

draft

**Minutes of the Meeting of Fressingfield Parish Council
held in the Sancroft
Hall, Fressingfield
on Tuesday 15 July 2014**

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

In Attendance: Cllr Marilyn Curran; Carol A Smy (Clerk)
13 members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM:

Residents of Priory Crescent and Post Mill Lane spoke against the planning application 1156/14 and requested that minutes of the Public Forum be noted. All were fervently against the application on the grounds that the proposed dwelling was far too large for the site, was not in keeping with the surroundings, was over-development, would dominate that part of the village and would, allegedly, result in the devaluation of neighbouring properties by 15%. Concerns were expressed about the size of the dwelling and the number of windows that would overlook adjacent properties. It was mentioned that there were inaccuracies in the plans on MSDC's website. There were 10 parking spaces identified and this was deemed excessive, leading to unacceptable increase in traffic flow at an awkward gateway onto New Street. PGD explained the reasons for his application and assured everyone that the inclusion of a separate office was an error; he did not wish to move his workplace to the proposed dwelling. He stated that he could have submitted an application to build six houses on the site but he wanted a new home for himself and his family. There was an unpleasant riposte from the public accusing PGD of making threats...this was patently not so.

14.1 Chairman's Welcome

14.2 Apologies for absence were received from: Keith Wykes; Cllr Guy McGregor; PCSO Steven Long

14.3 Members' Declarations of Interest – Peter Davidson and Philip Eastgate declared an interest in item 14.6.1/1156/14

14.4 Dispensations – there were no requests

14.5 The Minutes of Last Meeting – 20 May 2014; approved unanimously and signed. Prop: GD; seconded MR

14.6 To consider any Planning Matters including:

14.6.1 Applications for consideration at this meeting:

1156/14 erection of replacement dwelling including change of use of land to domestic and creation of new vehicular access *South View, New Street*

Refusal was recommended for the above application (majority decision of 5 against and 3 abstentions)

1729/14 erection of storage building for the applicants' catering/barbecue equipment and vehicles *Yew Tree Farm, Cratfield Road*
6 Carpenters' Yard

1802/14 to install small window at first floor level on north elevation

Approval recommended for the above applications

14.6.2 Applications considered at previous planning meetings:

Nothing to report

14.6.3 Notification of decisions reached by MSDC:

Approval was granted for:

1422/14 single storey dwelling and garage including construction of vehicular access (retrospective application for dwelling as approved ref: 0032/01) *Plot at The Gull, Cratfield Road*

14.6.4 Other Planning Matters:

14.6.4.1 The work on Farriers had been noted and no planning application had come across the Clerk's desk. MSDC's Planning Department reported that it had been made aware of the work and was in communication with the owner of the property and that an application had to be submitted.

14.6.4.2 A complaint had been received about the overgrowing nettles etc on Priory Road.

14.7 Matters of Report:

14.7.1 The Big Tree Plant – GD reported that he had finally received notification that administrative difficulties had been solved and the trees would be available in time for the forthcoming planting season

14.7.2 **Benches and Notice Boards** – work was ongoing and the weeds had been sprayed under and around the village sign

14.7.3 **Street Lighting** – MR had looked into replacement lights but had been advised that the previous information was out of date

14.7.4 **Dog signs** – two signs on order but the clerk had been unable to make contact with the manufacturer

14.7.5 **Scout Hut** – an email from 1st Fressingfield Scouts concerning proposed new scout hut had been received. The Scout Leader appeared to have misunderstood the Council's response to his recent request. It was reiterated that the PC could make no promise of support, financial or otherwise, until a definite proposal was forthcoming

14.7.6 **Marquees** – the marquees were available for hire from village organisations and charitable groups, in line with the terms of the grant received to purchase them

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

14.8.1 Approval of accounts for payment – cheques as below – prop MR; seconded JF; agreed unanimously and the cheques were duly signed

101481	R Stanley	caretaker's wages	£112.00
101482	M Hammond	cemetery maintenance	£372.42
101483	R Stanley	caretaker's wages	£112.00
101484	CA Smy	Clerk's salary & expenses	£795.03

14.8.2 Account balances at 30 June 2014:

Current account: £20,854.45

Tracker account: £19,780.46

There were seven unpresented cheques: £1324.55

Balance at 30 June 2014: £39,310.45

Earmarked reserves:

Clerk's gratuity	2049.00
Election	1000.00
Parish Projects	9857.00
Playing Field Projects	2000.00
Contingency	1854.00
Sports & Social Club	400.00
Street Light Renewals	2083.00
	£ 19,243.00

Balance of Available Funds at month end:

£ 18,675.91

14.8.3. Annual Audit – accounts had been returned from the internal auditor and documentation had been forwarded to BDO LLP

14.8.4 A request for financial assistance from Bowls Club to purchase 'junior woods' to try to encourage younger players had been received. A grant was agreed, in principle, and it was presumed that the funds would be required in time for the summer holidays. Therefore, Members agreed that an accurate sum should be ascertained so that the Clerk could arrange for a cheque to be signed out of meeting and given to the club for a speedy purchase.

Clerk to action

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

14.9.1 County Councillor – no report; £400k available for highway drainage

14.9.2 District Councillor - Cllr Curran congratulated Fressingfield on a other successful summer Fete. It was pleasing to see the achievements of the Sports and Social Club. Small grants were available from MSDC to assist with holiday activities. Suffolk Energy Action had funds available for energy improvements and information was provided via its website or by phone – 0800 840 9090. The installation of PV panels had begun on MSDC's housing stock and was already providing a saving for tenants. The Financial Inclusive Project was working with various agencies to help people with budgeting, best buys and getting back to work.

14.9.3 Police – PCSO Long's report was brief – there had been one crime since the last meeting, a burglary in which business premises had been broken into and was part of a spate of property and vehicle crime at the end of June; the offenders were disturbed and fled empty handed. A council tax email scam is occurring. The email address looks convincing (refund@direct.gov.uk) but the scamsters ask for confidential information. The next priority setting meeting will take place in October.

14.10 Social Club

PV reported that the refurbishment was complete and had come in under budget. The Fete was a great success and the financial situation at the SSC was improving. Unfortunately, the caretakers had had to resign owing to

health concerns but there had been two applicants for the post and a new caretaker/manager would be appointed very soon. The AGM would take place on 13 August 2014.

14.11 Playingfield Management Committee

The AGM would take place on 13 August 2014.

14.12 Correspondence

14.12.1 Document received from Laxfield Museum with names of WW1 fallen from Fressingfield

14.12.2 Letter of thanks for the donation to the Methodist Church

14.12.3 Email concerning parking by the War Memorial. It was agreed to pass this on to the Police for action

14.12.4 Tailored training was available from SALC. Various topics were on offer and councils could combine courses to suit.

14.12.5 Request from Vitalise for a donation

14.12.6 Letter from resident of Priory Crescent concerning dog fouling in that area and requesting that a dog bin be sited either at the entrance to the footpath at Post Mill Lane or at the entrance to the field alongside Weybread Woodcraft. Members agreed, reluctantly, that despite possible urbanisation there was a requirement for one or two more dog waste bins in these strategic places in the village. The Clerk was asked to research the prices. Clerk to action

14.12.7 A request for the removal of out of date posters around the village. Perhaps Councillors could remove these as they are walking in the village? The Clerk was asked to contact the organisers of the Stradbroke Festifull to have their posters removed. Clerk to action

Tabled items: TLC; Community Action Suffolk information pack;

14.13 To Receive the Clerk's Report

14.13.1 New Suffolk Code of Conduct was circulated. This would be adopted at the September meeting.

14.13.2 Emergency Planning workshop on 30 July at Earsham.

14.13.3 Response from Highways Dept to question of reduce speed limit on Laxfield Road towards Tithe Farm – action not within criteria. This was not satisfactory but unlikely to be changed. It was suggested that a note advising people to take care should be placed in the next magazine insert.

14.13.4 LIGHTS OUT – 4 AUGUST 2014. An invitation to all to turn out their lights on 4th August 2014 from 10-11pm and leave a single candle burning in commemoration of the start of WW1.

14.13.5 Community Action Suffolk – community oil buying scheme was available to all in rural areas.

14.14 Matters of Information brought by the Chairman or Members:

14.14.1 It was understood that there might be land available for the proposed Scout Hut

14.15 To receive Notice of Matters for Inclusion in the Agenda for the next Meeting of the Parish Council – 16 September 2014

14.15.1 Adoption of Code of Conduct

14.15.2 Dog bins

14.15.3 Junior Bowls

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.33hrs.

**Signed:
Chairman**

16 September 2014