**Minutes of the meeting of Fringford Parish Council,   
held on Monday 15th May 2023 at 7.45pm.**

**Present:** Councillors: Ginny Hope (Chair), David McCullagh, Phil Davids-Austin, Hayley Ryder, Les Harris, Robert Gue, Ros MacKenzie.

**Also present:** R. Damerell (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

1. **Appointment of Chair**

* Cllr Hope was nominated as the Chair of the Parish Council by Cllr McCullagh and seconded by Cllr Harris and unanimously agreed.

1. **Appointment of Vice Chair**

* Cllr McCullagh was proposed by Cllr Hope and seconded by Cllr Harris and unanimously agreed.

1. **Appointment of Councillor for Internal Financial control**

* Cllr Davids-Austin was proposed by Cllr Ryder and seconded by Cllr Mackenzie and unanimously agreed.

1. **Appointment of Village Hall Representative**

* Cllr Hope nominated Cllr Gue as the Council representative on the Village Hall committee, this was seconded by Cllr Ryder and unanimously agreed.

1. **Appointment of Staffing Committee**

* Cllr Mackenzie proposed Cllrs Ryder and Hope to the staffing committee, this was seconded by Cllr Harris and unanimously agreed.

1. **Apologies for absence**

* No Apologies were received.

1. **Requests for Dispensations and Declarations of interest, gifts and hospitality**

* Cllr Davids-Austin declared an interest in the planning Application [23/00741/LB](https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/Planning/Display/23/00741/LB) - Hall Farm and would abstain from any comments.

1. **Public participation**

* No Questions were raised by the members of the public in attendance.

1. **Updates from County & District Councillors –**

* No update received, but it was confirmed that the Annual report from Cllr Corkin (Oxfordshire County Council) had been placed on the website for any member of the public to view.

1. **To approve the Minutes** **of the last Parish Council Meeting**.

* The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.

1. **Finance**
2. **To receive the monthly bank reconciliation.**

* The Bank reconciliation was reviewed and approved by the Council.

1. **To consider invoices for payment.**

* All invoices were reviewed, approved, and signed by the Parish Council.
* The Clerk updated the Council that the Council had resolved to stay with the Co-op Bank as the online payment authorisation had been updated to two signatory authorisation.
* The Clerk also confirmed that the Council had resolved not to switch accounts to NatWest, but that considering the complaint made by the Council through Cllr Hope, NatWest had agreed to compensate the Parish Council the sum of £200, due to their lack of customer care.

1. **Parish Matters**

**HS2 Grant Applications for improvements to the Village Green.**

* **Lease / HS2 Grant** - Cllr McCullagh contacted Wayne Barker and the procurement process is nearing completion with a decision this week. The project is hopefully due to start on the 24 July 2023.
* Cllr Hope has been in contact with the Land Agent who confirmed that solicitors for both sides have been liaising with each other and that a Lease should be forthcoming shortly.
* **Trees** at Church End - Cllr Hope updated that during discussion with the Land Agent he had asked for the Council to liaise with the residents adjacent to the trees near the church. All residents had safety concerns regarding the trees and whilst they did express in a desire not to lose the trees, they agreed that safety must take priority. The Land Agent re-confirmed that the two trees identified for removal will be removed and accepted the deadwood would need to be removed from the remaining three trees.
* The Land Agent also confirmed that Nicholson’s have been commissioned to carry out an independent report on the trees, however it was also confirmed that they would not be carrying out the work and an independent company would be sourced, so that there is no conflict of interest. This does not include the beech tree in front of the church entrance.

**20 is Plenty proposal in the village**

* Cllr McCullagh & Hope confirmed the signs had been received and will be fixing these to the posts over the next week or so.

**New Digital Vehicle Activated Speed Sign for the village on Fringford Road**

* Following the receipt of 3 quotations, the Council resolved to purchase the Vehicle Activated Smiley face speed monitor and solar panel and contact Cherwell District Council to establish what actions are necessary in regard to an authorised location for the device.

**Village Hall update**

* No update to report.

1. **Planning**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Reference | Location | Proposal | FPC Decision / Comments |
| [23/00741/LB](https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/Planning/Display/23/00741/LB) | Hall Farm Main Street Fringford Bicester OX27 8DP | Refurbishment of main farmhouse and Change of Use of barn outbuildings to ancillary accommodation | No Objection |
| [23/01005/AGN](https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/Planning/Display/23/01005/AGN) | Waterloo Farm Street Heading South West from Main Street Fringford Bicester OX27 8RH | Erection of a portal-frame building | No Objection |
| 23/01194/F | Fringford Cottage | Demolition of outbuildings. Replacement of stable block for a single storey garden studio with landscaping in the rear garden. | No Objection |

1. **Correspondence Received / AOB**

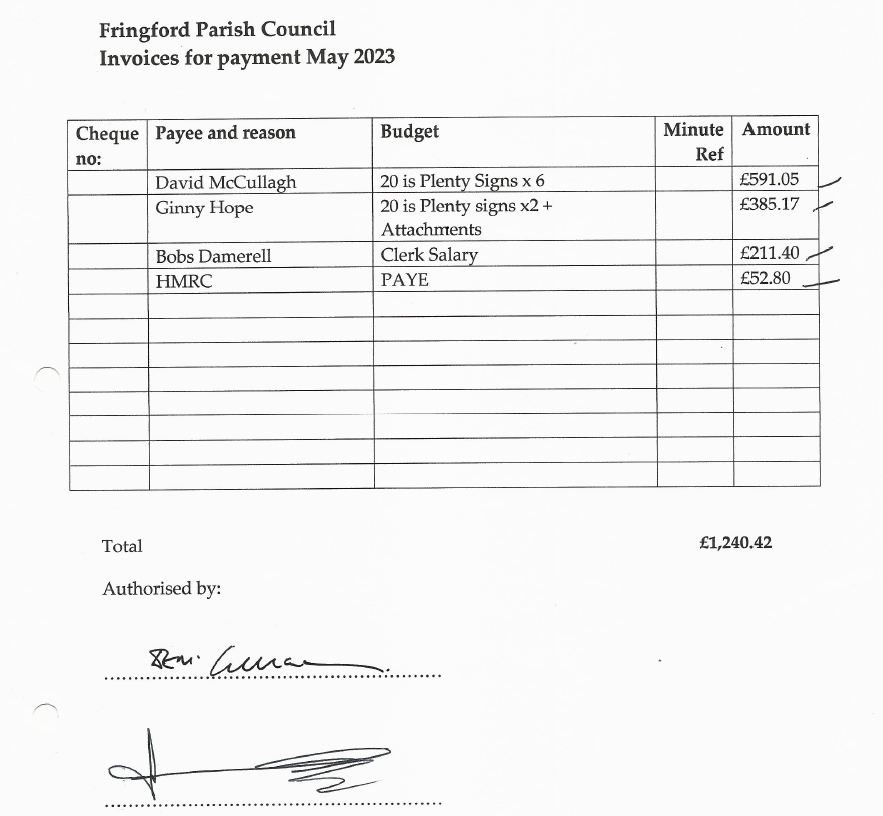
* Cllr Davids-Austin agreed to repair the picket fence of the playground with the original panels rescued by Cllr Hope which had been knocked over. Cllr McCullagh to purchase any additional panels needed.
* Following a request from the Cricket Club for a contribution to the costs of grass cutting for not only the pitch but also the verge. The Parish Council resolved to approve £400 in response to the request.

1. **Items for next Agenda**

* All items for the next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by 9th June 2023.

1. **Date of next meeting:**

* The date of the next meeting as **19th June 2023 at 8.00pm.**

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