
Minutes of the Fressingfield Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 19 January 2021 at 7.30pm. This was a 'Zoomed' meeting.

Present: Cllrs Alex Brockhurst; Garry Deeks, Philip Eastgate, Tom Lindsay, Nigel Lucker, Trevor Orchard, Nick Stolls, Rachael Troughton, Neil Venton, and Di Warne (Chair).

Also in Attendance: Cllr Lavinia Hadingham (Mid Suffolk District Council), Cllr Guy McGregor (Suffolk County Council), Andy Parris, clerk to the council and responsible finance officer (RFO). There were two members of the public present.

- 1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2 Apologies for absence: There were none.
- 3 Members' declarations of interest There were none.
- 4 Minutes of the previous meeting
 - 1 It was resolved that the minutes of the full council meeting on 15/12/2020 are correct. It was resolved that the minutes of the planning committee meeting on 05/01/2021 are correct.
- 5 The public forum A representative of County Broadband described how the company could hold an online meeting for parishioners to explain what service it can offer. A member of the public questioned whether many people could take advantage of the highest speeds offered in a County Broadband package. He also felt the company should be explicit about the disruption involved in making fibre broadband connections.
- 6 Question and answer session with Mr Richard Yarwood, community sales executive for County Broadband Ltd Over 15 minutes, councillors questioned RY on the internet connection service that County Broadband could offer parishioners and local businesses. The discussion included internet speeds, timescales, the costs of different levels of service, and the types of guarantees customers would receive.
- 7 Reports from
 - 1 District councillor. LH provided a written report. She was asked to provide this earlier for future meetings. This is posted on the parish council's website. She also explained the process by which the application for housing in Weybread was approved. Councillors were disappointed that the council was not a formal consultee for this application. She asserted that both she and the officers bore in mind the impact on Fressingfield of the plans before making recommendations for the executive decision. No opinions had been sought from the health centre nor the school but information was drawn from responses to previous applications. Overwhelmingly residents of Weybread wanted the closure of the chicken factory and the majority are pleased with the plan that has been given outline planning permission. Fressingfield will be able to apply for money from MSDC CIL pot.
 - 2 County councillor. GMcG provided a written report. He was asked to provide this earlier for future meetings. The councillor gave brief details about the county council's funding for 2021-22 and confirmed that although drainage and flooding was a widespread and costly issue in the county, funding will be increased. GMcG described how the roll out of Covid-19 inoculations will be organised locally.

8 Finance

- 1 Chair of the Finance Committee explained some changes on the proposed budget for 2021-2022, compared to this year. Clarification was given that the plan does support some ideas that are part of the village improvement plan. The council approved the budget plan for 2021-2022.
- 2 Cllrs NV and GD confirmed that vouchers and invoices are accurately recorded on the summary sheet and proposed the council makes the payments listed on the sheet. The council agreed.
- 3 January's reconciliation statement was presented to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllrs AD and NL confirmed that the account balances written on the reconciliation statement are the same as the balances on the bank statements. The reconciliation statement was accepted by the council. There were no questions relating to this statement.

- 9 Revised village improvement plan DW explained the newly structured plan. There were discussions about additional ideas, the relative importance of projects, and how to decide on initial funding allocations.

Councillors leading a project to send funding requirements to the clerk.

Councillors interested in helping or leading on a project contact the clerk.

10 Reports

- 1 The Chair: Report previously circulated. She fed back information about complaints made to MSDC about its support. She confirmed that there will be a second meeting with MSDC officers about the complaint on 26/1/21. She confirmed that no date has been set for the meeting of the planning committee to consider the Post Mill Lane development.
- 2 Drainage working group: [Notes of the meeting, and Anglian Water responses to questions about Post Mill Lane will be posted on the website with these minutes.] Councillors discussed how local rainfall affects local flooding. The effect of surface water around Church Street is seen as an important factor.

Clerk to track down any local weather records

GD to talk to residents in Church Street about surface water

Councillors to make note of observed flooding around Jubilee Corner

Clerk to write to Anglian Water to discover when resolving Fressingfield's sewer problems will be put into AW's budget plans

Clerk to make Natural England aware of sewerage problems in Low Rd/Cratfield Rd.

Clerk to check if other parishes have had similar sewerage problems

- 3 The clerk: Report previously circulated will be posted on the website. The clerk confirmed that the application for material changes to the new Baptist chapel will be open for consultation shortly. At a previous meeting, it was suggested that a parish councillor and members of SAFE had met with Anglian Water (AW) officers in November. The purpose was to persuade AW to oppose any future housing developments in the village until the sewerage problems have been solved. AW has denied the meeting took place.

Clerk to publicise the national census which will be on Sunday 21 March

D L Warne

D L Warne (Feb 17, 2021 16:51 GMT)

- 4 Speeding working group. When Suffolk Highways (SH) installs the posts, the parish council's speed indicator devices will give the working group data on current traffic flow and speeds. Still waiting for response from SH regarding estimated costs of these speed reduction measures (NB SH does not have funding, it must come from parish council funds):

40mph buffer zone on B1116 between Cucumber Hall and village signs, and on the Stradbroke Road

20 is plenty zone around the school

'gateways' on the entrances to the village

TO to contact D Chenery (SH) and push for estimates of costs

Thanks were given to TO for his persistence in achieving progress with this project.

- 5 Covid-19 support group: Some changes to personnel involved due to work commitments. Possibilities of IT help to the school and its families. Possibility of community transport to help some with transport to medical centre (Debenham?) for Covid-19 inoculations.

Thanks were given to VL and the team for their continuing efforts to maintain and expand the support offered by this project.

- 11 To review the council's standing orders It was agreed to change standing order 2g so that during the public forum in a meeting, any person will have 3 minutes in which to raise issues. Currently it is 2 minutes. It was agreed to adopt the standing orders, with this one change.

12 Matters brought by the chair or councillors

- 1 County Broadband (CB) virtual meeting. Councillors decided that it was right to publicise the meeting arranged for Wednesday 3 February, 7.30pm by CB. This will give parishioners the opportunity to decide whether the deal offered by CB would be good for them or not. By publicising the meeting, the council is not endorsing the company nor its broadband packages.

Clerk to publicise the virtual meeting without parish council endorsement

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Signed: DL Warne
D L Warne (Feb 17, 2021 16:51 GMT)

Chair

Date

Feb 17, 2021

Dates of next meetings (Currently, all meetings are video conferences, using Zoom. The details of how to join are attached to the agenda of the meeting.)

I	planning committee	Tuesday	2 February	at 7.30pm
II	finance committee	Tuesday	9 February	at 7.30pm
III	full council	Tuesday	16 February	at 7.30pm

Date of the meeting: 19/01/2021

Date of council meeting

19 January 2021

Current account and savings account statements

issued on 03/01/2021

Current Account		balance on statement no. 070	£24,170.77	
Unpresented cheques				
	300528	50.00		
	300529	30.00		
			80.00	
New payments to be authorised on 19/01/2021				
SO Pearce and Kemp	street lights maintenance	£29.64		
SO Staff	salary	£170.40		
SO Staff	salary	£661.40		
BACS MSDC	caretaker's bin bags	£34.68		
BACS Virginia Skoyles	Printing costs for Fress Supp group + VE Day celeb	£145.30		
BACS C Tooley	Reimbursement for insulated gloves	£18.80		
BACS Unity Trust Bank	Q3 Bank charges	£18.00		
			£1,048.58	
<u>Receipts since statement no. 068</u>				
No receipts since the statement		0.00		
			£0.00	
Total				£23,042.19
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Instant Access Account		balance on statement no. 065	£27,734.83	
No activity in the account since this statement				
				£27,734.83
				<hr/>
			Total available from both accounts	£50,777.02
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<u>Ringfenced reserves</u>				
Neighbourhood Watch		280		
Playground		1,600		
SIDs		1,479		
Fressingfield Community Fund		2,651		
			£6,010	
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<u>Contingencies</u>				
Emergency		15000		
Assets (capital)		7000		
In-year		530		
			£22,530	
				<hr/>
			Total 'set-aside' sum	£28,540
				<hr/>
			Balance of available funds:	£22,237.27
				<hr/>
		balance available at December reconciliation	£23,259.60	
		balance available at November reconciliation	£27,016.43	
		balance available at October reconciliation	£29,378.96	
		balance available at September reconciliation	£22,575.28	
		balance available at August reconciliation	£23,585.51	
		balance available at July reconciliation	£24,630.54	
		balance available at June reconciliation	£25,905.29	
		balance available at May reconciliation	£26,633.28	

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FullCoun20210119

Final Audit Report

2021-02-17

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