

**FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Freckenham Parish Council held on  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30 pm in Freckenham Village Hall**

Present: Cllr Cornell, Douch, King and Cllr Englebrecht and Tucker following their co-option

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

Cllr Cornell welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**22/05/01 To elect a Chairman for the year 2022/2023**

Cllr Cornell was elected Chairman for the year 2022/23

**22/05/02 Co-option of councillors**

It was proposed and agreed to co-opt Gary Tucker and Christina Englebrecht.

Both councillors signed a declaration of acceptance and were welcomed to the council.

**22/05/03 To elect a Vice-Chairman for the year 2022/2023**

Cllr Tucker was elected Vice-Chairman for the year 2022/23

**22/05/04 Apologies for absence & approval of reasons tendered**

Two members of the public sent their apologies.

**22/05/05 Declaration of interest in any items on the agenda**

None

**22/05/06 Members of the public are invited to give their views on any item within the Agenda**

None

**22/05/07 To receive reports from the County Councillor, District Councillor and to receive the Police Reports**

Cllr B Harvey reported on:

-The West Suffolk Draft Local Plan which has now been approved by the Planning Cabinet and will be issued for the second round of consultation, which will begin on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022..

-Homes for Ukraine Scheme

-Locality funding available

-County Lines

-The non-emergency police online reporting tool

*<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something/report-crime>*

-Rough sleepers in the area

-Change in the planning process and he confirmed he will communicate with residents but not agents

-The report of a business park on the A11 at Barton Mills, which is purely speculation at the current time

-A date to have the traffic counters installed is still unknown.

Cllr Harvey was asked whether there were plans for any new schools in the area, following the proposals of new homes in Red Lodge & Mildenhall. Cllr Harvey confirmed there would be a new school & SEN school in Mildenhall and the recently built new schools have been built in view that they may require extending at a later date.

Cllr L Stanbury congratulated the new members to their roles and then followed by reporting on:

-the success of the Say no to Sunnica march, which was attended by over 200 people

-99% of children have been offered their first choice in primary schools in Suffolk

-the freeze of school transport costs

-the new campaign to end violence to women and girls

Cllr Stanbury was asked more about the SCC Highways contract which is due for renewal. Cllr Stanbury confirmed at date this was not agreed whether this would be contracted inhouse or outhouse, and that some members had concerns on the length of the contract.

**22/05/08 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 were proposed and agreed as a true record of the meeting held.

## **22/05/09 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered in the agenda**

None

### **22/05/10 To appoint Council representatives for 2022/2023:**

- 10.1. SALC – Cllr. Cornell
- 10.2. Freckenham Shores Charity - Cllr. Cornell
- 10.3. Village Hall Committee - Cllr. King
- 10.4. Village Recorder - Mrs Marilyn Badger
- 10.5. Mildenhall Community Partnership – the partnership no longer exists
- 10.6. West Suffolk Town & Parish Forum – Cllr. Cornell although any members welcome to attend
- 10.7. Village archivist - Mrs Sandie Geddes

### **22/05/11 To confirm Working Groups for 2022/2023:**

- 11.1. Right of Way Improvement - Cllr Cornell
- 11.2. Standing Orders - The Clerk
- 11.3. Risk Assessment - Cllr. Cornell & the Clerk
- 11.4. Emergency Planning – Cllr Cornell (Cllr Cornell to obtain the original plan)
- 11.5. Community Speed Watch - Cllr. Cornell
- 11.6. Recreation field - Cllr. Cornell
- 11.7. Neighbourhood Plan - Cllr. Tucker

### **22/05/12 Planning:**

#### 12.1 To consider any planning applications:

None

#### To note applications pending and determined:

Pending:

DC/22/0491/HH – single storey side extension at 20 North Street, Freckenham, IP28 8HY – *pending at 6.5.22*

DC22/0532/HH and DC/22/0533/LB – two sash windows to front elevation, b) part garage conversion into habitable rooms with two rooflights & replacement flat roof at The Old Rectory, Church Lane, Freckenham. – *pending at 6.5.22*

DC/21/1621/HYB - hybrid planning application - a. proposed 70 kilometre pipeline and associated above ground infrastructure at Gazeley, Isleham and Woodditton; b. Outline planning application - for above ground infrastructure at Bexwell, Kentford, Lady's Green and Rede with all matters reserved except for access at land required For Bexwell To Bury St Edmunds Anglian Water Pipeline For Anglian Water, Moulton Road, Gazeley. – *pending at 6.5.22*

Approved:

DC/22/0358/HH – single storey rear extension, b) single storey side extension, c) detached garage and associated parking at 22 North Street, Freckenham, IP28 8HY – *approved 14.4.22*

DC/22/0142/TPO – fell one Horse Chestnut at Drift Cottage, Elms Road, Freckenham. – *approved 21.4.22*

DC/21/2379/RM - Submission of details under outline planning permission DC/21/0471/OUT - the means of access appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the construction of one dwelling at Rectory Farm, Elms Road, Freckenham, Suffolk, IP28 8EW – *approved 31.3.22*

#### 12.2 Other planning considerations

Draft Haddenham and Aldreth Neighbourhood Plan

It was proposed that Freckenham Parish Council comment 'Freckenham Parish Council have no comment on the draft plans at this time'.

#### 12.3 Update on Neighbourhood Planning Progress

Cllr Cornell reported that she, Nick Wooley and Ian Poole met with West Suffolk Planners and read out the following email from the Chairman of the NH Plan, Nick Wooley:

*I'm pleased to report that in spite of the bombshell' dropped upon us with part only of site 10 being the WSC preferred site, we did somewhat cautiously (as suggested by a certain Mr Poole) express surprise. I also raised the question as to why, when so much Government money had already gone into three different project assessments, we were not consulted prior to site 10 being promoted by WSC? Both planners assured us that they, having done their own landscape and other assessments, concluded that in their view this was their currently preferred site. I did tell them that after three years of work, the community (not to mention our NP Group) would find it hard and very unsatisfactory. Ian valiantly said that our three sites, plus the WSC site 10 would be suitably described and all four would then be put to the Freckenham community to vote upon. Fortunately, our independent appraisals will be very valuable in this process. Furthermore, Sue, by great good fortune had that very morning spoken to a resident, by chance; she asked her views on that site 10. The resident, without hesitation, said that at present, from the west, this*

*small holding with a few horticultural buildings was a lovely, rural entrance to the village, visible from all roads to the west and then gradually developed into the main part of the village. She said that any development there would form an awful, hard development edge to the village. Do look at the Urban Vision page on this site which said just the same. I also told them that their site (only part of the whole site 10) was currently a much-appreciated source of local food at the now only farm shop in the village; its loss would be very sad for many. The planners seemed to take in all that we said and agreed that it had to be in the hands of the community to vote on the matter*

The next NH Plan meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

### 12.3 Update on Sunnica Proposal

-Sunnica's DCO application has been published on the Planning Inspectorate website, see the "Docs" tab, and the list of 268 documents under "Developer's Application". Sunnica Energy Farm | Developer's Application

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/sunnica-energy-farm/?ipcsection=docs>

-The period for the Registration of Interested Parties, which was the opportunity for the Parish Council, members of the public and experts to submit comments directly to the Planning Inspectorate, closed on the 17th March 2022. All registrations and comments (known as Relevant Representations) submitted have been published on the Planning Inspectorate website. See the 1360 representations under "Relevant Representations"

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/sunnica-energy-farm/?ipcsection=relreps>

-The Parish Council's Relevant Representation, which accompanied its registration, has been published on the Parish Council website's Sunnica page.

<https://freckenham.suffolk.cloud/freckenham-parish-ouncil/sunnica/?msclkid=ea51a376cfbe11ecb9be2ef41fa57026>

-Relevant Representations from SCC, WSC, CCC, ECDC have been published on the Planning Inspectorate website. See the "Local Authorities" link

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/sunnica-energy-farm/?ipcsection=relreps>

-The next step is the Examination phase, a little like a public enquiry. The Planning Inspectorate will publish dates and locations in due course. The Examination was expected to begin at the end of May 2022, but Sunnica have asked for a delay until July 2022 as they wish to change the options for connection to the National Grid at Burwell, possibly affecting the design of the scheme at Burwell and at Sunnica West (close to Chippenham and Snailwell). The Planning Inspectorate has asked for comments by the 18th May 2022 from those who registered on their view of Sunnica's request for a delay to the Examination.

Relevant correspondence between Sunnica & the Planning Inspectorate:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010106/EN010106-002191-ExA%20Request%20for%20comments%20from%20IPS%20APs%20and%20SPs%204%20May%202022.pdf>

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010106/EN010106-002189-Letter%20to%20PINS%2028.04.22.pdf>

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010106/EN010106-002184-ExA%20Response%20to%20Applicant%2022%20April%202022.pdf>

[EN010106-002182-PINS letter 19 April 2022 131634189.3.pdf](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010106/EN010106-002182-PINS%20letter%2019%20April%202022%20131634189.3.pdf) ([planninginspectorate.gov.uk](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk))

-The whole scheme Landscape Appraisal, organised by the Parish Councils Alliance – Sunnica Group, is being undertaken by Michelle Bolger of Michelle Bolger Expert Landscape Consultants. The first stage payment (contribution) will shortly be due, in line with Freckenham PC's previous decision to contribute. Michelle Bolger will represent all affected Parish Councils during the Examination Process.

-In the meantime, anyone can visit the Planning Inspectorate website, search for Sunnica, and subscribe to receive updates on the application by email.

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/sunnica-energy-farm/?ipcsection=overview>

-It was confirmed the Sunnica Alliance groups Landscape Consultant has now completed their first stage of work and an invoice can be expected soon.

-Cllr Cornell and/or Tucker would attend future Sunnica Alliance meetings.

## **22/05/13 Recreation Ground and other assets:**

### 13.1. Playground/Recreation Ground Report

Cllr Cornell reported that the maintenance work has been carried out and several residents have thanked her and the council for the works carried out.

### 13.2. Update on grass cutting

Cllr Cornell reported this is up to date but the lawnmower is currently being repaired

### 13.3. Any other matters

The playing field will be used for the Queens Jubilee celebrations on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

A new basketball net is required.

## 22/05/14 Highways Inspection

Cllr Tucker reported on the resurfacing of the road between Badlingham and Chippenham. This was confirmed as being within the East Cambs district.

## 22/05/15 Chippenham Road Wall

Cllr Cornell reported she still had not heard back from the housing association.

Cllr Harvey suggested emailing the Managing Director of the housing association and copy in Cllr Robert Everitt at West Suffolk.

It was also reported that roof slates have been falling off a barn in the village which is very dangerous as these have been falling in the road.

Cllr Harvey suggested writing a formal letter to the owners of the barn informing them of the situation, including their duty of care.

## 22/05/16 SALC, to confirm the date of the next local area meeting

The next 2022 local area forums for West Suffolk will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> September with the last one being held on 15<sup>th</sup> March. The meetings will continue to be held remotely.

## 22/05/17 West Suffolk District Council Town & Parish Forum, to confirm the date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting has yet to be confirmed

## 22/05/18 Financial Matters:

### 18.1.To approve quotes received

No quotes required or received

### 18.2.To confirm payment of invoices:

The following invoices were approved for payment:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Q no.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
SALC	Annual subscription	NA	£190.55
James Holdgate	Play park repairs	NA	£1,950.00
Jane Leitch	Display boards	NA	£151.91
West Suffolk Council	Playing field lease	NA	£5.00
West Suffolk Council	Emptying of dog bins	NA	£268.90
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£2,566.36</b>

### 18.3 To consider any invoices received after the agenda was issued:

The following invoice was approved for payment:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Q no.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Ayentee Accountancy	Internal audit fee	NA	£48.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£48.00</b>

### 18.4 Clerk to update on bank balances held

The clerk reported that at date £3,018 was held in the current account and £33,331 in the deposit account.

### 18.5 To receive and approve the Receipts & Payments Account for 2021/2022

The receipts and payments summary for 2021/22 was approved

### 18.6 To consider & approve the responses to the 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of the Annual Return)

The certificate of Exemption (form 2) was approved and signed by the RFO and Chairman

Section 1, Annual Governance Statement 202/22 was approved and signed by the clerk and Chairman

### 18.7 To approve the Accounting Statements for 2021/22 (Section 2 of the Annual Return).

Section 2, Accounting Statements 2021/22 was approved and signed by the clerk and Chairman

### 18.8 To appoint a Responsible Finance Officer for 2022-2023

The clerk Jadi Coe was appointed the Responsible Officer for 2022/23

### 18.9 To appoint a Councillor to oversee the internal financial control for 2022-2023

Cllr was appointed to oversee the internal financial control for 2022/23

## 22/05/19 Working Groups Report:

### 19.1 Circular Walk

The last update was that the SCC Rights of Way officer was to schedule a meeting with the tenants and SCC Farms.

### 19.2 Emergency Plan

No update, but Cllr Cornell to obtain plan.

### 19.3 Defibrillator monthly check Report

The volunteer who carries out monthly checks had reported everything is as it should be.

### 19.4 Community Speedwatch

It was reported checks had not been carried out for several weeks but would resume soon.

### 19.5. Risk Assessment

It was confirmed that the risk assessment is up to date

### 19.6. Standing Orders – Confirmation that these are up to date

It was confirmed that the Standing Orders up to date

### 19.7. Financial Standing Orders - Confirmation that these are up to date

It was confirmed that the Financial Standing Orders are up to date

Cllr Cornell reported that the asset register shows 4 high-vis jackets but there are currently 6, and the PC are to purchase one more, these are to be kept at the Speed Watch volunteers homes.

The register shows an ex-councillor as holding a PC projector, this is to be confirmed

### **22/05/20 Correspondence Received:**

None

### **22/05/21 Parish Council Vacancies update**

The two vacancies have now been filled.

### **22/05/22 Letting of woodland to the East and West of North Street**

A letter has been received from SCC, informing the Parish Council that this land is now vacant and available to rent.

The reason the Parish Council was sent this is because they have previously expressed an interest in the land but this was not possible as it was included in a long-term agricultural tenancy.

They have sent through a draft head of terms detailing a 25-year lease with a rent of £521 per annum.

It was agreed that it would be nice for the PC to rent this area and open it up The Jubilee Woods with a footpath running through the middle.

It was agreed to write back to SCC asking for one of the following options:

-£5 per annum rent, and the PC would carry out all maintenance work or

-£521 per annum rent, but SCC must bring the area up to a maintainable state including ensuring it is a safe area for members of the public.

### **22/05/23 Discuss celebrations for the Queens Platinum Jubilee**

Thursday evening – open night dance club

Friday evening – music group

Saturday 12-6, Games and BBQ on the playing fields

Sunday 11, service in the church

Sunday 12-5, BYO picnic on the playing field

Sunday 5, open air service with community singing on the playing field

Burgers, hotdogs and rolls have been ordered and this will be funded by the locality grant already received as well as bunting and flags etc

Cllr Cornell confirmed she has ordered commemorative mugs to be able to give to all residents 16 and under. Cllr Cornell to request locality funding from Cllr Stanbury to cover these costs.

### **22/05/24 Update on the re-printing of the book, Manor of Freckenham**

No update

### **22/05/24 Urgent Business:**

-The clerk and Cllr Douch had tried to obtain quotes to get the original indenture copied, however no businesses had been found who could do this. Cllr Cornell confirmed she would ask the records office if they could help.

-Cllr Douch confirmed his resignation from the Parish Council.

Cllr Douch was thanked for his time and work whilst a councillor and wished well for the future

The meeting closed at 9:25pm

*Jadi Coe*  
Clerk to the Council