

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Fressingfield Parish Council
held in the Sancroft
Hall, Fressingfield
on Tuesday 20 May 2014**

Present: Prue Rush; Garry Deeks; Paul Clark; Caroline Day; Philip Eastgate; Judy Fullam; Warren Last; Malcolm Roberts; Nick Stolls; Peter Vincent; Keith Wykes

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

No members of the public

No matters were brought to the attention of the Council during the time set aside for the Public Forum

14.1 Election of Chairman - GD proposed Prue Rush be re-elected for the coming year; seconded by NS and agreed unanimously. The Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

14.2 Election of Vice Chairman - the Chairman proposed Garry Deeks be re-elected vice Chairman for the coming year; seconded by PC and agreed unanimously

14.3 Apologies for absence were received from: Peter Davidson; Ian Smith; PCSO Steven Long;

14.4 Members' Declarations of Interest – there were none at this time

14.5 Dispensations – there were no requests

14.6 The Minutes of Last Meeting – 18 March 2014; approved unanimously and signed. Prop: PV; seconded GD

14.7 Appointment to committees and working parties – details appended to these minutes

14.8 Approval of Standing Orders – the new document had been circulated and was agreed and approved unanimously and signed: prop MR; seconded PV

14.9 Approval of Financial Standing Orders – the new document had been circulated and was agreed and approved unanimously and signed: prop MR; seconded PV

14.10 To consider any Planning Matters including:

14.10.1 Applications for consideration at this meeting:

0970/14 erection of front porch. Erection of single storey rear extension *Beck Cottage, Harleston Hill*

14.8.2 **Applications considered at previous planning meetings:**
0914/14 erection of single storey rear extension and side access ramp for disabled use *21 Broadway*

Approval was unanimously recommended for the above applications

14.8.3 Notification of decisions reached by MSDC:

Approval was granted for:

0450/14 yellow false acacia tree – to be felled *2 Gull Cottage, Laxfield Road*
0518/14 erection of summerhouse *5 Carpenters' Yard*

0914/14 erection of single storey rear extension and side access ramp for disabled use *21 Broadway*

14.8.4 No other Planning Matters were brought to the attention of the Council

14.9 Matters of Report:

14.9.1 The Big Tree Plant – nothing to report

14.9.2 Benches and Notice Boards – Bob Stanley had begun the remedial work. The commemorative bench had been sited at the Pavilion and thanks were recorded to PGD for his arranging for this work to be completed.

14.9.3 Street Lighting - letter received from Pearce and Kemp concerning the cost of LED replacements.

MR agreed to consider the information and report back to the July meeting.

MR to action

14.9.4 Dog signs – two signs on order for the playing field

Clerk to action

14.9.5 Scout Hut – letter from 1st Fressingfield Scouts concerning the need for a new Scout Hut. A piece of land had been offered, in principle, but there had been no response to this. The Clerk was asked to write to the Scout Leader expressing support for the project but not financially at this time and to note the lack of response to the possible offer of land at the Playingfield.

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

14.10.1 Approval of accounts for payment – cheques as per appended sheet – prop JF; seconded MR; agreed unanimously and the cheques duly signed

14.10.2 Account balances at 30 April 2014:

Current account: £22,211.92

Tracker account: £19,777.99

There was one unrepresented cheque: £112

Balance at 30 April 2014: £41,877.91

14.10.3. Annual Audit

14.10.3.i accounting statement and governance statement were considered, approved unanimously and signed

14.10.3.ii members had previously considered the recommendation to increase the Fidelity Guarantee sum but were unanimously content to keep the cover as is.

14.10.4.i Request for donation from Avenues Group (formerly Optua); 22 residents of Fressingfield had used the services of this organisation in the past year. This would be considered at the budget meeting at the end of the year.

14.10.4.ii Request for grant towards NORJAM 14 from 1st Stradbroke Guides (the Clerk is given to understand that there are girls from Fressingfield in the group). Members agreed unanimously that it would not make a grant.

14.10.6 Repeal of s150(5) Local Government Act 1972 - this will mean that it will no longer be necessary to adhere to the two signature rule and so online banking will become legitimate. However, should the Council wish to make use of this legislative reform order (LRO) it must ensure that rigorous systems are in place to minimise the risk of fraud. It was advised that a small working party (or perhaps the FGPWG) meets to draw up an appropriate code. Members agreed that this would be considered six months before any necessary action

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

14.11.1 County Councillor – no report

14.11.2 District Councillor - MC referred Members to the recent newsletter from MSDC

14.11.3 Police – one crime, a burglary, since the last meeting. This took place on 17 April.

14.12 Social Club

14.12.1 The refurbishment programme had been completed and grant funding was now coming in.

14.13 Playingfield Management Committee

14.13.1 PV reported that Clive Skoyles had stepped down from the oversight and maintenance of the children's Play Park. PV had advertised in the magazine for a replacement and had stressed that if no one came forward the Play Park would have to close.

14.14 Correspondence

Tabled items: CAB Annual Report; Grounds Tidy promotional material; annual report and information from the Adnams Charity; Community Action Suffolk info letter;

14.15 To Receive the Clerk's Report

14.15.1 The Chairman and Clerk met a representative of the Highways Department for a site visit at Jubilee Corner following a complaint about poor visibility and traffic cutting the corner. It was concluded there that nothing could be done and when motorists drove to the conditions there should be few problems.

14.15.2 Steve Wyatt contacted the Clerk re the power washing of the War Memorial. Vic Barley had agreed to do the work for a cost of £100 and the Clerk asked that the work be completed as soon as possible.

14.16 Matters of Information brought by the Chairman or Members:

14.16.1 the Fete would take place on 07 June. It was to be a WW1 commemorative event organised in conjunction with the RBL

14.16.2 parents walking their small children to Tiddlywinks Nursery were finding the route very dangerous, as it was for all pedestrians. The Clerk was asked to speak to her contacts at Highways to enquire about a speed restriction and/or warning signs.

Clerk to action

14.16.3 the condition of the triangle at the junction of Stradbroke/Laxfield Roads was mentioned. It was agreed the Clerk should ask Bob Stanley to spray the area with weedkiller and clear the remains. The area could then be reassessed. Hot tar and gravel was proposed for consideration.

14.16.4 the condition of the flag on the church tower was mentioned, also the times it was flown.

14.17 To receive Notice of Matters for Inclusion in the Agenda for the next Meeting of the Parish Council – 15 July 2014

14.17.1 Date to be agreed for the annual internal audit inspection

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.48hrs.

**Signed:
Chairman**

15 July 2014