



Friston Parish Council

Unapproved Minutes of the Meeting 2nd December 2019

There were present: Cllrs M. Caplin (in the Chair) S. Jackson (Vice Chair), J. Burch, C. Brooks, R. Brooks, A Simpson, M Schedrin, District Cllrs Haworth-Culf, Cooper, Bond and P. Welby (Parish Clerk).

There were six members of the public also present.

176/19 Apologies for absence – Cllr Reid (SCC)

177/19 Declaration of Interest & Requests for Dispensations – There were none.

178/19 Minutes of the previous meeting The minutes of the previous meeting 14th October 2019 were agreed and signed.

179/19 Open Forum.

A member of the public reported a dog incident in the village, the dog had escaped from a garden and their dog had received extensive injuries. Cllr Caplin thanked the member of the public for coming forward. This is essentially a police matter but Cllr Haworth-Culf asked if the member of the public would be happy for her to look into it for her. Another resident raised the issue of the village appearance and wondered if some of the Council's budget could be used to improve the appearance of the village instead of buying new play equipment. The Clerk confirmed that some of the Council's reserved funds had to be spent in specific categories. Both Cllr Simpson and District Cllr Haworth-Culf said that ownership of problem areas needed to be defined before any work was carried out. Cllr Simpson also added that the majority of landowners in the village were cooperative in, for example, cutting hedges when needed.

180/19 Report from the SASES group

The applications from SPR have been accepted by the Planning Inspectorate and are currently on the PINS website to view. Anyone who wants to register as an interested person needs to do so by the 27th January 2020. Michael Mahony urged residents to read the non-technical summary available as part of the application, this has visuals in that show the impact the development will have on the village. The issues still remain the same in each application. SASES recently had a meeting with OFGEM who expressed interest in the concerns raised by SASES in National Grid. There will be a SASES meeting on the 4th January to inform and help residents on how to react to this part of the process. Liz Thomas also added that any of the SASES group are willing to help any resident needing more information. There is a planning committee meeting on the 9th December at East Suffolk Council. Cllr Haworth-Culf was not sure if the SPR applications were on the agenda. She will check and inform Michael Mahony. She also suggested that the village invite Steve Gallant (leader of the Council), Craig Rivett (deputy leader) and James Mallinder (cabinet member for the environment) so they are able to listen to resident's concerns and see the sites first hand.

181/19 County and District Councillor Reports

The Clerk had previously circulated the reports from both District and County Cllrs. They are also available on the website.

182/19 Flooding

Blackheath Estates have been undertaking remedial work to hopefully help the water get away from the pig field without flooding the road. The recent rainfall was exceptional and the ditches were overwhelmed but during 'normal' rainfall the extra capacity in the ditches should help stop the road from flooding. Matt Williams (SCC) is arranging a meeting with Natural England and local land owners to address the situation once the flooding survey has been completed.

183/19 Anglian Energy Planning Alliance

The Council agreed to add their name to the joint letter from various Parish Councils to the Secretary of State. This has been organised by the AEPA Chair Graeme Murray and Tim Beach the Chair of Snape PC. The letter was discussed and agreed at the meeting of 18 Parish Councils held in November.



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184/19 ESC Community Partnership workshop

Cllr Schedrin attended the first meeting of the new Community Partnership. As East Suffolk is now one of the largest District Councils in the country, it was felt that perhaps grass roots issues were being missed. These workshops aim to allow discussion amongst Parishes in smaller groups that can then feed back to the District Council. Each Community Partnership will have a budget to be spent in the area. The next meeting will be in January.

185/19 Accounts

The statement of accounts and authorisation to pay had been circulated prior to the meeting. The authorisation to pay was agreed and signed.

186/19 Budget and Precept – The Clerk had circulated the budget prior to the meeting and this was discussed and agreed by the Council. Cllr R Brooks proposed that the precept be raised to £7669.22 which would give a 0% rise in Council tax bill from the Parish Council. Cllr Simpson seconded this. All agreed.

187/19 To agree Heelis and Lodge as auditors for 2020/21

Cllr Jackson proposed that the Council keep Heelis & Lodge as auditors for the year 2020/21. This was seconded by Cllr C Brooks. All agreed.

188/19 Sizewell C

There is a Sizewell Stakeholders Group meeting on the 16th December which Cllr Jackson will attend.

189/19 Planning

None received this month.

190/19 ESTA travel survey

ESTA had sent a travel survey to the Clerk which had unfortunately gone to the wrong address first. Cllrs Caplin and Schedrin took a journey survey to fill in. ESTA had also asked whether the lack of public transport caused deprivation. The Council agreed and the Clerk will email a response.

191/19 Speeding

Cllr Simpson is still waiting for a response from David Chenery at Highways. Cllr Reid is now the cabinet member for Highways, Transport and Rural affairs. He has asked Cllr Simpson to contact him if no response is received. Cllr R Brooks had recently undertaken a traffic speed survey and found that the speed indicator sign does decrease the incidents of speeding over 35mph.

192/19 Village Hall

Cllr Jackson and the Clerk met with solicitor Mike Phelps at CAS who specialising in Community Buildings. He had given the Council an hour's free advice on drawing up a lease between the Council as landlords and Village Hall Committee as tenants. The lease would be very similar to the current one. He also gave them brief advice regarding the Committee's impasse with the Charity Commission and how to move forward which Cllr Jackson and the Clerk passed on to Roberta Simpson of the Committee.

Cllr Jackson then proposed that the Council instruct Mike Phelps to begin proceedings to draw up a lease between the Council and the Village Hall Committee and to represent the Council in these proceedings. All agreed.

193/19 Village Green and Mill Rd Dog Bins

Clerk to request that Norse replaces the post for the bin on Mill Rd by the Mill and a new bin and post for the one on the Village Green.

Blackheath Farms had offered to make up a no parking sign for the Village Green with their logo on it. Cllrs agreed that it would make more sense to have the sign with Friston Parish Council on it. The Clerk will draft a sign and get a quote from EPS in Halesworth.



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The Council agree to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

Cllr Burch leaves the meeting at 9.07pm

194/19 Play area

All the quotes have now been received by Cllr R Brooks and have been distributed by the Clerk. It was decided to put this item at the top of next month's agenda as there was not time to give it sufficient discussion at this meeting. Cllr R Brooks will contact the companies to see if they will honour the quotes until January.

195/19 Update on Vacancies for Parish Councillors

The person interested in becoming a Councillor unfortunately does not qualify as Friston is not their permanent address.

There are still two vacancies.

196/19 Allotments

No update this month.

197/19 Highways & Footpaths

Cllr Jackson met with the Footpaths Officer Martin Williams from SCC. She and Cllr Burch showed him the footpaths that are not being maintained. He will contact the landowners responsible.

Cllr Jackson will also report online the Friston Common Field path that has collapsed in to the ditch.

198/19 AOB/Correspondence – as determined by the Chairman. No decisions can be made

None this month.

199/19 Date of Next Meeting – Monday 13th January 2020