**Minutes of the meeting of Fringford Parish Council,
held on Monday 15th August 2022 at 7.45pm.**

**Present:** Councillors: Ginny Hope, Phil Davids-Austin, Hayley Ryder, Les Harris, David McCullagh

**Also present:** R. Damerell (Clerk) and 3 members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received for Cllr Gue
2. **Requests for Dispensations and Declarations of interest, gifts and hospitality**
* Cllr Ryder declared an interest in item 46 (c) Trees (The Spinney)
1. **Public participation** – Cllr Hope opened the floor to Public participation.
* Q. A member of the public asked whether a a dog flap could be installed at the bottom of Bancroft The resident has stated that thy would be willing to pay for the new gate.
* A. It was agreed for Cllr McCullagh to approach the tenant over this.
* Q. A resident asked if the raised kerb drains will remain after the work for the new parking spaces on The Green has been completed.
* A. No the raised drains will be removed.
1. **Updates from County & District Councillors –** No update has been received
2. **To approve the Minutes** **of the last Parish Council Meeting**. – The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.
3. **Finance**
	1. **To receive the monthly bank reconciliation.**
		* The clerk to include a column for percentage spent of budget
		* The clerk to chase the Co-op bank for online payments.
		* The clerk to chase the Co-op for Cllr Hope’s signatory access.
	2. **To consider invoices for payment.**
		* All invoices were reviewed, approved, and signed by the Parish Council.
4. **Parish Matters**
	1. **Planning Application: 21/02553/OUT (Land Adjoining The Cottage, The Green) –** Cllr Hope updated that the consultation date has closed for responses. There were 63 objections to the application including the Parish Council. Cllr Barry Wood has requested that the application come before the planning committee. He is currently waiting for confirmation on this. The Council to publish the date for the committee meeting, to inform residents should they wish to attend and speak.
	2. **Update on Councillor Vacancy –**.Cllr Hope updated that following a successful recruitment and interview process , the Council has offered the vacant Councillor post to Ros Mackenzie. The Councillors unanimously agreed the appointment. The clerk to send out any dates for new Councillor training and ensure that all the necessary paperwork is put in place.
	3. **Trees including those by the Church, Spinney –**

**Trees by the Church –** It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the Land Agent to establish an estimated date for the Chestnut Trees to be removed.

**Q.** Will the other trees from the report be pollarded as well?

**A.** The Clerk to ask if there is a possibility for the other three trees to be pollarded given the adjacent property have also pollarded their own trees.

**Beech Tree** – It was agreed to maintain a watching brief on the Beech Tree. It was also agreed to ask the Tree Officer to have a look at the with a view to a potential Tree Preservation Order.

**The Spinney** – Cllr Ryder updated that she has spoken with a bat expert who suggested that a survey should be conducted on bats in the Spinney. This is to establish as to whether there are bats roosting in the trees.

There is also an intention for the Council to request that the Tree Officer place Tree Preservation Orders on some of the trees in order to protect at least some of the decent trees in the Spinney.

Q. A resident asked if stumps would be removed?

A. The likelihood is that these would be left in situ.

Q. The resident also asked who would maintain the trees if a TPO was granted.

A. This would be the landowner.

It was agreed for Cllr Ryder to mark out any potentially healthy trees which would need to be requested to be kept and then for the Council to enquire the process for establishing TPOs.

The clerk to contact the Tree Officer, stating that the Council believes that there are a few specimen trees which should be retained and that the Council will be shortly sending through further detailed information on these to the Tree Officer

* 1. **HS2 Grant 1 – Road Across the Green** – Cllr McCullagh confirmed that he had met with the project supervisor from the contractors Greenford.. Greenwoods will come back with a timetable of works with the focus being on the October half term, though work will commence before this. It was agreed that a meeting with with the Site Manager,the eadteacher and Parish Council to discuss the appropriate arrangements while the work is being carried out( This was subsequently arranged for September 14th)
	2. **HS2 Grant application – Ex pond area, wall, etc –** Cllr McCullagh would contact Groundwork the agent for HS2, to gauge their opinion on not filling the pond and leaving it as a seasonal soak away, but tidying up the trees and surrounding area instead and with new planting added.
	3. **Remembrance Day Wreath –** The Council agreed a Donation of £50 towards the Remembrance Wreath and to order to same wreath as last year.

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| Ref | Location | Proposal | CDC status | PC Comments |
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1. AOB
* Autumn Fayre – The Council is going to share a stall with the Village Hall Committee. It was suggested having flip chart boards for the residents to share their ideas they either wish the Parish Council to focus on or on current topics being discussed.
* 20 is Plenty – The clerk to forward the confirmation from Cllr Ian Corkin confirming support for 20 is plenty and the set of minutes confirming the Council’s decision to apply for the reduced speed limit.
* Road works on Road opposite Wise Crescent - Cllr Hope to request via Fix My Street that all the road signs to be removed following the road works. (These have subsequently been removed.)
* Memorial Bench – Cllr Hope to contact Jo Smith (daughter of the late Ron and Mary Heritage) to ask whether she would be happy about the new bench being sited as part of the improvements to the old pond area project. It was suggested perhaps in the shaded area between the pond and the Play Area. In the meantime to bench will remain in storage at Hall Farm, thanks to Cllr Davids Austin. (Subsequently Jo Smith has responded to say that her family are happy with the new location suggestion and have asked to be kept updated on the project.)

IItems for next Agenda: All items for the next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by 11th September 2022

1. **DDate of next meeting** – The date of the next meeting is 19th September 2022 at 7.45pm.