

FARNHAM WITH STRATFORD ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL  
Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 14 August 2023 at the Riverside Centre

Present: Councillors Ian Norman, Richard Ayres, Annabel Warne, Tim Plant, Richard Sayer, Jill Pass, Jeremy Williams, Rosemary Conibeer

Apologies: Andrew Reid (SCC)

In attendance: Parish clerk Debbi Tayler, Sally Noble (ESC)

The chair gave his thanks to the clerk as this is her last official meeting.

**1 Apologies**

There were no apologies from parish councillors.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 Minutes of meetings held 10 July 2023**

The minutes of the meetings were unanimously approved and signed.

**4 Questions from the public**

It was noted that we are still waiting for some footpaths to be cut. In particular the footpath from Molletts Farm to Friday Street has not been cut at all this year in spite of three reports being made.

**5 Reports from County and District Councillors**

A report had been received and circulated from Sally Noble, district councillor. The chair welcomed Sally to her first parish council meeting. EDF will be attending the next PC meeting on 11 September to give an update. The public will be invited via the parish magazine and Sally hopes to attend. There is a Full Council meeting in September at which the council's Energy Policy will be discussed.

Sally talked about the monitoring ESC is doing to identify water pollution which is becoming more of a problem. Some parishes have set up small groups to do their own testing and results are sent to ESC. It was suggested that the PC advertises for a volunteer in the parish magazine, Sally said she would be willing to pay for equipment from her locality budget. Sally has spoken to Therese Coffey about what action Government is taking but to date nothing has yet been started.

Sally will be modifying her monthly report to PCs to make it more relevant and she would like to encourage residents to contact her about anything that they are concerned about.

ESC's Local Plan is to be reviewed with regard to new housing numbers and locations.

Sally is now chairing the Community Partnership and advised there are pots of funding available for various projects. More representatives from local councils are needed. Councillor Conibeer has volunteered for the next meeting and then attendance may be by rota.

Signed .....(Chair)

Date.....

**6 Clerk's Report**

SCC have emailed local councils with regard to the Thermal Imaging Cameras project which is to be repeated. It was agreed that the clerk will complete the survey to enable the council to participate in the next round.

The clerk advised that a total of four applications have been received for the clerk's vacancy. It was agreed that two of the applicants will be interviewed and that the panel will comprise Councillors Norman, Sayer and Conibeer and that the clerk will be present. The interviews will take place on 30 August.

**7 RFO's report**

On 31 July there was £8825.87 in the council's bank account. There were five invoices for approval.

		Legal power
Clerk's salary	£151.60	LGA 1972 s.112
PAYE Month 5	£100.80	LGA 1972 s.112
Micropress advertising	£144.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Leiston Press	£126.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Jill Pass (Owl box)	£170.00	LGA 1972 s.111

The invoices were approved. The balance is now £8259.47.

**8 To approve the internal audit report**

The clerk presented the report which which had mostly positive comments. The Standing Orders and Financial Regulations need to be amended to reflect the latest procurement limits. Also the CIL payments received by the council need to be moved into earmarked reserves for budgeting purposes.

**9 Items for future meetings**

If there is no clerk in post for the September meeting it may just comprise the presentation by EDF.

The meeting was closed at 21.04.

Signed .....(Chair)

Date.....