**Minutes of a virtual meeting of Fringford Parish Council,   
held on Monday 21st September 2020 at 7.45pm.**

**Present:** Councillors John Fargin, Adrian Thwaites, John Reader, David McCullagh, Les Harris , Jan Maciejewski and Hayley Ryder.

**Apologies:**

Cllrs Barry Wood (CDC) and Ian Corkin (CDC and OCC).

**Also present**: 1 member of the public.

1. **Requests for Dispensations and Declarations of Interest**

There were no requests for dispensations or declarations of interest.

1. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th August 2020.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

1. **Public Participation**

One member of the public attended the meeting seeking updates on:

1. The Butchers Arms – it was explained that as far as the PC are aware a new landlord has taken over and will be re-opening the pub in October.
2. The Rectory Lane/Farriers Close planning application - the Parish Council were able to confirm that this has been refused by CDC.
3. The trees near to the church. It was explained that input had been received from a contractor who suggested that most of the trees are in good health but one of the chestnut trees may require attention in the future. The Parish Council has sought input from OCC Highways and the CDC arboriculturalist and is awaiting their feedback.
4. The member of the public attending advised the Parish Council that residents were undertaking research of wills to try to establish ownership of the land upon which the trees stand.
5. **Finance**
   1. To receive the monthly financial report – which is attached to these Minutes and shown as “Appendix A”.
   2. To consider invoices for payment itemised on the payment schedule: -

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| **Cheque no:** | **Payee and reason** | **Budget** | **Minute Ref** | **Amount** |
| 400463 | Green scythe ltd | grass |  | £205.80 |
| 400464 | cancelled |  |  |  |
| 400465 | Oxford Oak Tree Surgery | Trees at Crosslands |  | £912.00 |
| 400466 | HMRC | Clerk tax |  | £44.80 |
| 4004567 | Mrs A Davies | Clerk Salary |  | £178.79 |
| 400568 | J Fargin | Zoom subscription |  | £151.08 |

Total £1492.47

1. **Parish Matters** – to discuss where necessary
   1. **Village Groups**:
   2. **Village Hall**

Village Hall Committee has now incorporated new terms and conditions regarding COVID-19 precautions into its letting contract. 4 hirers have now returned, and another 2 will be returning in October.

The hall has been marked out to facilitate social distancing and an entrance queuing process installed. Numerous posters have been fixed to remind visitors of the new regulations for COVID-19

The returning hirers have been pleased with the efforts made to ensure the hall is COVID-19 secure.

The Parish Council expressed its thanks to the Village Hall Committee for all their hard work implementing COVID-19 guidelines.

* 1. **COVID 19**

Some of the social distancing posters in the village have been removed, and it was agreed these should be replaced. So far as the playground is concerned the swings have been removed and there has been little use, although teenagers have been seen congregating there, as have some parents with young children.

Currently there are no reported cases of COVID in the village as far as the Parish Council is aware

* 1. **Village Green** – parking bays - to receive an update

Permission from the landowner to carry out the work has now been received and costs are awaited. Once this information is available the Parish Council will consult with residents, and, if agreed, will make an application to HS2 for financial support for the work.

* 1. **Hedge by the play school**

The council has received an estimate of £29000 for rebuilding the wall. It was agreed that residents would be consulted on the Parish Council’s proposals. If there is support an application will be made to HS2 for funding. After discussion the Parish Council agreed to tidy up the hedge line and remove overhead branches, while leaving existing trees.

* 1. **Trees at Church End**

The Parish Council had received advice from a local contractor that most of the trees are in good health but one of the chestnuts may require attention in the future.

This has been reported to OCC Highways and CDC Arboriculture from a road safety viewpoint and their response is awaited.

It was agreed that should OCC and CDC decide not to take any action the Parish Council would be unable to take further action as the trees are on privately owned land.

* 1. **Fringford Relief in Need charity.**

Cllr McCullagh agreed to be appointed a trustee of this charity.

* 1. **Communication with Councillors**

While Parish Councillors are always happy to talk to residents about issues in the village, an uninvited appearance by a resident at their homes was felt to be inappropriate. The Clerk was asked to remind residents that they could bring matters to Parish Council meetings, or arrange an appointment via the Clerk to raise issues with a specific Parish Councillor.

1. **Planning Applications/Decisions**

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| [**20/01891/F**](https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/Planning/Display/20/01891/F) | Land North East of Fringford Study Centre Adjoining  Rectory Lane Fringford OX27 8DD | Erection of a 4 bedroom  detached dwelling with garage  and access |

Refused.

The Parish Council agreed to investigate the legal status of the proposed site, and if necessary, raise the matter with CDC.

**Butchers Arms**

As no building has started, the clerk was asked to write to CDC and the developer’s planning agent to ensure that the vision splay required was created, and the hedge cut back.

1. **TVPA Rural Resilience Group**

The next meeting is to be confirmed. The group also has an active Facebook page.

1. **Correspondence Received** – to note correspondence received not otherwise on the agenda where decisions are not required.

Concern was raised by a landowner over the cutting back of vegetation on a right of way. – It was confirmed that this work was not at the request of the Parish Council and the Clerk was asked to advise the landowner accordingly and advise that where complaints regarding rights of way are obstructed the PC is required to follow them up

The clerk reported an email from a resident expressing concern over the minuting of an issue of an overgrown hedge that required cutting back as it was overwhelming a footway. The Clerk was asked to respond to confirm that the Council, having received complaints, had an obligation to follow these up and demonstrate that it has taken action

1. **Items for information or next Agenda only**
2. **Agenda Items** –Agenda items for the next meeting should be submitted as soon as possible.
3. **Date of next meeting**

19th October 2020.

1. **The meeting closed at 9.00 pm**

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