



Friston Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting 6th July 2020 (held via Zoom conference)

Minutes

Present: Cllrs Caplin (in the Chair), S. Jackson, C. Brooks and J. Burch
In attendance: Phillippa Welby (Clerk) and one member of the public

54/20 Apologies for absence – Cllrs M. Schedrin, R. Brooks and A. Simpson.

55/20 Declaration of Interest & Requests for Dispensations – There were none.

56/20 Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting 23rd March 2020 were agreed.

57/20 Open Forum – Mrs Thomas gave a brief update from SASES. The group members are currently working on their specialist areas for representations at the PINS hearings. There is speculation that these will possibly take place at the end of September, beginning of October.

She reminded the Council to make representation to the East Suffolk Council on the modifications to the Local Plan. The Clerk had liaised with a SASES member regarding this.

Mrs Thomas also reminded the Council to make a representation regarding SZC. She offered to share the information she had gathered regarding transport pinch points caused by the possible SPR development.

She also asked if the Council would consider approaching the District Councillors and asking whether they would use their Community Enabling Budget to purchase a pair of speakers. So that if virtual hearings for the proposed SPR development take place they would be able to be used in conjunction with a laptop and the projector screen in the Village Hall. The Council agreed. Cllr Jackson also said that if SASES need PA equipment earlier she would be possibly able to lend the group some.

58/20 Accounts – The statement of accounts and authorisation to pay had been circulated prior to the meeting. The authorisation to pay was agreed.

59/20 Internal Audit – The Clerk had circulated the internal audit from Heelis & Lodge. There were three points to note and the Clerk had attended to all of them. The Council accepted the internal audit recommendations.

60/20 External Audit – Last year the Council had spent more than £25000 which meant it was now subject to an external audit by PFK Littlejohn. The Clerk had filled in the forms and circulated them prior to the meeting. Section one and two were approved by the Council. The Clerk will drop the papers round to the Chair to sign tomorrow.

61/20 Correspondence – The Clerk had been asked whether the Council would consider continuing to fund a newsletter for the village as the previous three had been received positively in the village. The current cost was £46 per month for printing plus the Clerk's time. Cllr Jackson asked whether the Parish Magazine was continuing. This was not known at the time of this meeting. Cllr Caplin agreed to contact the editor to enquire. It was suggested that if this did continue production that the village did not need a separate newsletter and that the Council should make a better contribution to the Parish Magazine. The Clerk reported that Giles Hanglin (land agent for Blackheath Farms) had suggested that he could possibly contribute towards the cost the newsletter if it became a regular occurrence and also that the District Cllrs were looking in to funding towards it too. It was agreed that the Council would fund an August edition of the Friston Swift and re-evaluate whether the village needed an independent newsletter after this.

Cllrs Jackson and Burch reported several footpaths, ditches and verges that need attention. Clerk to report to Highways or land owners.

Cllr C Brooks asked for an update on the Village Sign. The Clerk had contacted other Town and Parish Councils and received several recommendations for restorers and companies who would commission a new one. She also had details from a resident for a possible funding source she was investigating.

Cllr C Brooks also bought up the planning application for Friston Hall replacement windows. This was not a contentious application and the Clerk would send a recommend approval response to ESC.



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62/20 Date of Next Meeting – The current Government guidelines on C19 still prohibit Council meetings from taking place except virtually. The Councillors present agreed that this Zoom conference had been successful (after a slightly problematic start) and that it would consider another virtual meeting in the near future.