish council was aware of the information in the recent District Council 'Link' magazine offering upgrades to septic tanks to ensure they meet current regulations. Although not currently aware, the parish council were supportive in principle and agreed it would be a good idea to share the information with a view to having enough people take part to make the project viable: [Home | Norfolk Nutrient Neutrality](#)

6. To consider planning applications:

- a) 2024/2405 - The Granary, Northfield Road - various works to render, balcony etc –**
Councillors had no objections to this application, subject to no concerns from neighbours relating to privacy and also to the satisfaction of the Heritage Officer
- b) For information only – Public consultation re battery storage facility –** There will be a drop in event at Wacton Village Hall on 16 October 2024 between 3 – 8 pm. This relates to a screening opinion – details can be found under application 2024 / 1495 on the South Norfolk Council website.

7. To hear of planning decisions:

- a) 2024 / 1408 – Land West of Spicers Lane – Custom building replacement dwelling – Refused**

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

9. To update on outstanding highways issues, including village gateways; Low Road junction and B1113 crossroads accident – The village gateway installation on the B1113 has still not taken place and all queries to Norfolk County Council regarding the terms of the agreement not being met have remained unanswered. There has been another serious accident at the Jolly Farmers crossroads and it appears that the road signs etc on the Long Stratton Road side remain where they ended up after the accident. The Chairman reported the accident to Highways and it does seem unfortunate that none of the original signs have been retrieved as they appear to be in a condition whereby they could possibly be used again. Councillor Allen mentioned the road markings at the Low Rd / Station Rd junction which are barely visible and it was confirmed that Norfolk County Council have agreed to replace these. Some of the road signs at the location, which are part of the same project, have recently been installed. It was also noted that the issue with water at the Spring Lane triangle continues. Highways have recently attended to fill in pot holes at the site but it is unlikely the repairs will last, given the constant water. A nearby resident remains concerned about the potential of accidents at the site as, during Winter, the running water often freezes.

10. To consider a donation request from Marie Curie – Councillors agreed to make a donation of £30.

11. To consider a grant request for grass cutting at the Churchyards (also Remembrance Sunday wreaths) – Councillor Barnes took no part in the discussion. Councillors noted that a grant of £600 had been made in previous years and were happy to approve this amount again. An amount of £19.99 to purchase a wreath for Remembrance Sunday was also approved.

12. To consider a request for 'speed limit' stickers for residents bins – A resident asked if the

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parish council would consider providing the stickers to go onto wheelie bins appealing for drivers to adhere to speed limits. This was discussed and Councillors felt happy to support this, in principle. The clerk will look into various designs and costs.

13. **To hear information regarding the Tree Warden role** – Robert Hosea has decided to step down from his role as tree warden. The parish council would like to pass on sincere thanks for all he has done.
14. **To hear information regarding the EVCP grants** – The Chairman confirmed that both applications have been submitted but no further information is available at the moment.
15. **To receive the financial report and consider the approval of the following payments:**

Method	Amount	Payee	Notes
SO	£ 357.07pm	A Rayner	Aug & Sep salary
DD	£ 66.94pm	A J Bell	Aug & Sept pension contribution
BACS	£ 149.78	S Leavesley	E-noticeboard charges
Dr card	£ 267.76	HMRC	Q2 clerk tax
BACS	£ 600.00	Upper Tas Valley PCC	Churchyard grass cutting grant
BACS	£ 19.99	Upper Tas Valley PCC	Remembrance Sunday Wreath
BACS	£ 256.62	A Rayner	Apr – Sept 24 expenses
BACS	£ 30.00	Marie Curie	Donation

The financial report and all payments were unanimously authorised.

16. **To consider correspondence:**
 - a) **South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocation Plan** – For information only. There are no sites in Forncett.
17. **Items for information and comment** – Nothing further to report.
18. **To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 17 October 2024**

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