



**Minutes of the Meeting of Fressingfield Parish Council
held in the Sancroft Hall, Fressingfield
on Tuesday 15 January 2013**

Present: Prue Rush; Garry Deeks; Paul Clark; Peter Davidson; Caroline Day; Philip Eastgate; Judy Fullam; Warren Last; Ian Smith; Peter Vincent

In Attendance: Carol A Smy (Clerk)

2 Members of the public

Public Forum: *an expected letter from the Council had not been received; this would be resent. It was noted that the agenda and December minutes had not featured on the website. The agenda had been sent on and it was not known why it had not appeared. The Clerk explained the timetable for circulation of draft minutes and agendas.*

13.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

13.2 Apologies for absence were received from: Malcolm Roberts; Nick Stolls; Keith Wykes

13.3 Members' Declarations of Interest: there were none at this time.

13.4 Dispensations – there were no requests.

13.5 The Minutes of Last Meeting – 04 December 2012 – were agreed and signed (2 members abstained as they were not present at the last meeting. Proposed: PV; seconded: WL

13.6 To consider any Planning Matters including

13.6.1 Applications for consideration:

3566/12 Change of use of former granary building from flat with annex (implemented under planning permission 0157/95) to a holiday letting unit

Woodlands Farm, Stradbroke Road

Approval was recommended for the above application

13.6.2 Notification of decisions reached by MSDC:

Approval was granted for:

3166/12 Conversion of integral garage to kitchen/living area

South Lodge, School Lane

13.6.3 Other Planning Matters

13.6.3.i questions had been raised about the level of housing development proposed for the village. The Clerk consulted the senior planning officer and was informed that

a. further to the land bids: all were on hold as efforts had been concentrated on urban development; there was no timetable for a decision on development; it was likely that neighbourhood plans would come into play at the time of decision making

b. further to growth in Fressingfield: towns were seen as the main growth areas; large villages eg Stradbroke were designated Key Service Centres; Fressingfield was amongst the Primary Villages where it was envisaged that development would be small scale to meet local needs; forward planning would envisage growth needs for 15 years plus

c. it could do no harm to establish a working party to compose a paper on the likely needs for housing in Fressingfield which could be lodged with the Planning Department for future reference

13.6.4.ii email received from Chris Smith of Hopkins Homes concerning land at Red House Farm for development consideration. The plan was examined and the Council agreed there were other more suitable sites for any future development and the site in question was not one of the previously agreed land bid sites. There could have been some confusion ensuing from the small development at the old builder's yard and it was noted that this had been granted permission because it was a brownfield site.

Clerk to action

13.7 Matters of Report:

13.7.1 Standing Orders and Financial Standing Orders - there were no alterations or amendments, other than the addition of a clause referring to dispensations, and the documents were accepted unanimously and signed.

13.7.2 Updated Village Plan - the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Peter Vincent would examine the Village Plan with regard to assessing, as far as possible, the future needs of, particularly, affordable housing for the village.

PR, GD, PV to action

13.7.3 **Use of remaining Village of the Year funds** – a bench had been purchased and this had used up the remaining £130 of the Village of the Year prize money. The Chairman and Clerk had undertaken a site visit considering the various options and the most suitable spot appeared to be one of two at the Playing Field. It was unanimously agreed that the bench should be sited on the Playing Field and PV would consult the PFMC for member's views as to the best place. PV to action

13.7.4 **The Big Tree Plant** – notes append to these minutes. GD reported that there was a degree of interest in this project. There would not be the space for a thousand trees but a planting of fruit trees as a dispersible orchard in gardens and native trees in hedgerows was realisable. A notice would be placed in the magazine flyer to encourage interest from residents. Grants would be applied for. The Council was fully supportive of this project.

13.7.5 **Telephone Kiosk** – Mary Cuffley had contacted the Clerk about the area on which the kiosk stands. PE stated that concreting the standing, once the kiosk had been painted (task ongoing, awaiting clement weather), was under consideration.

13.7.6 **Traffic calming**

13.7.6.i Harleston Hill – speed checks were last undertaken in 2003. The Council could request them again but the purpose of the original request was now lost so it was agreed not to pursue this at this time.

13.7.6.ii 20mph in New Street – no further information at this point.

13.7.6.iii Victoria Terrace – further emails had been received and forwarded to the Highways Department. The engineer was not mindful to apply for a Traffic Regulation Order, which was very expensive particularly in the current climate. It was noted that Victoria Terrace was highway and could, therefore, be used by appropriately sized vehicles. It was agreed the situation should be monitored for a time.

13.7.2.4 Jubilee triangle – the Clerk had pursued the question of the surface and this was to be examined in due course.

13.7.2.5 Street Lighting – an email had been received from Pearce & Kemp with outline costs for upgrading the lights and an illustration of the type recommended. It was unanimously agreed to leave things as they are for the present as the costs outweighed the benefits.

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

13.8.1 Cheques for approval as per the appended list. £227.36 should have been paid to Matthew Hammond for November grass cutting at the cemetery. There were no cheques left when this came to light and so the Clerk, after conferring with the Chairman, paid MH and this amount was reclaimed by the Clerk within this month's salary cheque. Payment of the accounts was agreed unanimously (pro: GD; seconded IS)

13.8.2 Account balances at 31 December 2012:

Current account: £15,480.56

Tracker account: £19,765.68

3 unpresented cheques totalling £686.17

Balance at 31 December 2012: £34,560.07

13.8.3 A precept for 2013/14 of £15,000 was agreed unanimously (prop: GD; seconded PD). It was felt there was enough in reserves to cushion the effects of any government changes in the following financial year.

13.8.4 Insurance – the fidelity cover had been increased to £25,000 at no cost for the remaining period of the policy.

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

13.9.1 County Councillor – no report

13.9.2 District Councillor - no report

13.9.3 Police – PCSO Long reported that since the last meeting there had been no crimes in the village. 3 youths had been interviewed in the presence of their parents concerning minor anti social behaviour. Current crime trends were mainly burglary and theft. The recent Tasking Meeting set the promotion of road safety during the winter months including dealing with offences including mud on the road and the offering of advice on crime prevention at vulnerable locations.

13.10 Social Club

13.10.1 Minutes of the last meeting circulated and noted. Events were being organised and the accounts were still in the black.

13.11 Playing Field Management Committee

13.11.1 There is some funding that could be made available for the refurbishment of the Play Park - £2,300 s106 funding and Cllr McGregor might be able to make a contribution, as might MSDC. Grant funding

would also be a possibility. To access funding an audit of the Play Park with reference to the RoSPA report would be needed.

13.12 Emergency Plan/Flood Plan

13.12.1 note from James Fullam: Unfortunately we cannot issue any flood warnings to Fressingfield residents because the watercourse that runs through the village is not classified as a 'main river'. Main rivers are usually large rivers or streams, the River Waveney is a good example. Main Rivers can also include some smaller, more minor tributaries but I'm afraid the Fressingfield watercourse doesn't fall into this category. Flood warnings can only be provided for either tidal flooding (from the sea or estuaries) or fluvial main river flooding. As I say, because Fressingfield has no fluvial main river we can't provide a warning.

13.13 Annual CleanUp – this would be arranged for 09 March 2103. PV would coordinate. The Clerk was asked to book the Sancroft Hall for refreshments afterwards.

Clerk to action

13.14 Correspondence

13.14.1 Note of thanks from the PCC for the continued financial support

13.14.2 Scouts: presentation evening to be held on Thursday 14 February at the Scout Headquarters on the Kenyan exchange. All Councillors invited but a response is required to assist with catering.

Tabled items: TLC; Clerks & Councils Direct;

13.14 To Receive the Clerk's Report

13.14.1 The repainting of the cemetery gates had been suggested in the past. It was, allegedly, possible to use the Community Service personnel (via community Pay Back) for the task. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries.

Clerk to action

13.14.2 The Clerk would like to attend two courses in Feb & Mar – HMRC & Standing Orders and one later in the year (TBC) on document management. This was agreed. The cost would be shared with the Clerk's other Councils.

13.14.3 The Clerk had received a tender for the cutting of the grass at the Playing Field. It was for Eastern Facilities Management.

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

13.15.1 It was mentioned that cooperation between neighbouring villages might be productive to counter speeding...an informal agreement that drivers would not speed through each other's villages. The Clerk would contact neighbouring clerks to ascertain interest.

13.15.2 Further to PCSC Long's mention about mud on the roads: on reporting such an incident to the police the caller was given short shrift and told it was not a police matter but should be reported to the Highways Department for action. This was done but it transpired they could not find the road in question! The Clerk would advise PCSO Long.

Clerk to action

13.15.3 The Gull had been roped off by house builders thus denying access for pedestrians. This should not have happened and would be dealt with.

13.15.4 Damaged stiles and footbridges had been reported. These were reported to the County Council on a regular basis for ongoing maintenance. Such damage should be reported to the Footpath Warden, Paul Clark.

13.15.5 There had been two responses to the piece in 5 Alive concerning the possibility of staging a Village Fete this year. Such an event would be of benefit to the Social Club and the committee was very supportive. A meeting would be called for the end of January/early February to gauge interest, find a committee and decide on a project.

13.16 No Matters for Inclusion in the Agenda for the next Meeting of the Parish Council – 19 March 2013 were received at this time.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 21.10hrs

**Signed:
Chairman**

19 March 2013