



FRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Council Meeting** held on **Monday 16th April 2018** at **7.00 pm**
in Friston Village Hall, Church Road IP17 1PU

Members: Cllr. M. Caplin (Chairman) Cllr. A Simpson Cllr. S Jackson
Cllr. D Brooks Cllr. A. Patterson Cllr. C Brooks
Cllr. M. Schedrin Cllr. J. Burch

Also present: K. Forster - Clerk to the Council, County Councillor Reid, District Councillors Haworth-Culf & Jones, P Watkins of Eastern Edge, Lowestoft & P Williamson of RHDHV (Environmental Consultancy) and 40 members of the public.

The chairman welcomed everyone and mentioned he had been told that the meeting might be being recorded.

001/18 Apologies: There were apologies from Cllr. Patterson & Cllr. Schedrin.

002/18 Declarations of Interest & Request for Dispensation:
There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations

003/18 Minutes of the previous meeting:
Minutes of the meeting of the 12th March 2018 were submitted for approval. **It was unanimously RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.**

004/18 Open Forum
Due to the recent consultation days and subsequent flyer issued by the Parish Council, regarding the proposed wind farm by Scottish Power and the location of the required sub-stations, representatives of Scottish Power had been asked to clarify the position. The Chairman ruled that they should speak at this time and then answer questions or note issues raised at the end of the presentation. A summary is contained in the appendix to these minutes. They have also stated that the slides will be available and these should be put on the Website when received. After the presentation and question session completed, the majority of the public left, along with the representatives of SPR.

Following the above, the Chairman asked if there were any comments on any other subjects. The following were received:

- a) Thanks and appreciation was given in respect of their hard work regarding the number of issues that Council had been dealing with in the last year. The member of public believes that there is an urgent need to develop a village plan and that there are the skills and the willingness to assist from the village residents. It is suggested that this plan could highlight projects around the village that needed input and that Council should accept offers or help and engage in communications proactively. The Chairman thanked the speaker and it was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting. Cllr. Simpson thanked the speaker and pointed out that part of the remit of a councillor was to consider the needs of the whole village as opposed to just those who contact Council which is why some decisions may not please all the people.
- b) Another member of the public suggested that the Council members looked at the recent installation of seats by the bus stop in Snape.
- c) The Clerk also stated that she had a proposal from Mr Esling regarding a design for a new bus shelter which will be put on the website.

005/18 County and District Councillors Reports
Cllr. Reid and Cllr. Haworth-Culf after speaking during the presentation left to attend other parish meetings. A report had been received from the District Councillors which Cllr. Jones summarised. Points to note included:



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- a) Green Bin collection – starts in May and if residents wish to continue to have this service they must contact Suffolk Coastal to arrange payment
- b) Litter Picking days are encouraged – contact Norse who can provide bags and pickers
- c) Information being promoted regarding plastics pollution.

The Chairman invited members of the public to ask any questions of the District Council. One person commented on the lack of enforcement on litter dropping. Is SCDC doing anything about it. Cllr. Jones replied that they were hoping to take over enforcement of this.

One person asked about the brown bins which are too small. He had to purchase an extra licence which runs out in July. Although bigger bins are being made available, they won't be in July and consequently they may have to again pay for an extra licence. Cllr. Jones stated that she would look into that.

006/18 Accounts

- a) **The Bank Accounts were presented.** The Clerk confirmed that there was £ 15,272.46 in the bank accounts as at the end of the financial year in March. This included the £ 5,311.09 in the Village Green account and £ 3,234.27 of CIL funds. The Chairman signed the bank reconciliations for March.
- b) **The Authorisation to pay** was reviewed and £ 2,922.85 was presented for approval. **It was unanimously agreed that the Authorisation for Payment was approved.**
- c) The Clerk confirmed that the final accounts had been completed and would be submitted to the internal auditor on Friday. A summary sheet of the final accounts had been circulated.
- d) The Council had received a donation of £ 250, from Mr & Mrs Bizzell. This had been requested by Blackheath Estates in recognition of Blackheath Estates transferring land to them.
- e) **Grants Received.** County Councillor Reid and District Councillor Haworth-Culf had agreed to grant the money to Council to cover the solicitor's costs incurred in the transfer of the hall. This amounted to £ 3251.00.

Councillor Reid had also agreed to grant £1250 towards the cost of a defibrillator.

007/18 APM – Items discussed

- a) **Defibrillator.** The quotation of £ 1,725.00 + delivery had been circulated from the British Heart Trust. This included the equipment, links to the Webnos system (which monitors maintenance), links to the ambulance service, full manuals and training. Cllr. Reid had agreed to grant £ 1,250 for the project. The shortfall could be provided by the CIL funds. **It was unanimously agreed to purchase the Defibrillator and the Clerk was instructed to place the order.**
Cllr C Brooks stated that the phone box needed to be cleaned and renovated. This could be done by the Community Payback group and the Clerk was asked to contact them. **NOTED**
The key for the phone box is missing. The Clerk was asked to contact BT and ask them for it. **NOTED**
- b) **Fencing on the Green.** It had been noted the strength of feeling against this idea, including members of council. **It was unanimously agreed to not fence the green.**
- c) **Village Green Funds.** The funds originally raised to pay for the transfer costs of the village green to the PC around the time of the millennium were in a separate account. At the APM there was strong support to keeping those funds for that purpose or towards purchasing the green in the future. Council was in agreement and **It was unanimously agreed to keep those funds for the purpose of transfer costs or purchase of the green.** The Clerk was also asked to look into investment of these monies so as to provide a better return. **NOTED**

At this point, due to the lateness of the hour, the Chairman recommended that following items are dealt with briefly or deferred.

- d) **Parking.** It was agreed that the offer from Guy Heald should be followed up to provide more detail. Cllr. Simpson offered to contact him and come back to the next meeting with more information if he had it. **NOTED**

All other items were deferred to future meetings.



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008/18 Scottish Power Renewables plan

After the presentation there was little more to say. A reply is being drafted by Council.

009/18 Planning

- a) **DC/18/1296/FUL Pond House.** The council had reviewed the plans and had no objection.
- b) **DC/17/0558/FUL Grange Farm** The Clerk had received a mail from SCDC who asked if Council wished to refer this application to committee. **It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should request a referral to committee for the same reasons stated originally.**

010/18 Village Hall

There is a meeting of the sub-committee on Monday 23rd to discuss progress with the repairs and the lease.

Cllr. Burch reported that at the recent Village Hall Committee meeting a number of points on the lease were brought up. The Clerk requested a list so that she could pass them on to Council. There also needs to be discussion at council on the proposed lease.

011/18 Vacancies on Council

No applications had been received

012/18 Request for Information

A request for copies of the Village Green Lease to be sent to four residents had been completed. Subsequent letters regarding its contents had been circulated and noted. A reply summarising the decisions made about the village green had been sent.

Additionally, there had been a request regarding the costs of the newly instated benches. This had been supplied. All was funded by the grant for the Queen's Birthday commemoration for her 90th Birthday and duly minuted.

013/18 Highways and Footpaths

The Clerk was asked to contact the police and ask for feedback regarding the speeding checks recently.

NOTED

It was noted that the hedges in Mill lane needed to be cut back. The Clerk was asked to contact Flagship Housing Association **NOTED**

Mr Simon Ives had paid for Wrights to clear and dispose of the rubbish in Donkey Lane/Mill Road. This was much appreciated and the Clerk was asked to write a letter thanking him. **NOTED**

014/18 New Agent for the Blackheath Estate

It was noted that Mr. Giles Hanglin was now running the Blackheath Estates and will be on the Estate every Tuesday. His contact details are 07494 221589 email giles@gileshanglin.co.uk. This information is to be added to the website. **NOTED**

015/18 AOB

Cllr. Burch has been approached by members of the public regarding people living on the north side of the village green putting in gates to access the village green. It was agreed to refer them to the new agent for the Blackheath Estate as this was their land.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

The next meeting will be on Monday 21st 2018 at 7.00 pm

Karen Forster

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Presentation from Scottish Power Renewables (SPR)

Following the presentation on 5th March, there were a number of information days where statements were made that inferred that site 7, which strongly affects Friston Parish residents, is the preferred site. Scottish Power Renewables were asked to come back and clarify this as no mention had been made of any preference in the original presentation.

Note: The representatives have promised to supply the presentation and therefore this summary will not cover that detail. It was initially a repeat of the presentation made on 5th March but with additional slides at the end. The summary of that original presentation is covered on the minutes 5th March.

Below is a list of points made and questions/responses made.

A member of the public asked why Scottish Power had not sent members of their own company to make the presentation and answer the questions. The representatives were Philip Watkins of Eastern Edge (<http://www.eastern-edge.com/>) who are Consultants to Investors in the energy sector and Phil Williamson who works for the environmental consultancy RHDHV. <https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com> (note – the communications are being managed by Kelly at Athene Communications Ltd.)

They confirmed that two new wind farms (East Anglia 1 North and East Anglia 2) are being considered now and that the onshore work would be scheduled to begin in 2024. They need to build 2 substations (for the windfarms) and 1 national grid substation. The project started in 2010. Last autumn they began talking to the District and County Councils and had some public information days at the end of November. They were at the time looking at sites nearer the coast. The amount of land in the region of 15 hectares. The building would be up to 15m high and gantries of maximum 21 metres high.

Both windfarms have been approved by the secretary of state. They believe the whole project will be examined in court.

Originally the plan for sites extended from the coast to the Aldeburgh road. The Local planning association (LPA) suggested that they looked further west.

They are not able to use the land owned by EDF or negotiate buying it.

There is not enough room at Sizewell A and questions were asked as to who owns Magnox.

The site will have a buffer zone 250 mt from developed areas.

Following the subsequent assessment, western areas were preferred due to the identified eastern sites being partly or all within an Area of Natural Beauty (AONB). Unless due to exceptional circumstances, no development can take place on AONB land. SPR to confirm when AONB got its status. If there is another option available, that must be the one used.

In response to a question of how Sizewell has been built and a new one constructed the answer was that it needed the in and outflow of the sea. This was refuted by the questioner as the sea could be pumped to an inland site and therefore another option was available.

At the March information day, their purpose was to collect information as to why Western sites would or would not be preferred to Eastern sites. It was communicated at that point that the western sites are preferred.

They are discussing the woodland that might be affected with Natural England.



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They reiterated that no final decision has been made. However, after having considered all the points and assessing them under a RAG (red, amber, green) process they have prioritised 3 sites. 1 in the East and 2 in the west, however, as the 1 in the east is impacting on the AONB, the 2 in the west are preferred.

They will be communicating to the LPA in the next 2 weeks and an announcement will be made by Scottish power in mid-may.

The RAG exercise did not include any economics and costs.

A member of the public asked if they could push back on EDF for not freeing up the land. If Sizewell C does not go ahead, it will be too late to resite the preferred location for the new substations.

A member of the public stated that land to the west has a higher agricultural value – has that been factored in. Yes was the reply.

A member of the public asked if the substations could be sited offshore. No, was the reply as the technology does not exist to allow that.

The noise level had been raised in the flyer put out by the council. Phil Watkins (PW) stated that it will be in the region of 35DCB, based on the current substations for EA1. A member of the public asked what the frequency would be as that would affect the auditability and also the noise measurement criteria. Not known.

A member of the public pointed out that as there is no background noise in the rural area, this would impact on people. PW stated that an impact assessment would be carried out on the preferred site and the impact would be mitigated if necessary.

A member of the public asked why the LPA gave more priority to the AONB rather than the people and asked why that could not be challenged

PW stated that the disruption to people would be for a short time and not until 2024. A member of the public stated that the disruption had already started. People were anxious about the possibility of this development and it would affect the ability to move house.

Philip Watkins (PWA) stated that all letters received should have a reply in 2 weeks.

PW confirmed that no weighting was used in the RAG assessment.

A member of the public asked if there was any risk to health with the substations. PW stated that studies show no impact on health.

A member of the public asked about construction access. PW stated this could not be confirmed as they had not made the decision about the location of the site. He was asked if this was part of the RAG evaluation and stated no. They will create local temporary haulways to HV's off local roads.

A member of the public stated that it will be devastating and that zone 2 or 3 is closest to the services road.

PW confirmed that the AONB was designated in 1975 and was a parliamentary decision. There was much comment on how unattractive it was and how people's lives would not be affected if the



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substations were sited there. A member of the public stated that it was ridiculous to “install 15 football pitches of humming machines” in a rural area.

PW stated that they have to follow planning regulations as well as parliamentary regulations.

PWa stated that people in the tourist business were keen that it was not sited in an AONB area.

County Councillor Reid spoke. A joint letter from SCC and SCDC had been sent to SPR. He would send a copy to the clerk to be shared with parishioners. SCC and SCDC do not support any of the proposed sites as there is insufficient information.

There is a balance to be struck between new developments in the AONB and open countryside and the stance of the SCC/SCDC is to support sites on the East as they have less impact.

Of great concern is that, in addition to the proposals from SPR, SCC & SCDC are aware that there will be 2 intercontinental connectors to connect to Belgium and Netherlands. These dwarf the proposed substations and are likely to be located in the same site. SCC/SCDC state that therefore this needs to be considered as a whole and not piecemeal..

The audience gave a round of applause as approval of the letter.

PW confirmed the following timetable.

May – A decision will be announced

June – the cable route will be determined

November – Impact assessment and Environmental information report will be compiled

Qtr 2 2019 - formal planning application made.

All comments received will go into the application.

A member of the public asked about the voltage of the power.

A member of the public stated that she had downloaded the 209 pages of scoping submission which was almost unreadable. She was not confident based upon the amount of times that SPR has had to revisit its decisions and recommendations. There was only a small section dedicated to the effect on human being as opposed to pages on the effect on the birds, animals and plants. There needed to be much simpler, clearer documentation available.

A member of the public & the Council Chairman thanked the representatives for coming. A member of the public stated that this causing a lot of stress.