

Minutes of Monkton Farleigh Parish Council Meeting Over Zoom

31/03/2021 at 7.30pm

Present: M. Midlane [Chair], R. McDonald, B. Marlowe, P. Adams, J. Spiers, E. Warrington and S. Rowe [Clerk]

Also present: Trevor Carbin, Chris Morris, Di Dobson, Jenny Potts, Bridget Norman and Steve Watts

1. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest.
There were apologies from A Tucker. There were no declarations of interest.
2. Minutes of Meeting dated 17/02/2021 approved and signed by M. Midlane. The Clerk will have issued these Minutes to ensure that all Councillors have received their copy.
3. Matters Arising
 - a. The issue of speed limits and the Atkins survey are all on hold due to covid restrictions. M. Midlane has contacted Wiltshire Council to see if they can give a time frame.
 - b. All are happy with the new playground equipment at Broadstones.
 - c. The clerk is in the process of ordering one toddler swing to see how easy it is to fit and then assess whether a baby swing would also be beneficial for Farleigh Rise.
4. Presentation from Gigaclear about putting fibre into the village
Chris Morris explained that his company have got the go ahead to lay fibre to the village so that all properties would have the opportunity to get better internet connection. Work could start in a few months and there will be some disruption. The clerk will put details on the website and social media.
5. Report from Trevor Carbin
There are a few changes to Covid support: the testing centres are closing (except for Devizes) and being replaced by centres for distributing home testing kits. Nearest is Chippenham now with others to follow. Also, the Wellbeing Hub is offering help to people who are having to self-isolate after a positive test and who don't have anyone to help them. That's on 0300 003 4576.
Bath CAZ. Came in on March 15th. Counts on the B3105 haven't picked up any lorry traffic increase on that route. A363 at Farleigh Wick is usually similar but I'll be doing a count there on Friday to check.
6. Planning Application 20/10353/FUL - 37A Monkton Farleigh comments for the latest plans.
All agreed that the slight changes to this planning application have not changed the objections that were previously reported before. The clerk will confirm this with the department for planning and add:
The proposed build was still very much bigger than the original property.
It was felt that neighbouring gardens would lose light and privacy.
There are still concerns about the basement and how that would affect the surrounding properties.
It was felt unanimously that the foot print of the new build should be similar to the old one and not be taking up so much of the garden.

7. Parking issues at Farleigh Rise.
Six “Please do not park here” signs have been bought and put in various places on Farleigh Rise to deter parking in front of drives and on corners where visibility can be obscured. It is hoped that as things open up more less people will come to Browne’s Folly.
8. Information about this year’s election and dates for the Parish Meeting, AGM and first Parish Council meeting of the new financial year.
Councillors need to get their election papers in by 8th April if they want to stay on the Parish Council.
The Annual Parish meeting will be on Zoom 28th April 2021.
The AGM will be the first meeting of the new council and will be on 12th May 2021 in the village hall garden or in bad weather in the barn as it has to be in person. Then there will be the first Parish Council meeting of the new council.
9. Cycling on footpaths
All agreed that it was a difficult problem to solve. The clerk had contacted Keith Daulby about the issue and he confirmed that it is a widespread problem and they are meeting to discuss it.
10. Finances
There is currently £2701.88 in the bank. The clerk has put in a claim to get VAT returned which is around £900.
11. Buying Litter Pickers
It was agreed to get 10 good quality litter pickers to add to our stocks and encourage people to help pick up litter in the area. It would be around £100 in total
12. Work for the Parish Steward
Keeping an eye on the drains.
13. Parish Matters
There is a blocked drain that needs attention. A. Tucker has the details.
Sir Charles has been made High Sheriff of Wiltshire and would like to hold a village garden party to celebrate on the 15th or 16th July. All the village would be invited, details to follow.
There has been a communication from the Post Office about restarting it in the village but it is unlikely as they cannot find a post master to take on the role.
E. Warrington and J. Spiers are to look into the possibility of getting an ATM maybe in the Pub.
It would be good to have a village Spring Clean maybe in May or June it will depend on lockdown easing.
14. Date of Next Meeting
28th April 2021
12th May 2021