**Minutes of the meeting of Fringford Parish Council,   
held on Monday 24th February 2025 at 7.45pm.**

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

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

* The Parish Council were addressed by two residents who shared their plan to organise a New Years Eve Party for the village and wanted to know if the Parish Council would be willing to support the event.
* The plan was to revive the previous tradition of a New Years Eve Party in the village. It would be for all ages, and with an influx of new villagers over the last few years it would be an opportunity to encourage established and newer villagers to come together.
* The event would be a not-for-profit event, and any surplus would be donated back to the Parish Council.
* The group is still yet to work out the budget for the event and the maximum numbers with a view to approximately 70 across both rooms.
* The event would be ticketed and once the budget is established this would determine the cost of the tickets.
* Tim Mustill has committed to help organise and arrange the bar, though has not guaranteed he will be at the event. There is a question over the licence but currently the plan is to use the same system as the current pop-up pub.
* The group will communicate and liaise with the pub the event is taking place.
* The food is likely to be finger food and will also liaise with the pub and ask for the cost of catering a buffet for 70 people.
* Funding – The Parish Council agreed to match fund a donation of £400 with the Village Hall Committee to help the event. Making a total donation of £700.
* The Parish Council to pay the invoice and the Village Hall to re-imburse the Parish Council for its share of the donation.

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

* No updates received

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

* The minutes of the January 2025 Fringford Parish Council meeting 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.
* **Church yard Contribution** – The Parish Council resolved to grant 50% of the annual cost for the mowing of the Church yard following the request from Fringford PCC.

1. **Parish Matters**

* **Update from the Village Hall Committee (VHC)**
* The Committee confirmed the following upcoming events:
  + Family Quiz night.
  + Cinema Night ‘Paddington in Peru’
  + Victorian Shadows
* **Butchers Arms – Asset of Community Value and options report regarding possible community pub models**
* The group confirmed that they would provide an update at the March meeting.
* **Digitalisation of previous PC records**
* Cllr Gue confirmed the files have been archived and the process has been complete.
* **EV charging points**
* The Parish Council resolved to review this item again at a later date and remove it from the agenda.
* **Parish Councillor Vacancy**
* The Parish Council confirmed the appointment of Max Todd onto the Parish Council. The Council welcomed Max with his first meeting to be March 2025.
* **Defibrillators**
* Cllr Hope confirmed the defibrillator was ordered on the 24 February 2025. The invoice will be sent through for payment. The Village Hall Committee to liaise with an electrician to put in cabling for new defibrillator and disconnect the cabling for the current defibrillator.
* **Tree survey**
* Cllr Gue confirmed that Nicholson’s had been out to assess the area and will be providing a quote. Cllr Gue to chase the quote.
* **Bus shelter/books**
* The Parish Council to post the notice from the Voice on the WhatsApp group asking who had placed the books in the shelter and if they were being managed. If there is no response then to remove the books and unwanted bookcases from the bus shelter**.**
* **Fringford Circular Walk - display board and QR code**
* Cherwell have confirmed that the circular walks in the village are heavily promoted on their website with QR codes for anyone who wants to do the walk. Cherwell confirmed that the maps have been in place for many years and were designed at the time with input from the village and Martin Greenwood.
* The Council to post the walk map in the Parish Council noticeboard instead of a new display board in the village.
* Replacement Noticeboards – Cllr Hope proposed starting the process of costing new noticeboards in the village, she will also talk to Penny Wood about one for the Church.
* **Parish Council Website**
* Cllr Mackenzie provided a detailed breakdown of research into the current website and suggested actions moving forward with a new website
* Cllrs to provide feedback on Cllr Mackenzie’s report by 6 March 2025 or it will be assumed everyone is satisfied with the recommended actions.
* **Gipsy Traveller Site planning application**
* Cllr Hope confirmed that no decision had been made but was due soon and would provide an update once this has been received.

1. **Planning**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref No:** | **Location** | **Proposal** | **PC Comments** |
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**Decisions**

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

**Appeals**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref No:** | **Location** | **Proposal** | **CDC Decision / Comments** | **Parish Council Comments** |
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1. **Correspondence Received / AOB**

* **OALC – Monthly Update**
* **Cherwell Parish Bulletin**
* **Proposed Submission (Regulation 19) Cherwell Local Plan Review December 2024**
* **Fringford Funfair**
* **Crack in the Wall**
* Cllr Hope raised that a new crack had appeared in the stone wall by the school. Cllr Davids-Austin to contact PJ Harrison to ask if this can be investigated.
* **School Pick-up /drop off**
* A parent has raised concern over other parents parking on the grass next to the Parish Council noticeboard during school pick up and drop offs, which is damaging the area. The Parish Council to consider installing a sign and post to stop vehicles from parking on this space.
* **Builders parking –**
* Several Residents have requested that builders, particularly for the Wise Crescent development, make adequate parking whilst work is being carried out as it is becoming unsafe for vehicles and residents. Cllr Davids-Austin to speak to builders.
* **Hedges by Village Hall**
* Cllr Gue shared a concern from the school that rats may be nesting in the hedge adjacent to the Village Hall from the clippings that remain from when this was last cut. The Council to monitor the situation and review this again at a future meeting. It was noted that the school has chickens housed near there.
* **VE day 80th year celebrations**
* Cllr MacKenzie updated that the Pub has provided a suggested menu for the evening including lighter snacks like cones of chips and fuller meals including fish and chips.
* Cllr MacKenzie to speak with the Church to ask about the possibility of the church ringing the bells at 6:30pm on VE Day as part of the celebrations.

1. **Items for next Agenda**

* All items for the next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by 7th March 2025.

1. **Date of next meeting:**

* The date of the next meeting is 17th March 2025 at 7.45pm.