**Minutes of the meeting of Fringford Parish Council,
held on Monday 18th November 2024 at 7.45pm.**

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

**Also present:** R. Damerell (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**
* No apologies were received from members.
1. **Requests for Dispensations and Declarations of interest, gifts and hospitality**
* No requests for dispensation or declarations of interest were received from Councillors.
1. **Public participation**
* No questions were raised by the public.
1. **Updates from County & District Councillors**
* No update received.
1. **To approve the Minutes** **of the last Parish Council Meeting**.
* The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.
1. **Finance**
* **Financial Spreadsheet** – Councillors received the monthly reconciliation.
* **Invoices to pay** - invoices were reviewed and approved by the Parish Council.
* **2025/26 Budget** – The Clerk to draft the 2025/26 budget and circulate to Cllrs Hope and Harris to discuss and present to the Parish Council at the December meeting.
* It was agreed that bank cards should be ordered for the Parish Council current account for use by the Chair, Deputy Chair and Clerk to avoid reimbursements for purchases.
1. **Parish Matters**
* **Village Plan 2024 and residents survey**
	+ Cllr Hope confirmed the Village Plan has been completed, incorporating villagers’ comments and feedback from the survey.
	+ The Council resolved to inform the village that the plan is now complete and print 280 copies to be delivered to each household.
* **Butchers Arms – Asset of Community Value and options report regarding possible community pub models**
	+ No update report received from the sub-group.
* **HS2 Grant Applications – Village Gates**
* This is the remaining item from the HS2 grant funding.
	+ Cllr Hope updated that the new village gates have been ordered and will be delivered to Milestone Infrastructre at Deddington, where they will be assembled in advance of being installed in the village.
	+ The cost of £3,380.40 was agreed. £1,480 to be reimbursed from HS2 grant team.
	+ Cllr Hope also confirmed that the new village coat of arms will also be included on the gates.
	+ Cllr Hope reported that Oxfordshire County Council have agreed to carry out the installation free of charge. The Parish Council extended their thanks to OCC for this.
	+ Cllr Hope concluded that she had completed the required final
* **Digitalisation of previous PC records.**
	+ Cllr Gue stated that the company carrying out the digitalisation are ready to proceed with scanning the documents. The quote to undertake the work was agreed.
	+ Cllr Gue also confirmed that he will purchase the relevant fire safe for the original documents.
1. **Planning**

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| **Ref No:** | **Location** | **Proposal** | **PC Comments** |
| None |  |  |  |
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**Decisions**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref No:** | **Location** | **Proposal** | **Decision** |
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**Appeals**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref No:** | **Location** | **Proposal** | **CDC Decision / Comments** | **Parish Council Comments** |
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**Section 106 monies – any update**

Cllr Hope confirmed that she had sent an email responding to County Councillor Ian Corkin in September 2024 about Section 106 monies from developers. The request was regarding parking and upgrading the play area in the village because of the Wise Crescent housing development scheme. Cllr Hope to chase a response.

1. **Correspondence Received / AOB**
* **OALC – Monthly Update**
* **Navitas – Notice of increase of charges of website hosting**
* The Parish Council agreed the requested increase from Navitas for hosting the PC website domain.
	+ Cllr MacKenzie to contact Navitas to request a quote for a revamp of the Village Website as much of the current information on the website is significantly out of date and not being managed.
	+ The Clerk to update the website monthly with the news postings, which are currently also sent to be included in the Village Voice.
* **OALC - Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024/25**
	+ The Council agreed to pay the recommended increase for Parish Clerks and to calculate the pay award backdated to April 2024.
* **Cherwell DC – A4421 Road Closures - noted**
* **Coffee Sign outside Village Hall** – A resident enquired about the coffee flag sign for the coffee trailer outside the Village Hall and whether permission had been given.
	+ Cllr Hope explained that she had responded to the resident that the land is leased by the Parish Council from the landowner. As the Parish Council had not received any other comments or complaints the Parish Council would not be requesting any action. In a subsequent conversation with the coffee stall owner, they have fixed this to the trailer itself.
* **Village Hall** – Following and update from the recent Village Hall AGM, the Parish Council resolved the following:
	+ The Parish Council agreed to it explore with the Village Hall Committee ways to fund village groups (not for profit) to be able to use the Village Hall free of charge, whilst still maintaining the same charging level for private or business events.
	+ The Parish Council resolved to reach out to the Village Hall Committee to see how the Parish Council can help support the functioning of the VHC As they are struggling to recruit to key positions. Cllr Hope agreed to contact the VHC trustees for a meeting to have a discussion. The village Sewcial had requested if the Parish Council could contribute to the costs of booking the hall. It was agreed to contribute £40 the same as the previous year.
	+ Cllr Ryder agreed to contact the village ukulele group about using the village hall.
1. **Items for next Agenda**
* All items for the next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by 6th December 2024.
1. **Date of next meeting:**
* The date of the next meeting is 16th December 2024 at 7.45pm.