

FARNHAM WITH STRATFORD ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL  
Minutes of the meeting held Monday 9 November 2020 by video via Zoom

Present: Councillors Ian Norman, Gordon Gilbert, Ian Tayler, Jill Pass, Tim Plant, Richard Ayres, Rosemary Conibeer, Michael Light

Apologies: Carol Poulter (ESC)

In attendance: Parish clerk Debbi Tayler, Andrew Reid (SCC)

**1 Apologies**

No apologies were received.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

**3 Minutes of meeting held 12 October 2020**

The minutes of the meetings were unanimously approved and will be signed by the chair.

**4 Questions from the public**

Councillor Norman asked if the matter of the loose drain cover outside Street Farm, Farnham had been resolved. The clerk advised she had been in touch with Councillor Reid and Highways would be inspecting again around 15 November. The initial response was that the cover had not dropped enough to meet the criteria for action. The nearby residents dispute this as the noise from it can be heard every time a vehicle goes over the cover. Councillor Reid said he would ensure the cover was properly inspected.

**5 Reports from County and District Councillors**

Reports were received from Councillors Poulter and Reid which were circulated. Councillor Reid highlighted the forthcoming consultation regarding changes to EDF's planning application for Sizewell C. This will begin on 18 November for 30 days. It appears the changes to the plans for a two village bypass will involve the purchase of additional land and a change to the public footpath around Walk Barn Farm. It may also be the case that the Government steps in as a substitute funder in place of the Chinese.

Councillor Norman asked if it was appropriate for SCC to spend £228,000 on tree planting during the current crisis. Councillor Reid pointed out that this had been agreed pre the pandemic and that the plans include a Healing Wood for those affected by Covid-19 and the management of roadside verges for wildlife.

**6 Clerk's Report**

The correspondence log was circulated prior to the meeting. The clerk advised she will be participating in a Planning Aid England webinar on 27 November concerning the forthcoming changes to the Sizewell C planning application. She also advised that due to current financial uncertainties the 2021/22 precept setting meeting should be held in January when the necessary information will be available from ESC. Councillor Norman will attend a virtual meeting of the Joint Local Authorities Group on 26 November.

Signed .....(Chair)

Date.....

**7 RFO's report**

On 31 October there was £7040.45 in the council's bank account. There were two invoices for approval.

		Legal power
Clerk's salary inc admin	£144.30	LGA 1972 s.112
PAYE Month 8	£32.40	LGA 1972 s.112

The clerk advised that her invoice includes the monthly Zoom subscription of £14.39. The invoices were all approved. Since the bank statement was received £30 has been received for allotment rents with £20 outstanding. The payment authorised last month for the ICO subscription for £40 has been set up as a direct debit but the payment has not yet been deducted from the bank account The balance in the account is now £6853.75.

The approvals sheets and bank statements will be delivered to Councillors Pass and Gilbert to sign.

**8 To receive and approve the asset register 2020/21**

The clerk had sent the register in advance of the meeting. The register was approved.

**9 To receive a report from the Allotment Manager**

Councillor Tayler advised that as a face to face meeting could not be held he had sent an email to allotment holders to request their annual rents and to ask if they had any issues they wished to bring up. He had also advised them that the council will arrange to have the small gate on the road side of the allotments replace/mended. To date three holders had paid their rent and no issues had been raised.

**10 Reports from external meetings**

There had been no external meetings.

**12 Items for future meetings**

To include the Internal Control Statement and Report, planning, s.137 payments, budget and precept setting.

Date of next meeting 14 December, the clerk will issue a Zoom Outlook appointment nearer the time.

The meeting was closed at 20.25.

Signed .....(Chair)

Date.....