



**Minutes of the Meeting of Fressingfield Parish Council
held in the Sancroft Hall, Fressingfield
on Tuesday 19 March 2013**

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

In Attendance: Cllr Guy McGregor; Cllr Marilyn Curran; Carol A Smy (Clerk)
4 Members of the public

Public Forum: *the Parish Council was advised that the Social Club was beginning to thrive with an increasing number of bookings for parties and events. The Council was pleased to learn of this and was very supportive of the efforts of all involved.*

13.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

13.2 Apologies for absence were received from: Judy Fullam; Keith Wykes; PCSO Steve Long

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 – 15 January 2013 – were agreed, unanimously, and signed
Proposed: PV; seconded: PGD

13.6 To consider any Planning Matters including

13.6.1 Applications for consideration:

0040/13 infilling of garage doors on south elevation, insertion of 3 x windows on west elevation; repositioning of existing gates and fence *Street Farm Barn, Cratfield Road*

Approval recommended unanimously; prop: PV; seconded WL

13.6.2 Applications considered at previous Planning Meetings:

3715/12 provision of car parking spaces *Land at Sandpath*

0041/13 infilling of garage doors on south elevation, insertion of 3 x windows on west elevation and formation of internal doorway. LBC *Barn at Street Farm, Cratfield Road*

Approval was recommended for both the above

13.6.3 Notification of decisions reached by MSDC:

Approval was granted for:

0038/13 erection of cart lodge (existing garage to be demolished). Construction of new vehicular access *Street Farm, Laxfield Road*

0039/13 demolition of garage *Street Farm, Laxfield Road*

13.6.4 Other Planning Matters

13.6.4.1 Councillors may be aware that there had been some questions raised about the name of the new development in the village. Following a casual remark to an estate agent, who then complained to MSDC, the name of the close was changed, by the Custodian of Addresses at MSDC, to Carpenter Yard. This had proved to be universally unpopular and residents contacted the Clerk requesting the road revert to Carpenters Yard. It had been now been confirmed that the road would, henceforth, be known as Carpenters Yard. The road signs would be changed to reflect this but that was not likely before the start of the new financial year. Emails had been received from residents thanking the Council for its intervention.

13.7 Matters of Report:

13.7.1 Updated Village Plan - ongoing

13.7.2 Traffic calming

13.7.2.i 20mph in New Street – objections had been raised by the police and local residents so this went to the Rights of Way Committee in January. The application for a 20mph limit in New Street was refused by a majority vote on the grounds that it did not fit the required criteria. Speed data had been taken and average speeds were found to be 26mph in an easterly direction and 24mph westerly. It was agreed that there was no reason to challenge the decision and to remove this item from the agenda.

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

13.7.2.iii Parking on verge at Laxfield Road – a letter from resident in response to Council's communication was read out and noted. The correspondent requested that speeding and parking be addressed by the PC but

it was unanimously agreed the previous efforts by the Council had proved fruitless and any further complaints should be directed to the police and MSDC respectively.

13.7.4 **The Big Tree Plant** – grants had been applied for to provide 1000 trees for planting in the village. These would be a mix of fruit trees and natural species to form a dispersal orchard, spinney and to generally improve the environment. The Primary School had expressed interest in being involved. Suggestions for placement were welcome. There may be a requirement for some financial support from the Parish Council but this would be addressed in due course. The Chairman thanked Garry Deeks for all his efforts in moving the project forward.

13.7.5 **Telephone Kiosk** – proposals from FHLAG had been circulated prior to meeting. These were unanimously supported and Mary Cuffley was thanked for her work. It was suggested that laminated boards be used and Peter Davidson would pass on the requisite information.

13.7.6 **Annual CleanUp** – despite the chosen day being very inclement 15 residents took part in the village spring cleaning and collected several bags of rubbish and assorted items for disposal. The Chairman thanked Peter Vincent for organising the morning and all who took part.

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 as per appended sheet.

Prop MR; seconded WL;

13.8.2 Account balances at 28 February 2013;

Current account: £13,260.25

Tracker account: £19,765.68

There were no unrepresented cheques

Balance at 28 February 2013: £33,025.93

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

13.9.1 County Councillor – Cllr McGregor advised that the Council Tax would not increase in the coming financial year and that if the current County Council administration were to be returned in the May elections the Leader had pledged to maintain the same Council Tax rate for the duration of the coming term. SCC had hosted a meeting at the House of Commons for those local MPs likely to be affected by pylon blight from offshore energy generation. It was hoped that all cabling would be underground. Cllr McGregor enquired if the Council was content with the decision not to install a 20mph limit on New Street, or wished to go to appeal. In view of the evidence on speed that had been provided and the likely cost of instituting the measures (iro £20k) Members voted by a majority (9 in favour of no appeal; 2 abstentions) to maintain their previous stance at *item 13.7.2.i*.

13.9.2 District Councillor - Cllr Curran noted that MSDC was looking at the provision of warning signs for future clean up activities. The planning application for the parking area at Sandpath was to go to the next Committee meeting. The last round of new structure at the District Council would be announced at the end of March. The Suffolk Waste Partnership was promoting the recycling of more types of plastic. All tenants would have received a Welfare Reform Guide. Concerned tenants should get in touch with MSDC for further information or advice.

13.9.3 Police – three reported crimes had taken place since the last meeting: criminal damage; cruelty to animals and criminal damage to a motor vehicle. Several cases of fraud targeting small businesses had occurred throughout the country and if people were approached to take advertising space in magazines purporting to be emergency services or community publications do not take up the offer and report it to 101. The new Chief Constable, Douglas Paxton, took up his role in February.

13.10 Social Club

13.10.1 Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated and were noted.

13.11 Playing Field Management Committee

13.11.1 A report on the required maintenance at the Play Park had been circulated prior to meeting and was noted. The Clerk was asked to write to Clive Skoyles in appreciation of his efforts to keep the Play Park in a good state of repair.

Clerk to action

13.11.2 Approval of payment of the full cost of the work undertaken was given (proposed MR; seconded GD)

13.11.3 A PFMC meeting was set for the end of March.

13.11.4 There had been a good response to the initial meeting to gauge interest in a Fete, tasks had been allocated and more people had joined in since. A further meeting would be held on 15 April 2013. There may be a requirement for some support from the PC, as in previous years this was agreed but the amount

would be confirmed later. The date had been set for 06 July 2013 and details would be appearing on the website along with entry forms for the show.

13.12 Correspondence

13.12.1 information and request for donation from AgeUK

13.12.2 information and request for donation form Mid Suffolk CAB

Tabled items: Suffolk View;

13.13 To Receive the Clerk's Report

13.13.1 The Clerk had recently attended a course on Standing Orders. Unfortunately, the awaited changes resulting from the abolition of the old Code of Conduct and the institution of a new one had not been received from central government so those would not be dealt with straight away. The Clerk recommended that all documents for review and signature such as these be dealt with early in the Council's year (possibly May meeting, along with elections to committees etc.) and this was agreed.

13.13.2 Email received after posting of agenda concerning Christmas Tree and portable lights. It was agreed that the purchase of portable lights would not be pursued at this time.

13.13.3 **Community Pay Back** - the Clerk consulted the Probation Service ref using Community Pay Back to undertake the refurbishment of the benches and Cemetery gates. This service now costs £75 per day plus the cost of materials (likely cost iro £200). Access to the Sancroft Hall or Pavilion would be required for the duration of the work and this could prove problematic. Bob Stanley was prepared to undertake the work on the gates for his daily rate of £85 plus materials (estimated a day's work). Benches and notice boards: BS happy to do the work on these items when the weather permitted. The Council agreed unanimously that Bob Stanley should be engaged to undertake all these tasks.

Clerk to action

13.14 Annual Parish Meeting - this would be held on Tuesday 16 April 2013 at 8pm to be preceded by a planning meeting, if necessary. Invitations would be sent to the usual organisations but any group wishing to submit a report was welcome to do so.

Clerk to action

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

13.15.1 Concerns had been raised about the amount of mud on the road and the lack of interest from the police and highways department. The Chairman would pass on concerns to the relevant parties. **PR to action**

13.15.2 Recent rain had caused a degree of flooding over the road at the entrance to School Lane. This had been reported but nothing appeared to have happened. The Clerk would report it again and attempt to have the matter rectified.

Clerk to action

13.15.3 The beck had flooded and the location of the sandbags was questioned. It was thought it might be better to distribute the sandbags to affected households. Peter Vincent would speak with Mr Vincent to try to formalise a plan of action.

PV to action

13.15.4 It was suggested the newsletter might be a vehicle to thank owners who had taken the trouble to maintain their hedges enabling a clear view and proper width of highway. Others could be reminded of their liability.

Clerk to action

13.16 No Matters for Inclusion in the Agenda for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – 21 May 2013 – were received at this time.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 21.05hrs. There was no further Public Forum.

**Signed:
Chairman**

21 May 2013