



**Minutes of the Meeting of Fressingfield Parish Council
held in the Sancroft Hall, Fressingfield
on Tuesday 02 July 2013**

Present: Prue Rush; Paul Clark; Caroline Day; Philip Eastgate; Judy Fullam; Malcolm Roberts; Peter Vincent; Keith Wykes

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

No Members of the public attended the meeting.

Mike Evans, head of the Strategic Division (People) at MSDC and Babergh addressed the Parish Council on his role with housing, covering council and sheltered housing, capital and repairs. He explained that as of 01 July 2013 there had been one officer serving both councils for each strategic department. A smaller staff had led to savings of nearly £2m and £3.4m would need to be saved in 2013/14.

13.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and good wishes were sent to Paula Deeks for a swift recovery.

13.2 Apologies for absence were received from: Garry Deeks; Peter Davidson; Warren Last; Ian Smith; Nick Stolls;

13.3 There were no Members' Declarations of Interest declared

13.4 Dispensations – no requests were received

13.5 The Minutes of Last Meeting – 21 May 2013- were agreed and signed; prop JF, seconded PC agreed unanimously

13.6 To consider any Planning Matters including

13.6.1 There were no applications for consideration at this meeting

13.6.2 Applications considered at previous Planning Meetings:

1325/13 retention of 1.8m high timber trellis panels screening two sides of existing oil tanks at 8 properties

Plots 1-8 Carpenter's Yard

1505/13 retention of single storey 3 bedroom dwelling with detached single storey garage and vehicular access (retrospective application for dwelling as approved 0032/10)

The Gull, Cratfield Road

3171/12 erection of detached single storey dwelling and alterations to existing garage including partial demolition; provision of parking spaces to serve The Stores

The Stores, New Street

Approval was recommended for all the above applications

13.6.3 Notification of decisions reached by MSDC:

Approval was granted for:

0736/13 non material minor amendment sought following the grant of planning permission 3491/11. Amendments to door and window positions. Relocation of day room single storey element. Revised door and window design to sitting area

Barn at Willow House, Harleston Hill

0950/13 erection of a single storey rear extension

8 Laxfield Road

0946/13 demolition of existing store and garage

Land to the rear of The Old Post Office

(conservation area consent granted for the above)

1325/13 retention and completion of 1.8m high timber trellis panels screening two sides of existing oil tanks at 8 properties

Plots 1-8 Carpenters' Yard, New Street

The following applications were refused planning permission:

0940/13 installation of 2 x wind turbines to provide renewable energy for use at the site

White House Farm, New Street

3171/12 erection of detached single-storey dwelling and alterations to existing garage including partial demolition; provision of parking spaces to serve The Stores

The Stores, New Street

13.6.4 Other Planning Matters

13.6.4.1 0736/13 non-material amendment at the Barn at Willow House - determined satisfactory

13.6.4.2 0945/13 erection of single-storey dwelling Land to the rear of The Old Post Office, Church Street - this application had been withdrawn

13.6.4.3 the requirement for planning consent for the screens to the oil tanks at Carpenters' Yard was queried with the planning officer whose response was: *The application which permitted the houses removed permitted development rights, and the screens were not included as part of the application and as a result require planning permission. It seems that there has been some history with regards to the screens with enforcement, so I assume the applicant has submitted the application to regularise the situation.*

13.7 Matters of Report:

13.7.1 **Updated Village Plan** – the working party had met to discuss the Action Plan and this had been updated to reflect progress made so far. It was suggested that closer to the time scheduled for a new plan (2016) a survey be circulated to all residents to review priorities and establish residents' ideas and proposals.

13.7.2 **Jubilee Triangle** - the Clerk had a site meeting with a representative of Waterfields to obtain a quotation for the refurbishment of the surface of the triangle. This was awaited and will be presented at the next meeting.

13.7.3 **The Big Tree Plant** – ongoing

13.7.4 **Telephone Kiosk** – favourable comments had been received about the exterior painting. Mary Cufley was organising the painting of the ceiling, the cleaning of the interior and the installation of the artwork. A bill would be submitted once the work was completed.

13.7.5 **Overflow of water at the entrance of School Lane** – nothing further to report. This would be removed from the agenda.

13.7.6 **Play Area** – nothing to report. This would be removed from the agenda.

13.7.7 **Publicity** – it had been suggested to the Clerk that a photograph and pen picture of each Councillor and the Clerk be posted on the website. This was not universally popular and would be revisited following the next Parish Council election.

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

13.8.1 Cheques for payment, as per appended sheet, were approved unanimously. Prop JF; seconded MR;

13.8.2 Account balances at 30 June 2013:

Current account: £17,021.33

Tracker account: £19,770.60

Unpresented cheques totalled: £350.20

Balance at 30 June 2013: £36,441.73

13.8.3 Audit Report from internal auditor: it was recommended that the fidelity guarantee be kept under review. The time allowed for public examination had elapsed and the documents had been sent to the External Auditor.

13.8.4 Grant to the Big Tree Plant – to be addressed at the next meeting

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 - Cllr Curran complimented Fressingfield's WI on its showing at the Suffolk Show. Prior to this meeting MC had toured the village with Mike Evans and the Chairman of the Parish Council. Residents appeared to be content with the changes to the open area at Sandpath which provided extra parking. MC had been appointed lead elected member for Housing at MSDC.

13.9.3 Police – PCSO Long's written report stated there had been one crime since the last meeting – a case of criminal assault. Residents were reminded to ensure their outbuildings and vehicles were secured at all times as there had been a spate of thefts recently in Stradbroke and Horham.

13.10 Social Club

13.10.1 Minutes of the last meeting noted

13.10.2 Letter of thanks for grant received

13.10.3 The Clerk had been contacted by PCSO Long concerning a proposal for a gate to be installed at the entrance of the lane to the Playing Field. A rota of residents of Sandpath could be set up to undertake the locking and unlocking of such a gate. PV explained that this had been considered in the past and had been deemed unworkable, as there were so many opportunities for things to go wrong, and so rejected.

13.11 Fressingfield Playingfield Management Committee

13.11.1 Nothing to report at this time other than that fewer Committee Meetings were taking place and this seemed to be a positive move.

13.11.2 The Clerk had been contacted by PCSO Steven Long concerning a proposal for a gate at the entrance to the lane leading up to the Playing Field. There had been issues of anti-social behaviour – cars and motorbikes racing up the access lane and on the Playingfield to the annoyance of residents of Sandpath. It was mentioned that such an arrangement had been proposed in the past but the continued enthusiasm for the locking and unlocking of a gate had been thought unlikely to be sustained. This would be further explored.

13.12 Correspondence

13.12.1 see item 13.10.2

Tabled items: Community Action Suffolk Training Guide;

13.13 To Receive the Clerk's Report

13.13.1 The Clerk wished to thank the Members for accepting the change of date for this meeting. The scheduled meeting date of 16 July would, therefore, be used for planning as there was one application for consideration (received too late for this meeting); dates for planning meetings in August would be unchanged.

13.13.2 The Clerk was contacted re visibility on Laxfield Road causing difficulties to a resident as she was driving from her property into the road and so requested exit mirrors. The Clerk had undertaken a site visit and the hedging was reducing the visibility as was the fence on the other side of the drive. Extension of the 30mph would be very unlikely in the current economic climate. **Clerk to action**

13.14 Matters of Information brought by the Chairman or Members:

13.14.1 The hedge on the corner of Church Street was impeding visibility for drivers exiting onto Laxfield Road. It was agreed that this was beyond the scope of the Parish Council as it was a privately owned hedge on private land. The Clerk was asked to investigate further on her return from holiday. **Clerk to action**

13.14.2 The Clerk was asked to make enquiries about the development at Oak Farm Barn. The Enforcement Officer had been asked to investigate but no information had been forthcoming. **Clerk to action**

13.14.3 It was noted that much of the hedging had been cut back along Buckingham Hill and this was a great improvement to visibility. It was felt that a sign prior to Gules Green Lane (coming into the village) warning of the hidden footpath would be very helpful. **Clerk to action**

13.14.4 The benches and notice boards were in need of refurbishment. The Clerk had spoken to Bob Stanley but would ask if he could make a start, beginning with the bench at Priory Crescent. **Clerk to action**

13.15 To receive Notice of Matters for Inclusion in the Agenda for the next Meeting of the Parish Council – 17 September 2013

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20.45hrs.

**Signed:
Chairman**

17 September 2013