**Minutes of the meeting of Fringford Parish Council,
held on Monday 18th July 2022 at 7.45pm.**

**Present:** Councillors: Ginny Hope, Robert Gue, Hayley Ryder, Les Harris, David McCullagh

**Also present:** R. Damerell (Clerk) and 48 members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received for Cllr Phil Davids-Austin
2. **Requests for Dispensations and Declarations of interest, gifts and hospitality** – Cllr Harris declared an interest in the item on item 35 (a)
3. **Public participation** – Cllr Hope opened the floor to Public participation. All questions were directly linked to items 35 (a) and as outlined in Appendix 2
4. **Updates from County & District Councillors –** No update has been received
5. **To approve the Minutes** **of the last Parish Council Meeting**. – The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.
6. **Finance**
	1. **To receive the monthly bank reconciliation.**
* The Clerk to add in the budget to the finance spreadsheet for Cllrs to be able to check the spending against the forecast
* It was also agreed for quarterly checks by Cllr Davids-Austin to be undertaken to ensure good financial governance. This will include checking of the bank statements, a sample of invoices and cheque stubs.
* The Clerk also confirmed that the VAT had not be separated out on the financial spreadsheet and would be done in preparation for the next meeting.
	1. **To consider invoices for payment.**
		+ All invoices were reviewed, approved, and signed by the Parish Council.
1. **Parish Matters**
	1. **Planning Application: 21/02553/OUT (Land Adjoining The Cottage, The Green) –** The council were joined by Ian Palmer – Staniforth Architects. Following comments and statements from members of the public outlined in Appendix 2 The Parish Council resolved to object to the proposed development with 4 votes and 1 abstention. It was also noted Cllr Davids-Austin sent his objection whilst not considered in the vote
	2. **Update on Councillor Vacancy – So far** there has been one application for the Councillor vacancy. It was agreed for the clerk to send an invite for the 4th August for an interview with Cllrs Hope, Ryder & McCullagh
	3. **Trees including those by the Church, Spinney –**

**Trees by the Church -** Cllr Ryder met with the Land Owner and Land Agent. It was confirmed the tree by the church would be removed in the Autumn / Winter. The clerk to send through the tree report to the Land Agent and to enquire as to the Beech tree at the roundabout.

**The Spinney** – Cllr Ryder updated that the Owner and Agent confirmed their intention to remove all the trees for the Spinney to replace these with younger and manageable trees. The Chair opened consideration to the public as to the feeling towards the Land owners’ proposal to remove all the trees. The public were overwhelmingly opposed to the planned work, feeling that management of the trees was required rather than removal. The Parish Council resolved to contact the Cherwell District Council Tree Officer to enquire over the rules and regulations around removing many trees and whether planning permission would be required etc. The Chair to draft a letter for the clerk to send.

* 1. **Request from Fringford Primary School –** The Parish Council resolved to turn down the request from Fringford school in regard to the fallen tree on the school fence as the Council felt this should be the responsibility of the school
	2. **HS2 Grant 1 – Road Across the Green** - Cllr Gue updated that the program would run over a period of approximately four weeks, provisionally around the October Half Term. It was agreed for the Green to be opened over the period for parking for vehicles to drop off children for the school. The exact date for the work is to be confirmed soon. The project from this point will now be managed by OCC and the contractor. The Council will also need to seek a new lease for the work to be carried out which will involve a legal fee in the region of £1000. from the Baroness for the work to be carried out. All specifications for materials have been determined by OCC.
	3. **HS2 Grant application – Ex pond area, wall, etc -** Cllr McCullagh has ordered a diversity report for the Pond. Once this has been received it can be submitted to HS2 to progress the grant. This will be provided imminently
	4. **Village Speed Limit –** The consultation for residents to give their opinion is still currently open until the end of summer. It was also agreed to extend this to the Autumn Fayre on 10 September, where Cllr Ryder & Cllr Hope will draft slips for anyone to compete to give their opinion.
1. **Planning Applications/Decisions**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ref | Location | Proposal | CDC status | PC Comments |
| **21/02553/OUT** | **Land Adjoining The Cottage The Green Fringford** | **Erection of 9 detached dwellings, formation of new vehicular and pedestrian access, associated landscaping, drainage and associated works** |  | Objection – points noted in Appendix 1 |

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

**Bench** – Cllr Gue confirmed that the bench had been received. It was agreed in the first instance to put the bench by the telephone kiosk. Cllr Gue to ask Cllr Davids-Austin to help move the bench.

1. AOB The Clerk would review his current online access with our bankers the COOP and report back at the August PC Meeting
2. Items for next Agenda: All items for the next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by 8th August 2022
3. **Date of next meeting** – The date of the next meeting is 15th August 2022 at 7.45pm.