

**Minutes of the Meeting of Fressingfield Parish Council
held in the Sancroft Hall, Fressingfield
on Tuesday 21 August 2018**

Present: Garry Deeks; Alex Day; Philip Eastgate; Judy Fullam; Tom Lindsay; Ian Smith; Nick Stolls; Rachel Troughton; Dave Wheeler; Andrew Vessey

In Attendance: Cllr Guy McGregor SCC; Cllr Lavinia Hadingham MSDC;

No members of the public attended and there was no Public Forum

County Councillor's report: brief, due to holidays. SCC members were concerned about overspend following cases in other parts of the country. School transport policy had been relaxed to assist parents of rising 5s and sixth form pupils. Traffic regulation had been removed from the Police and responsibility transferred to the County Council, principally affecting parking. A new library in Eye was under construction although GMcG was disappointed at the forthcoming closure of Barclays Bank in the town. Cllr McGregor advised he had budget funds available to assist with finger posts for footpaths where they left a tarmac road. Work by the PC to make footpaths in the village more visible was noted. He would look into the loss of five out of six village name signs and report back.

GMcG to action

District Councillor's report: due to the holidays there was no formal report but Council was advised that CIL/s106 money was retained by MSDC and assistance had been given to the Sports and Social Club to identify a contact to facilitate access to this money. The schedule for the hearing for the 3 planning applications (large developments) was queried. LH stated that the controversial nature of the applications was understood at MSDC and information and reports were still being collated. No date confirmed for the Planning Committee meeting. Concerns were raised about the possible increase in annual housebuilding numbers from 430 to 600 under the recently published NPPF guidelines. A definitive plan was due for publication at the end of 2018 which should clarify the future planning expectations to be placed on local authorities.

18.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported that, regrettably, the Locum Clerk was unable to attend

18.2 Apologies for absence were received and accepted from: Tracy Livingstone;

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

18.4 Resignations and Co-options – there had been five expressions of interest in the Clerk's post and interviews were to be held on 24 August for the final two on the shortlist. The PC agreed unanimously to authorise the Interview Panel to make an executive decision on the appointment of a clerk rather than bring its recommendations to the September meeting for final decision.

18.5 The Minutes of previous meetings – 17 July 2018, had been circulated; approved unanimously and signed. Prop: AV; seconded RT.

18.6 Planning

18.6.1 Applications for consideration at this meeting:

DC/18/03011 works to trees in a conservation area T1 Ash – fell

Higglers, New Street

DC/18/03480 application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act, Planning reference no 0482/17 and DC/17/03205 ((Outline Permission) including access and layout with all other matters reserved) for severance of garden and erection of a two bedroom dwelling. Condition No 2: Listing of approved plans and documents. Changes to the external appearance with the installation of external air source heat pump and minor adjustments to position of two roof lights

Peeler House, Stradbroke Road

Refusal was recommended, unanimously, for both of the above applications

18.6.2 Notification of decisions reached by MSDC:

Approval granted for the following applications:

DC/18/02865 erection of workshop

Whittingham Hall

DC/18/02996 works to trees in a conservation area

3 Victoria Terrace

Refusal of the following application:

DC/18/02991 application for Lawful Development Certificate for Existing Use or Development- Continuous occupation of Charro Lodge in breach of agricultural occupancy condition

Charro Lodge, Storeys Lane

18.6.3 Other Planning Matters:

18.6.3.1 MSDC Planning Committee Meeting to consider applications for the 3 proposed developments had been postponed, yet again. The Chairman reviewed the pertinent issues and the changes that had occurred since the plans were first presented over a year ago relating to national government and district council planning objectives and reports.

18.6.3.2 It was felt useful to undertake an audit of those trees in the parish which currently had TPOs and those whose merit might require one. GD would contact MSDC on this matter.

GD to action

18.7 To receive the Financial Report:

18.7.1 **Approval of cheques for payment** – details distributed. Approved unanimously

18.7.2 **Bank balances** – At 31 July 2018 the bank accounts stood as follows:

A/c 20356132 £18,309.03

A/c 20356145 £25,070.07

There were two outstanding cheques totalling £341.30 leaving a balance of £43,438.03

18.7.3 Invitation to renew membership of SPS. £30 pa.

18.7.4 Bank interest rate increased wef 03 August 2018 to 0.40%pa

18.8 Matters of Report:

18.8.1 Street Lighting

18.8.1.i a new BT pole had been erected at the bottom of Church Street. The positioning of the cabinet further out of the village led to questioning the need for a new light pole. Installation of the new test light was queried.

GD to action

18.8.2 **Telephone Kiosk** – the telephone kiosk had been repainted and the area around it neatened. Splendid job done and thanks to the Chairman and his team of ‘Fressingfield Fairies’ who wrought such a transformation. The kiosk is now worth far more than the purchase price of £1 and so would be added to the insurance for all risks cover. More information on use of the defibrillator would be useful. JF agreed to look into this and report back to the next meeting.

JF to action

19.9 Neighbourhood Development Plan

18.9.1 NS reported that the stage of public consultation had been reached and members of the steering group had met many Parish organisations and clubs to take comments. It was agreed that a banner could be placed against the wall of the bus shelter to advertise drop-in sessions in September provided it did not impede road users visibility.

18.10 Allotments – nothing to report

18.11 Emergency Planning – nothing to report

18.12 Road Safety – Following the demonstration of the speed cameras at the last PC meeting the chair reported that he had been in touch with Highways at the Council for advice in siting the poles. He read a lengthy list of requirements when positioning the poles and agreed to photograph and record to the Council the positions of these poles for agreement prior to purchasing the camera.

GD to action

18.13 PCSO Joint Initiative – circa 20 people met to consider the possibility of employing a PCSO. GRD to compile a proposal on costs for the September meetings of the PCs concerned. 5 parish councils were interested in the project with Stradbroke possibly reviewing its former rejection. A second meeting would take place at the end of September /beginning of October. The Chairman met PCC Tim Passmore to elicit his input. David Cutler was in attendance and was asked to research similar schemes, nationally, and their success.

18.14 Fressingfield Cemetery – A debate took place over wide ranging issues relating to the Stradbroke Road cemetery. These included which areas of the cemetery were consecrated and unconsecrated, and the need to get the message out that this is not an overflow cemetery for the church graveyard but available for any burial. The debate was dominated about how the cemetery should be managed to ensure it didn't become overgrown and where oak trees, either as a grove or avenue, could be planted to remember all those who fell in the Great War together with a plaque by each tree by way of a memorial. It was agreed for a working party to meet with the contractor to discuss these issues. Other trees were suggested for planting to reflect the countries in Europe when villagers lost their lives. The planting of other smaller colorful trees similar to cherry trees was suggested. The Chairman would report back with a budget at the next PC meeting.

GD to action

The gates were in need of some attention. This had been considered in the past but not actioned. JF had looked at this and found that minimal work was required vis power washing/scrubbing down and a minor amount of painting with Hammerite to protect them.

18.15 Councillor Training – it was considered essential that Councillors undertake regular training but it was agreed to postpone consideration until a new clerk was appointed. SALC would present courses in the village to save on multiple course fees and expenses. This topic would be revisited at a later meeting.

18.16 Re-establishment of a Parish Charity – it would not be possible to resurrect the Eleemosynary Charity and the Chairman expressed his disappointment at the decision made. It was felt the PC had a role to play in creating a new charity. ToL noted a charity that he felt would be ideal for partnership working with the PC and agreed to bring further details to the next meeting. ToL to action

18.17 Social Club – CCTV was proposed following a series of acts of vandalism at the club house. The PC was asked to assist and it was agreed this might be something for s106 funds. Simon Hardy was to be approached for quotations for the project in time for the September meeting.

18.18 FPMC – nothing to report

18.19 Correspondence

18.19.1 EAAA

18.19.2 information brochure from Creative Play

18.19.3 Landscape Training Day (SPS) @ Haughley Park Barn Tues Oct 16 10am/1pm

Aimed at those involved in Neighbourhood Planning; Fressingfield is a member of SPS so delegates charged £15. Interest? This is particularly geared towards large developments and gaining the best landscape result.

18.19.4 Circular form Suffolk Police concerning the proposed reductions to the PCSO workforce. Request correspondence to Gareth Willson, Chief Constable, and Tim Passmore, PCC, urging reconsideration

18.20 Former Clerk's report:

18.20.1 the Clerk had contacted SALC ref the reduction of councillor numbers. Community Governance Review would be required but likely to be proportionate and not too onerous (no further information provided). Unlikely to be taken at this time, with the election coming in 2019.

18.20.2 the final recommendations are out for the Electoral Review of Mid Suffolk. Full copy of the report available and comments invited.

18.21 Dates for future meetings:

24 August Appointments Panel

25 August History Group Open event in Sancroft Hall

?? August Referral Committee meeting (planning) MSDC (TBC)

03 September - Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group

18 September - Parish Council meeting

18.22 Matters of Information brought by the Chairman or Members:

18.22.1 Concern was raised over a large shed erected that overlooked the tennis courts. It was on private property and did not contravene planning regulations no action could be taken.

18.22.2 A drainage problem was reported around The Swan at times of heavy rain. It was understood that the storm drain had been diverted and reduced in diameter from 6 to four inches thus promoting further blockages. As this ran over church land it was agreed to ask the church for comments.

18.23 Matters for Inclusion in the Agenda for the next Meeting of the Parish Council – 18 September 2018 – to be with the Chairman by 09 September 2018 latest

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.00hrs

**Signed:
Chairman**

18 September 2018