

DRAFT

Minutes of the Meeting of Fressingfield Parish Council held in the Sancroft Hall, Fressingfield on Tuesday 17 January 2012

Present: Prue Rush; Garry Deeks; Paul Clark; Peter Davidson; Caroline Day; Judy Fullam; Robin Loxton; Malcolm Roberts; Ian Smith; Nick Stolls; Peter Vincent; Keith Wykes

In Attendance: District Cllr Marilyn Curran; Carol A Smy (Clerk)

2 Members of the public

Public Forum: *The subject of Community Orchards was mentioned and it was explained that this was already being investigated (see item 12.13). The provision of a post box in the centre of the village (in the vicinity of the shop) was seen as being necessary. It was pointed out that if one were situated there it was likely the others would fall into disuse inconveniencing residents at the edges of the village. The Clerk would contact the Post Office to enquire if the provision of another post box was a possibility before adding this to a future agenda.*

12.01 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

12.02 Apologies for absence were received from: PCSO Steve Long

12.03 Members' Declarations of Interest: Paul Clark and Peter Vincent noted personal interests in items 12.10 and 12.11 respectively

12.04 The Minutes of Last Meeting –15 November 2011 – were approved unanimously and signed following the addition of Robin Loxton's name to the list of those present.

Proposed: MR; seconded: IS

12.05 To consider any Planning Matters including:

0006/12 works to facilitate conversion of timber framed barn to a single residential dwelling house. (Application to replace extant listed building consent 1835/09 in order to extend the time limit for implementation)

Woodside Farm, Wood Lane

The above application had approval recommended unanimously

12.05.1 Applications considered at previous Planning Meetings:

2428/11 installation of single turbine(14.97m to hub,5.5m diameter blades) *Eastholme Farm, Gules Green Lane*

3800/11 erection of detached 3 bay cartlodge *Orchard Cottage, Laxfield Road*

12.05.2 Notification of decisions reached by MSDC:

The following applications were granted planning permission:

3302/11 erection of single storey side extension and construction of access ramp *Goodwin Hall, New Street*

3387/11 extension to agricultural store to provide storage and kitchen preparation areas

Yew Tree Farm, Cratfield Road

4075/11 Non-material amendment sought following grant of planning permission 0892/06 (Erection of 3 no. dwellings, garaging and associated site works with new highway access): Minor revisions to external appearance & fenestration Revised external materials Garages reduced in size Revised access location Revised hard landscaping (driveway & parking areas) Revised internal layout of dwellings *The Old School, Cratfield Road*

3234/11 change of use and works to convert barn to a single residential dwelling house with annex and change of use of outbuilding to form garaging. Creation of new vehicular access. *Rookery Farm, Chippenhall Green*

3235/11 LBC for 3234/11

1590/11 erection of one 5kw wind turbine

Apricot Farm, Cratfield Road

3372/11 erection of livestock manure pad cover

Yew Tree Farm, Cratfield Road

Two non-material amendments were granted for 3594/11 and 3927/11

The following application had planning permission refused:

1601/11 erection of 5kw wind turbine

Yew Tree Farm, Cratfield Road

712.05.4 Other Planning Matters:

12.05.4.i Application 3250/11 at Poplar Farm had been withdrawn

12.05.4.ii Application 3800/11 withdrawn by applicant

12.05.4.iii The Clerk had been asked to enquire about the legitimacy of the mobile home parked at Orchard Cottage. Contact had been made with the Enforcement Officer and response received in November. No further correspondence received to date.

12.06 Matters of Report:

12.06.1 **Waste Bins** – bin for bus shelter on order; BS will empty as part of his rounds. PC agreed to fix the bin when it arrived. It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should purchase a bin for the car parking area.

12.06.2 **Village Christmas Tree** – following a shaky start this was again a focal point in the village from advent to twelfth night. The Council agreed unanimously to take this on as a regular project in its calendar for future years thus ensuring that it remained a fixture to be enjoyed by everyone in the village. A Working Party would be established later in the year. The Clerk would obtain any useful information from the previous organisers. The Chairman thanked Philip Eastgate for organising the 2011 light up; Gavin Borrett for the electrics; Paul Clark for the lighting; PCC for the power; Virginia Skoyles for help with collecting the tree; Paul Yaxley for providing the tree. There had been some slight damage to the internal plaster when the wall was drilled for the cable and this would be rectified at no cost by . **Clerk to action**

12.06.3 **Projector** – a model had been recommended and the Council agreed that the projector should be professionally set up. **Clerk to action**

12.06.4 **Playing Field/dog walkers** – an email had been received from resident concerning dogs on the Playing Field. She wished the Council to allow well-behaved dogs and owners to use the area for off-lead play and training. It was unanimously agreed that this was unacceptable as there were areas on the edge of the village available for these activities. It was noted that it was illegal for dogs to be allowed on designated recreational areas of public space. The Clerk was asked to once again publicise the health risks in 5 Alive. **Clerk to action**

12.07 To receive the Financial Report & Approval of Accounts for payment:

12.07.1 Cheques for payment were approved unanimously; list appended to these minutes; . A cheque was written out of meeting to pay the village caretaker's salary for Dec/Jan.

12.07.2 Account balances at 31 December 2011 as follows:

Current Account: £13,498.79

Tracker Account: £19,755.83

There were unrepresented cheques - £388.64; balance at 31 Dec 11 £32,865.98

12.07.4 Budget was confirmed. Proposed GD; seconded MR and agreed unanimously and the precept request was signed.

12.08 To receive reports from the County & District Councillors and the Community Beat Officer:

12.08.1 County Councillor – no report

12.08.2 District Councillor – Cllr Curran reported that two new directors were to be appointed to further the MSDC/Babergh integration. Funding had been secured for air source heat pumps in 54 council owned properties and grants for heating were still available. Jubilee beacons were being promoted and the Council was interested in this so Cllr Curran would pass on the information. A Joint Housing Board was being established for tenants of MSDC and Babergh District Council. This would comprise six councillor members and six, elected, tenant members. All tenants would receive information from the District Councils on the election and how to stand for one of the seats. Notices would be posted on the boards. **Clerk to action**

12.08.3 Police – no crime to report since the last meeting. A Tasking meeting would take place on 24 Jan 12 at the Goodwin Hall at 7.30pm. GD & PV planned to attend. Police urged residents to be alert for scams after being contacted by a woman in Gorleston who on Thursday 12 January a call saying she had won a lottery - and that she would have to send a U-Cash money voucher once a cheque was received. The female caller said the cheque would be coming from Lichtenstein and that she would call again to see if the woman had the money voucher. This was believed to be a scam and the woman was advised that she should not send any money under these circumstances. Police were renewing appeals for residents to be vigilant and to stop and think before responding to such calls. There were a number of similar scams via post and email saying a prize had been won and requesting cash in order to claim it. No genuine lottery or competition organisation operated in this manner. The Mid Suffolk District had seen a rise in the number of vehicle break-ins over the past month, in particular of company vans. Offenders were searching for items such as Sat-Navs, and loose items lying around. The public were reminded always to secure their vehicles at night and remove anything of value.

12.09 Telephone kiosk – ongoing.

12.10 Jubilee Celebrations for 2012 – 124 orders for mugs had been received. Plans were well underway for the Fete on 04 June 2012. It would be a family fun day with a 1950s theme. 50s or red, white and blue dress was encouraged. There was room for new members of the organising Working Party. It was

hoped to have a photographic display and any pictures should be passed on to Mary Cuffley. The bells would also be rung.

12.11 Future of the Social Club – A letter had been received from the Sports & Community Club requesting some funding on an annual basis. It was stated that the Club was likely to close in September when current committee members stood down and it was generally felt that this might have to happen to enable a new format for the running of the Pavilion to take place. The Clerk was asked to respond that the Council was unable to offer funding at this time without a forward thinking business plan as the future was so uncertain. The Council felt it could not use public money to support a project that had no positive future mapped out. Clerk to action

12.12 Village Website – the hand over had been postponed.

12.13 The Big Tree Plant - Garry Deeks had been investigating the possibility of a fruit tree for every garden into practice but this was outside the scope of the Big Tree Plant. The parameters for a grant were very strict and whilst Fressingfield could fulfil most it could not cover all the requirements. GD would pursue this and report back at a later meeting.

12.14 Parking at Sandpath – Some questions posed had been put to Louise Rawsthorne. The response was that of the 23 bungalows in Sandpath 2 were privately owned; MSDC was not obliged to provide parking for tenants but parking and improvements were not funded by council tax payers – the funds came from rental income and tenants made the decisions on the way housing services were run; the garages were all rented to residents (and there was a waiting list) generating an income of circa £5,500pa. Using this space for open parking would result in a loss of income in the region of £165,000 over the 30 year business plan and it would cost around £40/45,000 to demolish and resurface. A new plan for the reorganisation of the parking arrangements at Sandpath would be put to the tenants for comment and a meeting would be arranged to discuss this. Nothing had been received, to date, on the parking on Pilgrim's Green and now marker posts had materialised. Clerk to action

12.15 Correspondence

12.15.1.i MSDC – advice on new appointments

12.15.1.ii PCC – note of thanks for grants

12.15.1.iii NALC – booklet on neighbourhood planning; available as a downloadable pdf. An e-learning course is also on offer at no cost. Councillors may contact the Clerk for details.

12.15.1.iv SCC – A New Heritage Organisation for Suffolk – consultation to 31 January 2012.

The Chairman and Clerk would complete on behalf of the PC. Individuals were also encouraged to submit responses.

12.15.1.v email ref Brome recycling site. Support requested via use of the site to ensure it remained viable.

12.15.1.vi Mid Suffolk CAB (Stowmarket) – requesting donation; invitation to residents to join the CAB oil club.

12.15.1.vii MSDC – Mid Suffolk Core Strategy Focused Review – Publication of the proposed Submission Document under Regulation 27. Any formal representation to be made by 22 February 2012

12.15.2 **Tabled Items:** SALC mailing; 2012 subscriptions; SALC survey on public transport cuts; SCC Budget Challenge review; MSDC/Babergh newsletter#2;

12.16 To Receive the Clerk's Report

12.16.1 Suffolk ACRE has established a bulk-purchase scheme for oil. A coordinator may be required for the village if there were to be enough interest. Posters would be displayed and contact details published in 5 Alive.

12.16.2 Following the last meeting's closing forum the Clerk contacted SCC and was informed the weeds would be attended to.

12.16.3 Email received from a retired Chartered Surveyor and Chartered Arbitrator offering pro bono advice (expenses only) on property matters. The information would be kept on file.

12.16.4 SCC initiative for 2012 – 'Suffolk Shines'. Illumination of buildings already lit eg churches and public buildings.

12.16.5 The Clerk planned to attend a free training course at MSDC on Planning.

12.16.6 The Clerk has received a request for information of activities planned for the Diamond Jubilee.

12.17 To consider Matters of Information brought by the Chairman or Members:

12.17.1 Further to the police mention of telephone scams a resident had been contacted by telephone to be told there was a problem with her internet connection and she should immediately switch on her computer so the fault could be diagnosed and repaired. The resident had no computer! This was a well publicised scam which, if the instructions were followed, could result in corruption of the hard drive.

12.17.2 A hedge had been planned on the road side of a ditch at Rookery Farm. It was felt this was part of the planning application.

12.17.3 GD gave a brief report of the SCC 'We Are Listening' meeting fiasco. The County Council had not publicised this until the very last minute and the Council needed to be aware and respond to SCC consultations. The Localism Act would have an impact on parish councils and their work and Councillors must be prepared to undertake training. The Clerk confirmed that as soon as SALC had its Localism training finalised she would be arranging a local course so all councillors, hopefully, would be able to attend rather than have to travel to Claydon and share the cost with, at least, Stradbroke.

12.17.4 Peter Vincent announced that this year's Litter Pick would take place on 10 March 2012 from 10am to 12 noon followed by refreshments in the Sancroft Hall. The Clerk was asked to arrange for heavier bags to be provided this year.

Clerk to action

12.18 Matters for Inclusion in the Agenda for next meeting – 13 March 2012 – nothing at this time. NB the Clerk would be unavailable on 20 March 2012 so it was agreed to bring the meeting forward to 06 March 2012.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.30 hrs

Signed:

Chairman

13 March 2012

Closing Public Forum: there were no matters brought forward