

**Minutes of East Farndon Parish Council Annual Meeting of the Parish held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at the Village Hall commencing at 7.45 PM**

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**PRESENT:** Mr. R West (Chair), Mr. R Burton, Mrs. J Cooper, Dr C Crifo. Mr. P Hodgetts, Mrs. J Prew, Mr. M Curtis and Mrs. C Burton (Clerk to the Parish Council)  
**OTHER RESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE:** 10 and Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift

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**1. Apologies**

Apologies received and accepted from Reverend James Watson (Rector of the Faxton Group of Churches) and David Thake (Amenity Land Committee).

**2. County Councillor and District Councillor Report**

Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift (who is both the Parish's County and District Councillor) gave an update on NCC and DDC. Following its financial problems, NCC is projected to be on budget, having saved £64 million. However, it has weakened its services. DDC provides services that are mainly contracted services, so there is more certainty on costs and hence, there has not been a problem with its budget. After the Local Government Reorganisation, Daventry District will join with South Northamptonshire and Northampton. Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift advised that she is always available if there is a problem.

**3. Chairman's report**

Councillor West thanked everyone for attending, and reported as follows:

*As Chair of the Council I'd like to present a brief report on progress over the past year. This has been the year when access to Superfast Broadband finally arrived in the village, though I'm not sure how many people have taken advantage of this to date. The Council purchased a Speed Indication Device - or 'SID' - for the top of the village in response to continued concerns about speeding traffic. We have also installed a Defibrillator at the Village Hall and provided a training session to learn how to use it. In the autumn the Council supported the efforts of the working party who got together to spruce up the War Memorial and organise a well-attended service and exhibition to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One.*

*Over the next year the Council will continue to focus on the normal issues - speeding, parking, planning, potholes, etc - but also hope to tidy up the area around the spring and review the work of the Burial Ground Committee. We will also be keeping our eye on the Local Government Reorganisation which will replace Daventry District Council and Northamptonshire County Council with West Northamptonshire Council and what effect this has on us.*

*Finally I would like to thank all of those in the village who have supported the work of the parish council, for example with anti-speeding measures, and the Councillors themselves for their continued commitment. We said goodbye to Richard Green after many years' service as both Councillor and Chair, and we welcomed Mervyn Curtis and Julia Prew onto the Council as new Councillors. Last but not least I would like to thank Caroline Burton, our new Clerk, who has completed a successful handover in a short time, quickly getting up to speed in giving us the support and advice we need to make the Council run effectively.*

#### **4. Reports from village organisations: -**

##### **a) Parochial Church Council (PCC)**

Churchwarden, Richard Green, presented the report on behalf of the PCC.

- During the course of the year the PCC have met four times and amongst its discussions have been the ongoing matter of the closure of the churchyard and the plans for the installation of a WC, kitchen and ringing platform. A meeting with the Architect has taken place to discuss proposals for the latter, but progress is slow
- Work on the trees in the churchyard has been undertaken following damage during the winter months and maintenance and repairs have been carried out to the Church clock
- The Church Fete held in June proved to be very successful with excellent weather on the day. £1500 was raised for Church funds and the remainder donated to various local Charities. A donation of £130.80 was sent to both Rainbows and The Children's Society from collections at the Christmas services and £233 was sent to Farm Africa from the Harvest Festival collections and Supper
- The Village Hall continues to be fully utilised by regular local groups and monthly Coffee Mornings continue to support local organisations and good causes. Film shows and Jumble Sales have also helped to raise funds and help with the maintenance of the amenity land. A Fish & Chip Supper & Quiz was held in January
- The major issue this year has been the theft of lead from the Church roof in the Autumn. We are currently in the process of obtaining a faculty and planning permission for this to be replaced with stainless steel before any work can take place. The roof has been made water tight in the meantime
- A Safeguarding Policy is being set up within the Parishes in the Benefice and reports will be received on any concerning matters
- A further Lent Course will be held again shortly
- We are grateful to all those who continue to help in the running and maintenance of the Church and village communities and give of their time for this and also the tidying of the Churchyard. We are grateful too to Reverend James Watson for his work and ministry in our parishes
- The PCC extends thanks to you all

##### **b) Village Hall Trustees**

Councillor Cooper presented the report on behalf of the Village Hall Trustees – see attached.

##### **c) East Farndon United Charities**

Nigel Haynes presented the report on behalf of the East Farndon United Charities as follows:

*The trustees meet on a twice yearly basis with other informal meetings as required.*

*The charities income was slightly higher this year than for 2017.*

*Grants are given for new babies, for funeral expenses, when starting primary, secondary school and higher education, for the purchase of books, equipment and educational trips.*

*Other discretionary grants are given as the need arises.*

***At all times the Trustees must adhere to the original terms of the Charities Governing Document before grants are made.***

*In the summer, leaflets were delivered to East Farndon residents outlining the grants available this initiated a good response with eight educational grants being awarded. On a sadder note six funeral grants were issued during the year to the relatives of long standing village members.*

*Including the Christmas giving a total of 34 grants were issued this year.*

*At the end of the year, Richard Wright a trustee for many years resigned his position because he and his wife will be leaving the village. The trustees would like to thank Dick for all his work for the charity and wish him well for the future.*

**Finance:-**

*An annual update form has been sent to the Charity Commission.*

*Annual Accounts are available for inspection by written request to the clerk.*

**Summary-Annual Charity Accounts 2018**

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
DIVIDENDS	£7441.72	CHARITABLE GIVING	£6911.53
RENT	£92.00	ADMINISTRATION FEES	NIL
TOTAL	£7533.72	TOTAL	£6911.53

*Surplus income to expenditure £622.19.*

*The present trustees are:-Nigel Haynes (chairperson) Adrian Hill and Richard West. Richard Wright (Resigned 31.12.2018)*

*Clerk:-Pamela Haynes, New House Farm, East Farndon, Market Harborough, Leics, LE16 9SG*

**d) Burial Ground Maintenance Committee**

Richard Green presented the report on behalf of the Burial Ground Maintenance Committee – see attached.

**e) Neighbourhood Watch**

Bob Osborn presented the report as the Parish's Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, as follows:

*We are fortunate that we live in a relatively low crime village considering our proximity to Market Harborough. I attend three area meetings a year at Daventry Police Station, hosted by Sgt. Sam Dobbs who gives us a rundown of the overall policing situation in the Daventry area. The main concerns are funding shortages resulting in lack of beat officers both regular and PCSO not helped by some long term illnesses. Some villages sponsor their own PCSO as they see the need for a more regular presence. We were informed, at our last meeting, about C.I.R.V. Community Initiative to Reduce Violence, by Chief Inspector Daryl Lyon - this is an engagement with offenders to try to find the reasons for their offending (often repeat) and attempt to enable them to reform. Some good results have been recorded. To report an incident go to <http://www.northants.police.uk/contact> and for crime information /sct142/crime For a crime in progress phone 999. For other, contact phone 101 or email as above and to send information anonymously phone crime stoppers 0800 555111.*

**f) Footpath Warden**

The Footpath Warden, Alan Langley, presented his report – see attached.

**g) Women's Institute**

Jean Westwood presented the report on behalf of the Women's Institute – see attached.

**h) Amenity Land Committee**

The Clerk presented the following report submitted by David Thake:

*The land is in good shape, and the finances are good for a year or two. However I have been grass cutting the land for several years, and have decided to pass it on now. Also the edges have been strimmed, and the volunteer also has decided to stop this year. Sonya Fraser knows about the situation and will be making arrangements for cutting etc this year. If a volunteer/s would like to take over that would be fine, otherwise the land will have to pay for this service. If anyone would like to help, please contact Sonya. Now the charity insures the land for any 3rd party claim, and this costs about £230 per year. If they have to pay for grass and strimming this will be additional. Therefore they will need to fund raise annually after a couple of years, unless funds become available, or volunteers come forward. Any help would be gratefully received.*

**5. Finance**

Clerk reported that the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 have been successfully audited both internally and externally. Accounts are in good order and the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 are being finalised and will be brought before the Parish Council at the May meeting for approval.

**6. Any Other Business/Public Participation**

Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift noted that DDC offer a one-off grant of £500 for a village event (excluding events related to religious organisations).

**Date of next meeting** – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 - Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Councillor West thanked everyone for attending and presenting their reports to the Parish Council

Meeting closed at 8.21pm.

**Signed that the Minutes are a true and accurate record**

**Chairman** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dated** \_\_\_\_\_

Village Hall Committee  
Report of the Trustees  
March 2019

The Village Hall finances remain healthy with current balance of £22,120.67 in the Building Society and £14.38 cash in hand.

Unfortunately I cannot produce the Annual Financial Report until April

This year we had the Car Park resurfaced and the barriers replaced. With the help of a grant from Daventry District Council we were able to have new double glazed windows and doors.

The Hall has regular bookings, which include Play Group, Pilates, Dance classes, Art Group, Yoga, U3A and WI. It is popular for family gatherings and social events.

This year the trustees organised a Summer BBQ, which proved to be very popular. The Pub Night was a great success. The trustees invited the villagers to join them to celebrate Christmas with mince pies, cookies and mulled wine. As usual the Fish and Chip Supper followed by a Quiz was very well supported.

Letting remains the same at £5/hr for villagers and £10/hr for non-villagers. The Hall continues to be maintained to a high standard with the help of the trustees who keep it clean. This year we have had more pictures of the village donated.

The Trustees for the last year were, Lynn and David Deacon, Sheila Fox, Jan Cooper, Stephanie and Marlene Hook, Sue and Jim Grant and Bob Osborne.

The Trustees plan to continue managing the Village Hall and organise social events for the Village.

Lynn Deacon  
Chairman of Trustees

East Fordon Parish Council Burial Committee

Report for 2018/19

After the death of John Hyde I received 20 files Ref Burial Ground . It has taken me a long time to sort these out . A lot of the paper work was not for the burial ground but family and church items some going back to the 1960's . This left me with just 2 files to deal with. After going through them I now have 1 file plus the burial register and bank book . The bank account is with Market Harborough Building Society . New signatures were required for the account and this has been done . I await the return of a new bank book .

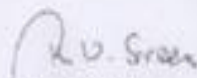
The result of all this work has shown the fees have not been revised since 1993 . New fees are as follows.

BURIAL PLOTS single	£ 250.00
BURIAL PLOTS double	£ 450.00
Erection of a Head stone	£ 135.00
Interment of ashes in a family grave	£ 80.00

The maintenance of the burial ground is on contract . Tenders are now being sent for 2019

Burial committee members

Russell Burton  
Richard West  
Richard Green

  
Committee chairman

## ANNUAL FOOTPATH REPORT 2018-19.

There are still three stiles which are not secure and wobble like a see-saw when you step on them. I have been reporting them to Streetdoctor for two years but I can only assume that work of this type is not regarded as what the contractors do, but that it is up to the landowner or other local people to sort out the problems. The three stiles are (1) on the Lubenham road, opposite the seat (path CP4); (2) on the Jurassic Way (CP5) just below Greenfields, crossing from the field into the driveway; (3) on the footpath (CP7) descending behind the houses from the top of the village towards New House Farm. It's the last stile on this path before Hayneses' land and not only is it insecure but it is set in a pit of mud. Whether the landowners concerned can be persuaded to spend a little time on fixing these problems, time will tell.

A stile which needed reinstating has now been fixed (also CP7) by Richard West. On the same path, much higher up towards the church, a stile was removed but Robert Gosling has re-erected it.

A new situation has arisen on the path which crosses the field next to the Dales from the Marston Road (CP 3) and connects to the Jurassic Way, which runs along the south side of the field. The owner of Rectory Farm has removed the hedge at the Marston side of the field, making two fields into one. Because he has not reinstated the path through the crop, walkers have now made their own path, not on the original line of the right of way across what was a separate field, but diagonally across the new double-sized field. The stile which was at the far side from the road, by the former hedge, had markers on to show the junction of the two paths. Now the hedge has gone, the stile has been thrown aside and the signs with it. If the landowner reinstated the path on the correct line, it would all be clear enough even in the absence of signs. I will contact Streetdoctor to see if the contractors will put pressure on to do this.

The closure of bridleway CP1 at the county boundary because of housing construction seems to be nearing an end, fortunately.

Despite these few problems our extensive network of paths is in usable condition and clearly people are making use of it and appreciating it.

Alan Langley  
11/03/19

#### EAST FARNDON W.I. REPORT 2018/2019

Since this time last year, East Farndon W.I. has continued with 12 members, although we had visitors from the village who enjoyed with us a very interesting talk and film on the work of the Illness Detection Dogs.

Other topics have been The Gardens of Historic Houses, the Woodland Trust and one of the most enjoyable occasions was a visit from the Pumpkin Man. A schoolmaster by profession, his hobby was growing pumpkins, everywhere. He was a very entertaining speaker who brought many specimens of his hobby, including pumpkin scones for our refreshments.

Our speaker last month was Tim Thornton, who showed lovely slides and had samples of his hobby, collecting and re-using Antique Jewellery. He particularly likes jewellery representing the Gold Rush. -- Who would have thought there would be any? Members brought their own jewellery and made a lovely display of items.  
Tomorrow, 13<sup>th</sup> March we hope to make Mango Chutney.

We did not hold our usual Produce Show in August due to the small number able to take part. Instead we had a visit to Gallone's Ice Cream Parlour, which was enjoyed by all who went. A tub of ice cream of your choice to take home was a lovely bonus.

In case you think we just sit back and enjoy, which we do, we also helped at Jumble Sales for Charity events, made cakes for the Cynthia Spencer Hospice, took part in Clifton WI Centenary celebrations. Several members made Poppies for the War Memorial and attended the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial.

Our 86<sup>th</sup> Anniversary falls next month and we hope to continue. Although few in number, New members or visitors are always welcome.

J L Westwood

12.03.2019