

**MINUTES OF THE FINDERN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER 2016 AT FINDERN PARISH ROOMS COMMENCING AT 6.30PM**

**Present:**

Cllr M Goodall (in the Chair)

Cllr R Brook, Cllr B Goodall, Cllr S Brook, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Woodhouse, Cllr Rose and Cllr Brown

1 District Council Representative was present at the meeting.

**AGENDA**

1. **Minute Number 3062/16 - To receive apologies for absence**

*Resolved: Apologies were received and accepted as follows:*

- *Cllr Smith due to other work commitments*

2. **Minute Number 3063/16 - Variation of the Order of Business**

There were no Variations to the Order of Business.

3. **Minute Number 3064/16 - Declaration of Members Interests.**

There were no Declarations of Members Interests.

4. **Minute Number 3065/16 - Public Speaking – (10 Minutes)**

**Minute Number 3065/16/A – Public Speaking**

There were no Members of the Public present at the meeting and there was nothing to report.

**Minute Number 3065/16/B – Police Representatives Report**

There were no Police Representatives present at the meeting and there was nothing to report.

**Minute Number 3065/16/C – District Council Representatives Report**

There were no District Council Representatives present at the meeting and there was nothing to report.

**Minute Number 3065/16/D – County Council Representatives Report.**

There were no County Council Representatives present at the meeting and there was nothing to report.

5. **Minute Number 3066/16 - To consider a resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960) to exclude members of the Public.**

***Resolved: In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest, that the press and public be temporarily excluded and were instructed to withdraw from the meeting.***

**6. Minute Number 3067/16 - Internet Banking – Previously reported under minute number 1945/16, 1957/16, 2008/16, 2084/16, 3011/16, 3041/16**

***Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to either complete the bank mandate process with Nat West Bank or to obtain a new bank mandate to set up a new account.***

**7. Minute Number 3068/16 - Land opposite the Cemetery**

***Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed for the Chair to contact the agent to see if a Feasibility Study could be completed on the land, including using a digger to clear the brambles from a strip of the land.***

***Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed in principal that the land could be used as an arboretum for people to enjoy and to encourage people to visit the village. It could also incorporate a car park, benches and a national collection of a particular plant.***

***Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed that in the New Year, along with Stanhope Wood and Stanhope Hole, this idea and other ideas for example Allotments, should be sent out to the residents of Findern under a Public Consultation to decide, what the Parish Council should do if anything.***

***Resolved: Cllr Woodhouse agreed that he would be happy to take this lead in this project, if the Parish Council were to go ahead after Public Consultation.***

***Resolved: Cllr R Brook to set up a google doc for the Councillors to gather information for a questionnaire to be produced.***

***Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed that a Working Group or Sub Committee should be formed to carry this project forward.***

**8. Minute Number 3069/16 - The Pension Regulator – Declaration of Compliance and Pension Scheme Certification**

***Resolved: Findern Parish Council approved the Declaration of Compliance and the Pension Scheme Certification.***

**9. Minute Number 3068/16 - Date of the next Parish Council Meeting to be confirmed**

***Resolved: The next meeting of Findern Parish Council was confirmed as 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at Bee's Tea Room, commencing at 6pm for the exempt part of the Monthly Meeting to include the budget and Precept setting information.***

**Signed.....Date.....**

**Findern Parish Council**  
**Clerk: Mrs Clare Orme**  
**Findern Parish Rooms, Lower Green, Findern, Derbyshire. DE65 6AD**  
**Tel: 0771 9599132**

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DECEMBER 2016 AT FINDERN PARISH ROOMS COMMENCING AT 6.30PM**

**Present:**

Cllr M Goodall (in the Chair)

Cllr R Brook, Cllr B Goodall, Cllr S Brook, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Woodhouse, Cllr Rose and Cllr Brown

2 District Council Representatives, 1 County Council Representative and 6 Members of the Public were present at the meeting.

**AGENDA**

**1. Minute Number 3069/16 - To receive apologies for absence**

***Resolved: Apologies were received and accepted as follows:***

- ***Cllr Smith due to other work commitments***

**2. Minute Number 3070/16 - Variation of the Order of Business**

There were no Variations to the Order of Business.

**3. Minute Number 3071/16 - Declaration of Members Interests.**

There were no Declarations of Members Interests.

**4. Minute Number 3072/16 - Public Speaking – (10 Minutes)**

**Minute Number 3072/16/A – Public Speaking**

Members of the Public raised the following matters:

- There had been a further altercation between residents and the people occupying land on Porters Lane on Friday 25.11.2016. The Police were informed at Peartree, who have passed this over to Swadlincote Police, the resident was still awaiting them to attend to see him. Cllr Ford took the incident number from the resident concerned and said that he would chase this matter up with Graham Summers at the Safer Neighbourhoods Division. He said that he needed to make sure it had been handed over to Swadlincote Police.
- Cllr Ford said that he was going to find out the landowner details for the residents concerned in this matter but Gaynor Richards the Enforcement Officer at SDDC would not give him the information.
- A Resident explained that there had been an agent on the land measuring it up, he was warned about the dogs on the site on the day.
- Cllr Ford asked the residents to keep a log of all incidents in relation to this matter, this could then be used to build a case in the future.
- Cllr Ford reported that this issue could be raised at the next Area Forum and Safer Neighbourhoods Meeting to be held on 31.01.2016, at 6.30pm at Repton.
- A resident reported that the top end of Porters Lane was in a terrible overgrown state including the footpath/bridle path. Cllr Ford said that he would take this back, he explained

that SDDC and DCC would look at the work required on the footpath/Bridle path to get this cut back, they would ask the resident to cut the overhanging hedge back to the boundary line.

- It was reported that come the New Year Findern may not be able to use the Payback Team as this was now part of a private company, however they would try to add this work to the list.
- A resident commented on how nice the Christmas tree on the Village Green looked.

### **Minute Number 3072/16/B – Police Representatives Report**

There were no Police Representatives present at the meeting and there was nothing to report.

### **Minute Number 3072/16/C – District Council Representatives Report**

Cllr McPherson was present at the meeting and gave his report as follows:

- He had been looking into the Development at Bakeacre Lane as requested and Planning Officers would be in contact shortly. Cllr Ford replied that the development would fall within Findern but there would be no 106 money attached for Findern. It was also reported that as part of the development a Secondary School would be built.

### **Minute Number 3072/16/D – County Council Representatives Report.**

Cllr Ford was present at the meeting and gave his report as follows:

- The lights have been repaired on the A38 roundabout.
- SDDC will be completing some work on Doles Brook
- There is a Budget Consultation on the DCC website for residents to see how DCC spend their Council Tax.
- There had been a Willington Power Station Liaison Meeting, Findern Parish Council were not in attendance. The Chair replied that there had been some confusion or misunderstanding. She explained that she had asked Cllr Ford if we could attend at the last meeting and he had replied that Findern Parish Council could not attend. The Clerk to the Council had also been missed off the email inviting Parish Councils to the event. Calon had now agreed to include Findern in their meetings and had emailed the relevant information to the Clerk.
- Cllr Ford had asked DCC to look at the lighting to the Marina, he had asked DCC to complete a survey of the area, but to date he had not had an update of the outcome.
- It was reported that there had been a problem with parking at the Marina when they had their Christmas Market. Cllr Ford said that he had spoken to the Marina and these type of events were only held about twice per year and they could not be held responsible for irresponsible parking. However they were looking at making further parking in the field on the other side of the road during the developments of the area.

### **5. Minute Number 3073/16 - To confirm the Minutes of the Monthly Findern Parish Council Meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016.**

***Resolved: Findern Parish Council approved that the Minutes of the Findern Parish Council Meetings held on 8th September 2016, having been circulated were approved and signed as a true record***

### **6. Minute Number 3074/16 - Chairman's report**

The Chair Read out her report as follows:

Chair's Report December

Once again the village is developing into a festival of Christmas lights. The tree on the green a lovely focal point thanks to Martin Woodhouse of Woodgrow who donates and lights it

every year, thank you Martin on behalf of the village. Important village know you donate the tree.

Sadly the Green Skip wasn't a complete success due to the company sending it on Friday and not picking it up till Monday so there was no way we could control what people put in it. I will put it on the agenda again in the New Year and we can see how or if we can improve on the service.

The Parish Council attended the Remembrance Service on 13th November with a combined congregation from All Saints Church and the Methodist Chapel and a wreath was laid on the War Memorial.

I would like to wish those of you here tonight a very Happy Christmas hope you have a fantastic time. It's nice to have members of the public here in attendance.

**7. Minute Number 3075/16 - Hillside Playing Field update – Previously reported under minute number 3026/16, 3052/16**

The Clerk read out the following report on behalf of SDDC:

**Hillside Recreation Ground, Findern  
Report on consultation November 2016**

South Derbyshire District Council produced a questionnaire to canvass residents' opinions on the future of the Hillside Recreation Ground in the village.

The questionnaires were circulated to every household in the village by the Parish Council, as an insert to the Parish newsletter.

Residents were given approximately 4 weeks to complete and return to the Parish Rooms, with the deadline for responses set as 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

**Responses**

87 completed questionnaires were received - approximately 11% of those sent out.

Of those received, 66 respondents currently used the site (76%) and 86 respondents thought the site should be improved (99%).

**Responses to suggested improvements were:**

- Surfaced footpaths – 44 (51%)
- Tree planting – 43 (50%)
- Wildflowers/bulbs – 46 (53%)
- Seating
  - Seats – 19 (22%)
  - Benches – 42 (48%)
  - Picnic tables – 42 (49%)
- Play equipment
  - Toddler – 67 (77%)
  - Junior – 63 (72%)
  - Teen – 35 (40%)
- Natural play – 46 (53%)
- Outdoor gym equipment – 33 (38%)
- Car park – 24 (28%)
- Sports pitch – 44 (51%)

**A lot of ideas were written in the “Other” category. Suggestions included:**

- Bowling Green

- Tennis court/Multi-use games area
- Lighting
- Petanque/Boules
- Designated dog walking area with dog poo bins
- Community garden/fruit trees
- Kite flying area
- Disabled access

**Concerns about the site were as follows:**

- Anti-social behaviour – 47 (54%)
- Security/safety – 41 (47%)
- Parking – 32 (37%)
- Nuisance & noise – 27 (31%)
- Dog fouling – 38 (44%)
- Drainage/condition of ground – 56 (64%)
- Maintenance – 55 (63%)

General comments were also invited, in which many respondents took the opportunity to voice their concerns and support for the notion of improving the site.

**Key issues are:**

- The need to balance dog walking requirements with the desire for dog free areas (particularly play equipment)
- General condition of the ground and poor drainage making it unusable for large parts of the year
- Requests to avoid overdevelopment of the site, and don't block the views
- The site can (and should) provide for everyone in the village (from 0 – 100 years!)
- Concerns about vandalism, impact/disturbance on the local residents, and attracting people from outside the village
- Responsibilities for maintenance and future upkeep of any improved facilities needs to be agreed
- Parking provision on site was largely not wanted, as the site should be for local residents

**What happens now?**

From the results it is clear there is a desire to improve the site in some way, but residents have asked that the scale of improvements be considered. The site is over 5 hectares in size, so should be able to accommodate a variety of activities if appropriate.

Any improvements will not come without challenges, least of all fundraising, and there are some key concerns that need to be addressed.

South Derbyshire District Council and Findern Parish Council will meet to discuss the responses from the questionnaires and to agree an approach to the project. A public meeting will then be scheduled for the New Year to feed back to the residents, provide an opportunity for further consultation and to form a working group to take the project forward.

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed to set up a working party to help take this project forward in partnership with SDDC and the group of residents.**

**Resolved: The Chair, Cllr Johnson, Cllr S Brook and Cllr R Brook to represent Findern Parish Council on the working party.**

**Resolved: The Clerk to contact Zoe Sewter and arrange a suitable time and date for the group to meet to plan the next steps.**

**8. Minute Number 3076/16 - Report of the Parish Clerk**

- a) Village Pump – Previously reported under minute number 1621/15, 1638/15, 1655/15, 1683/15, 1699/15, 1716/15, 1739/15, 1757/15, 1774/15, 1894/15, 1921/16, 1937/16, 1970/16, 1995/16, 2025/16, 2097/16, 3027/16, 3053/16

Cllr Woodhouse reported that hopefully work would start on this next week.

The Chair reported that the Historical Group had sent in a suggestion for the plaque, all Councillors in attendance were given a copy of the proposed wording.

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed that the Chair should go back to the Historical Group with suggested changes to the current wording as follows:**

**Proposed wording by the Historical Group**

**MAIN STREET PUMP**

**Used by villagers until water mains installed in 1931  
Restored by Findern Parish Council in 2016**

**Suggested rewording by Findern Parish Council**

**VILLAGE PUMP**

**Used by villagers until water mains installed in 1931  
Restored in 2016 by Findern Parish Council**

- b) Maypole – Previously reported under minute number 1739/15, 1757/15, 1774/15, 1894/15, 1921/16, 1937/16, 1970/16, 1995/16, 2025/16, 2097/16, 3027/16, 3053/16

There was nothing to report.

- c) Steps at the King George Playing Field – Previously reported under minute number 2097/16, 3027/16, 3053/16

Cllr Woodhouse reported that the work to the hand rail and steps at the King George Playing Field had been completed on the day of this meeting. However at the front of the steps there was a piece of wood which was quite slippery and this would need to be looked at in the future.

The Chair reported that the Bollard at the entrance to the King George Playing Field had been damaged. The Clerk had called in Aucuba and this had now been repaired and a combination lock had been fitted. The Chair reported that the hedge would be cut back next week.

The Clerk reported that there was a mole problem on the King George Playing Field.

The Clerk asked what the Parish Council wished to do about the long grass around the edge of the King George Playing Field. The Clerk explained that originally this was left rough as a wildlife area, but initially this was for only a 12 month period. The Clerk explained that this area was now starting to look a mess and was in need of some attention.

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed that this area could now be cut back and maintained in the normal manner.**

- d) Replacement Benches on the Village Green and request to relocate one – Previously reported under minute number 3027/16, 3053/16

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed to order Annick Benches from Wickstead Leisure.  
Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed for Cllr Johnson to order the benches and arrange for the installation as soon as possible.**

- e) Repairs to the Camel Rocker – Previously reported under minute number 3027/16, 3053/16

The Clerk reported that the Camel Rocker was due to be repaired/replaced on Monday 12.12.2016.

- f) Mowers – Previously reported under minute number 3027/16, 3053/16

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed to purchase 2 new mowers (Viking MB 4 RTP Pedestrian Mowers at the cost of £580.00 plus VAT each.**

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed for Cllr Woodhouse to arrange for the purchase of the mowers.**

- g) Carpark at the back of the Church – Previously reported under minute number 3027/16, 3053/16

There was nothing to report.

- h) Christmas Festival – Previously reported under minute number 3053/16

The Chair reported that the Christmas Festival preparations were in hand and were all going well. The Chair would liaise with Cllr Woodhouse in relation to the light switch on.

- i) Cemetery gates and grass cutting – Previously reported under minute number 3053/16

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Joanna Abbassy at SDDC in relation to the Parish Council taking over the maintenance of this area, however it was a little more complicated than that. SDDC could consider handing the land back to the Parish Council and may offer a small grant towards this of about £300.00, however the Parish Council would be required to take on everything involved in the running of a cemetery. This may require the employment of a grave digger and clerk to complete the administration.

**Resolved: The Clerk to contact the Clerk at Willington Parish Council to see what exactly would be involved as they run and maintain their village cemetery.**

- j) Donation to Methodist Chapel

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to raise a cheque for £15.00 for the donation for using the Chapel for the November Parish Council meeting.**

- k) Willington Power Station – Nominee for 2 representatives to attend the Willington Power Station Meetings

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council nominated The Chair and Cllr Rose to be the Parish Council representatives to attend the Willington Power Station Meetings.**

- l) King Georg Playing Field and the Village Green – Update on the Land Registry

The Clerk reported that the above parcels of land were now registered to the Parish Council at the Parish Rooms Address rather than the previous Clerk's addresses.

- m) SDDC Local Plan Part 2 – Proposed allocation of Local Green Space in relation to The Village Green

SDDC are proposing that the Village Green is allocated as Local Green Space in the Draft Local Plan Part 2. The Clerk reported that if the Parish Council agreed to this, it would provide special protection against development of green areas of particular importance to local communities.

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council agreed that The Village Green should be protected in the Local Plan Part 2 as Local Green Space.**

**Resolved: The Clerk to inform SDDC of the Parish Council's decision as soon as possible.**

## **9. Minute Number 3077/16 - Risk Assessments**

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council noted the following information:**



## Risk Assessment - General

- a) A Tree report to be completed on the trees on the King George Playing Field – **Nothing to discuss for information only – The Clerk has contacted Martin Buckley at SDDC and the report has been scheduled to be completed in the near future.**
- b) Parked lorry at the entrance to the King George Playing Field causing an obstruction for our maintenance vehicles and any emergency services that may be called to the site. – **Nothing to discuss for information only – The Police are looking into this matter and will report back when ready.**
- c) Tree Maintenance on The Village Green – Nothing to discuss, the license has now been granted by DCC for the work to be completed and Tim Atkinson will be completing the work early February 2017

## 10. Minute Number 3078/16 - Planning Matters for Decision

There was nothing to report.

## 11. Minute Number 3079/16 - Reports from Councillor's that have attended any other Meetings.

- a) Toyota Community Liaison Committee

There was nothing to report.

- b) Village Hall

**Resolved: Cllr Johnson would be the Parish Council representative as a Trustee on the Village Hall Committee.**

**Resolved: Cllr Rose would be co-opted onto the Village Hall Committee as a Trustee.**

- c) Findern Footpaths Group Meeting

The Chair reported that the Footpaths Group were in the process of changing their current constitution, which will be sent to the Parish Council once it was ready.

- d) Other meetings attended

There was nothing to report.

- e) Notification of forthcoming meetings

**Resolved: The Chair and Vice Chair would be attending the Toyota Liaison Meeting to be held in February 2017.**

## 12. Minute Number 3080/16 - Finance

**Resolved: Findern Parish Council approved the following payments.**

- a) Items for payment

CHEQUE NO	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
002676	Go Digital Printing	Newsletter and Questionnaire	£366.20
002676	Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath Donation	£100.00
002677	Findern PTFA	Grant	£2,537.40
002678	Michael Osborne	Harmony Plus – Christmas Festival	£75.00
002679	Information Commissioner	Subscription	£35.00
002680	Allstree Electrical Services	Electrical Certification Work	£864.54
002681	Flint Bishop Solicitors	Legal Fees	£348.60
002682 to 002685	Salaries, Tax, NIC's and Expenses		£929.90

### **13. Minute Number 3081/16 - Items for discussion**

There was nothing to report.

### **14. Minute Number 3082/16 - Items for Information**

***Resolved: Findern Parish Council noted the following information:***

- a) SDDC – Press release – Have a ball with the Chairman – and it's all for a great cause
- b) SDDC – Press release – Have your say as next phase of the Local Plan Part 2 Consultation launched
- c) SDDC – Press release – Latest gadgets to be trialled in the fight against food waste
- d) SDDC – Press release – Cafes leading the way in dementia initiative
- e) SDDC – Press release – Ground-breaking animation wages war on problems of mould
- f) Clerks and Council Direct Magazine November 2016
- g) Your Derbyshire Magazine
- h) SDDC – Summer Activity Provision - Thank you letter
- i) SDDC – Press release – Community Governance Review Process Enters its second stage
- j) What's On Magazine
- k) SDDC – Press release – Courses on Woodland wonders aimed at Teachers
- l) Joined Up Care Derbyshire – information
- m) Remidi – Victim of Crime Support
- n) DCC – Swadlincote Lights switch on 25.11.2016 commencing at 5pm
- o) DCC – Information on Hydraulic Fracturing known as Fracking
- p) SDDC – Press release – Christmas Light Switch-on Countdown
- q) SDDC – Press release – South Derbyshire takes centre stage among MPS in Westminster

### **15. Minute Number 3083/16 - Derbyshire Association of Local Councils**

***Resolved: Findern Parish Council noted the following information:***

#### ***A) DALC circular 17/2016***

- 2016 – 18 National Salary Award
- Derbyshire Alert Community Messaging System
- HR for busy councils
- Update from the Derbyshire County Council Parish and Town Council Liaison Forum
- Responsive bus service for rural residents
- Updated Legal Topic Notes
- NALC opposes council tax referendum principles for local councils

### **16. Minute Number 3084/16 - Date of the next Parish Council Meeting to be confirmed**

***Resolved: The next monthly meeting of Findern Parish Council was confirmed as 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017, at Bee's Tea Room, commencing at 7pm.***

***Signed.....Date.....***