

Farthingstone Parish Council

Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting of Farthingstone Parish Council

Minutes of the Farthingstone Parish Council AGM held in the Village Hall on Monday 15TH May 2023
at 8.00pm

Item		Action
30/23	<p>Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors: Peter Stanton, Peter Mayne, Richard Russell. Alison Nelson, Stewart Summers • Ward: Rupert Frost arrived 8.25 • Clerk: Linda Mayne • Rep for Village Hall: John Acres • Rep for Joy Mead: Debbie Mason • 5 residents of village <p>Apologies: Susan Castle</p>	
31/23	<p>Declaration of interests: Peter Stanton member of Joy Mead Committee Linda Mayne and Richard Russell members of Farthingstone PCC</p>	
32/23	<p>Minutes of AGM 16th^h May 2022 The minutes of the meeting, were proposed by SS and seconded by PM, as a correct record: all agreed.</p>	
33/23	<p>Matters arising: Speed Signs: Update recorded in item 39/23</p>	
34/23	<p>Finance: The annual accounts for the financial year 2022/23 were presented. The balance at the end of March 2023 was £6355.78 with £2041.99 in the current account and £4313.79 in the deposit account. Expenditure during the year was in line with previous years. The accounts have been audited by John Mole. Council approved the accounts and PS, as chair, and LM, as financial officer, signed the documents required by AGAR. The Certificate of Exemption for small authorities will now be submitted. The accounts will be available for public view for a period of 3 weeks to be confirmed. The date will be published on the Parish Board. Notification has been received from both our electricity supplier, SSE Energy Solutions, and E-ON who maintain the street lamps that there will be price rises in the coming year. The Government is changing the way non-commodity costs are collected, resulting in a rise of around £3 a month. E-ON advise that the low-pressure sodium lamps which we have are no longer being manufactured and that we should consider a plan to replace them with LED. There will also be a rise amounting to £12 a quarter for the maintenance of the current system. PS commented that this is not the first time E-ON have suggested the change; it was agreed that no change should be made at this point.</p>	LM
35/23	<p>Annual Reports: Shepherd's Trust: There is £300 in the account. The trust was set up to help the poor of the village, but there have been no payments in the last year. Knightly Trust: There is £120 in the account. This trust was set up to support the Sunday School, which no longer functions. The Village Hall: John Acres, chair of the committee, reported that the AGM had taken place on April 3rd. Finances remain healthy, but there is a need to plan fund-raising events to meet the cost of repairs and maintenance. Current projects include resolving the problem of damp and repairing the masonry of the bell tower. The Village Hall is an important facility for the benefit of the community. The Joy Mead: Debbie Mason, chair of the committee, reported on the major event of the year to celebrate the 100th birthday which had been very successful. The repairs to</p>	

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	<p>the cloister roof remain the greatest challenge. The original estimate was £300000, current reserves are £44000, so there is an on-going need to raise more through events and grants. The fence between the Gardens and John Church's property needs repair and John has generously offered to share the cost.</p> <p>The Church: LM reported on behalf of the PCC. Income received had more or less balanced expenditure for the year thanks to a legacy of £1000 and a donation from the Diocese of £755 to compensate for rising energy costs. However, for the second year, only 50% of the parish share was paid (£3672 of £7344). There has been no comment from The Diocese.</p>	
36/22	Report from Rupert Frost, Ward: Rupert was not present at this point of the meeting.	