

FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Freckenham Parish Council on
Monday 16th November 2020 at 7.30 pm held remotely

Present: Cllr Wheeler, Cornell, Douch, King

In attendance: Parish Council Clerk, Jadi Coe, Cllr Harvey and Cllr Busuttill

Cllr Wheeler welcomed everyone to the meeting.

11/20/01 Apologies for absence & approval of reasons tendered

None

11/20/02 Declaration of interest in any items on the agenda

Cllr Douch – item 8.1, application DC/20/1860/TPO

It was agreed that Cllr Douch is granted a dispensation on this item.

11/20/03 Members of the public are invited to give their views on any item within the Agenda

No members of the public were in attendance.

It was reported one parishioner had contacted the Chairman in regards to an error in a Sunnica document.

11/20/04 To receive reports from the County Councillor, District Councillor and to receive the Police Reports

County Councillor Busuttill reported on local projects including Sunnica, the housing development west of Mildenhall, the Hub and the replacement of the Mallards bridge.

Cllr Bustill also reported that he would be retiring in May 2021 and would not seek re-election.

District Councillor Harvey reported on various items including Sunnica, locality grants, county lines, local plan and rough sleepers in the area. He stated rough sleepers should not be approached but they can be reported at www.streetlink.org.uk.

11/20/05 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2020

The minutes of the meeting held 28th September 2020 were proposed and agreed that they were a true record of the meeting held

11/20/06 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered in the Agenda

None

11/20/07 Parish Council Vacancy update and process to co-opt

It was reported that West Suffolk Council have issued a notice of vacancy which has been published accordingly.

West Suffolk Council will confirm if the Parish Council can co-opt after the 17th November, which is 14days after the notice of vacancy was issued.

11/20/08 Planning:

8.1 To consider any planning applications:

DC/20/1837/TCA - one Cedar Tree (marked with cross on plan) – fell at Hydes Barn, Elms Road, Freckenham, IP28 8JG.

It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council has no objections to the application.

DC/20/1860/TPO - one Horse Chestnut and four Ash (T2 and G2 on plan T5 and A4 on order) fell at Pendleton Lodge, Elms Road, Freckenham, IP28 8JG.

It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council has no objections to the application.

Applications received after the agenda was published:

DC/20/1941/TCA - one Ash (A1 on plan) fell at White Hart Cottage, 14 The Street, Freckenham, IP28 8HZ.

It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council has no objections to the application.

8.2 To note applications pending and determined:

DC/20/1356/HH - (i) re-render North, South and East elevations (ii) replace roof tiles (iii) demolition of Garden Shed (iv) 1no. open sided car port to side (v) remove concrete hardstanding replace with permeable block paving (vi) remove chimney at Lynn Cottage, The Street, Freckenham, IP28 8HZ –*approved on 11.11.20*

DC/20/1500/EIASCO Request for Scoping Opinion under Regulation 15 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 - 55 kilometre potable water pipeline between Bexwell and Bury St Edmunds together with associated connections and above ground apparatus at Bexwell to Bury St Edmunds, Pipeline, Suffolk – *EIA Screening/Scoping Opinion Issued on 23.10.20*

DC/20/1284/FUL – (i) change of use of Gypsy and Traveller Residential area, providing 12 pitches with concrete pads (ii) 12 no dayroom/amenity buildings (iii) vehicular access and 12 no parking spaces (iv) play area (v) post and rail fencing at Land opposite Pen Villa, Isleham Road, Worlington, Suffolk – *pending decision at 15.11.20*

8.3 Update on Neighbourhood Planning Progress

It was reported the plan was on schedule, with the intentions to be completed next year. A recent drop-in event held in the village hall was not attended as well as had been hoped.

Cllr Harvey thanked Cllr Douch on behalf of Worlington Parish Council for his help in providing contact details with regard to setting up a Neighbourhood plan.

8.4 Update on Sunnica Proposal

Cllr Douch gave the following report:

'We are part-way through the Statutory Consultation period, which has been extended to end on the 18th December 2020 not the 2nd December 2020.

The Parish Council delivered a villager survey to every household during October 2020 asking the question "Now you have seen the details of the scheme in the current Sunnica Statutory Consultation, are you in favour of the scheme?" to which 96% of respondents replied "No/Against" and the remainder "No view". There were no responses in favour of the scheme.

The Parish Council wrote a letter to Sunnica complaining about various aspects of the consultation, including problems with the booklet (e.g. maps too small and out of scale) lack of advertising and the format of the webinars. The complaint letter and the reply letter from Sunnica are available on the Parish Council website.

In their letter, Sunnica indicated they don't accept the Parish Council's criticisms of the consultation, but were happy to provide a banner for display in the village. The banner was provided at the end of October and fixed to the village hall gates on the 3rd November with the kind agreement of the village hall trustees.

Sunnica has provided a printed copy of the Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), which is with Cllr Douch and is available for loan to residents, providing they agree to guidance from SALC on usage to ensure they are Covid-19 safe. This document is also available from the Downloads section of the Sunnica website. Please note only the main chapters are included in the printed copy, the Appendices are not included. If parishioners wish to view this then they can contact any councillor or the clerk for details.

Sunnica have confirmed that large print brochures, maps and photomontages are available by calling their freephone number 0808 168 7925.

The Sunnica sub-group has continued to meet every two weeks during the consultation using Zoom. We would like to thank everyone, Councillors and residents, who are taking part. As part of their research for the Parish Council's consultation response, the sub-group produced an information article "What do you know about the Sunnica proposal?" for the Winter edition of the Parish Pump. The sub-group is currently working on the consultation response, and will review a draft at the next meeting on the 25th November. The sub-group intends to publish the response on the Parish Council website as soon as it is complete, and has set a target date of 2nd December (the original consultation closing date).

The Parish Council's Sunnica awareness stall with A2 laminated maps of the scheme was present outside the Freckenham Farmers Market in September and October. The intent of the stall is to encourage people to respond to the consultation, and instructions are shown on the stall. Visitors to the stall were interested to see the maps in large scale, and asked question about the scheme.

On Saturday the 12th November Worlington Parish Council hosted a Zoom meeting for residents to ask questions about the scheme, with Cllr Harvey assisting with information where he could.

The Parish Council intend to run a similar meeting for Freckenham on Saturday 28th November at 4pm, hosted by the Parish Council, with Cllr Harvey attending.'

Cllr Harvey suggested that the survey results are included in the Parish Council's official response.

Cllr Harvey reported that MP Matt Hancock is hosting a conversation on Sunnica via Zoom on Friday 20th November at 1pm and invites will be sent out shortly. He advises any questions should be submitted in advance.

11/20/09 Recreation Ground and other assets:

9.1 Playground/Recreation Ground Report

Cllr Cornell reported that the volunteer who had been carrying out the maintenance and killing of weeds on the footpath with other work in and around the recreation ground together with the flower bed on The Street, can no

longer continue to do so. Cllr Cornell expressed her thanks to the volunteer for the hard work carried out over many years.

Cllr Cornell stated her and her family would carry out this work until a suitable replacement is found.

9.2 Update on grass cutting

Cllr Cornell reported the grass was continuing to be cut when the weather allowed.

9.3 Any other matters

Cllr Cornell reported that some repair work needed to be carried out including treatment of timber at the park, and this would now be carried out in Spring 2021.

Cllr Wheeler reported that a tree by the flower bed in The Street had grown into the power cables situated above which had been reported to UKPN, and that this should be made safe soon.

11/20/10 Highways Inspection

Cllr Wheeler reported that he is awaiting a response from Suffolk County Council in regards to a visit from Guy Smith at SCC to look at the Highways issues in Freckenham, which he has been requesting for a long while as the previous engineer responsible had not been responding for some considerable time.

The Quiet Lanes scheme which Worlington are considering for Golf Links Road was discussed as it may be suitable for some lanes in Freckenham. The scheme makes quiet lanes safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

11/20/11 SALC, to confirm the date of the next local area

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 17th November at 7:00pm

11/20/12 West Suffolk District Council Town and Parish Forum,

The date of the next meeting is planned for either 17th or 24th March 2021.

11/20/13 Shores Charity

Cllr Douch reported that two quotes had been received to provide the allotments with a water bore hole with a hand pump; £1,400 plus VAT and £7,645 plus VAT.

It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council would fund this project along with locality funds available from Suffolk County Council and West Suffolk Council.

It was agreed that the clerk would complete a West Suffolk fund form and look into whether or not the Parish Council can reclaim input VAT on the total cost. (JC)

11/20/14 Financial Matters:

14.1 To confirm payment of invoices

None

14.2 To consider any invoices received after the Agenda was issued

Cllr A Douch, Zoom Subscription £88.65

The clerk also reported the following payments had been made since the last meeting:

06/10/2020	1083	Lucy Batchelor-Wylam	NH Plan landscape architect	928.50
13/10/2020	1084	Came & Company	Insurance	1,062.30
20/10/2020	1085	SALC	6mth payroll	22.80
03/11/2020	1086	CW Kirk Lawnmowers	Lawnmower service	280.91
03/11/2020	1087	Places4People	NH Plan	1,488.60
03/11/2020	1088	Peter Taylor Whiffen	Parish Pump	140.00
03/11/2020	1089	Gipping Press	Parish Pump	165.86

14.3 Clerk to update on bank balances held

The clerk reported £2,097 was held in the current account and £23,644 in the deposit account.

14.4 Clerk to present the first draft of the 2021/2022 budget for consideration by this Council.

The budget was presented to all members.

The budget showed total expenditure of £15,055, which is to be funded by the proposed precept of £13,400 and £1,655 from other expected income.

The proposed precept would result in an increase to band D council tax payers of 0.1%. The weekly payment would be £1.90 the same as the current year.

Cllr Wheeler suggested increasing totalling expenditure by £400 to £15,455, which would increase the precept to £13,800 resulting in an increase of 3.09% to band D council tax payers. This would result in the weekly payment being increased to £1.96.

A final proposed budget would be presented at the next meeting.

14.5 To consider any charitable donations under S.137 of the Local Government Act for 2020-21 in line with the budget

It was proposed and agreed by all to make the following donations as per last year:

- St Nicholas Hospice Care- £50
- East Anglian Air Ambulance- £50
- East Anglian Children's Hospice- £50
- The Royal British Legion- £75
- The Samaritans- £50
- The Alzheimer's Society -£50

11/20/15 Working Groups Report:

15.1 Circular Walk

Cllr Douch reported on the vegetation growth in areas of the walk and the ongoing issues with part of the path still being ploughed.

15.2 Emergency Plan

No update

15.3 Defibrillator monthly check Report

No report had been received but Cllr Wheeler reported that the defibrillator appears to be clean and tidy.

15.4 Community Speedwatch

Cllr Cornell reported that speed checks could not be carried out at the present time due to lockdown restrictions but these would be resumed once the restrictions were lifted.

It was also reported that the police appeared to be carrying out speed checks by the Village Hall on the prior Saturday.

11/20/16 Correspondence and Verbal Communication Received:

None that has not been included elsewhere on the agenda.

11/20/17 Update on the re-printing of the book, Manor of Freckenham

Cllr Douch reported that he still required confirmation as to whether the copyright on the book was still valid, and that he has discovered the British Library has a copy and they can provide an electronic copy for £36.00.

11/20/18 Urgent Business:

Cllr Wheeler proposed to purchase a gift for the volunteer who continues to update the Parish Council website regularly.

It was agreed following a unanimous vote.

11/20/19 To confirm dates of the next meetings and also the meetings in forthcoming financial year 2021/2022 as:

January 11th 2021

March 8th 2021

May 10th 2021

July 12th 2021

September 13th 2021

November 8th 2021

January 10th 2022

March 14th 2022

The meeting closed at 9:00pm

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