



# **Friston Parish Council**

## Draft Minutes of the Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 (held via Zoom conference)

### Minutes

Present: Cllrs Caplin (in the Chair), S. Jackson, C. Brooks, M Schedrin, A Simpson and R. Brooks

In attendance: County Cllr Reid, District Cllrs Bond and Haworth-Culf, Phillippa Welby (Clerk) and 6 members of the public

**39/21 Apologies for absence** – None.

**40/21 Declaration of Interest & Requests for Dispensations** – None declared.

**41/21 Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the previous meeting 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were approved.

**42/21 Open Forum** – A member of the public raised the traffic survey lines in Low Rd. Cllr Reid will investigate.

**43/21 County and District Councillor Reports** – Cllr Haworth-Culf gave a short update and reminded Cllrs of two consultations that are currently open for comments – sustainable construction and CIL money. Details of these can be found on East Suffolk Council's website. Cllrs will soon be entering purdah before the elections in May. Cllr Bond also reminded residents and Cllrs that there are now two rapid flow Covid testing sites in Aldeburgh and Saxmundham.

Cllr Reid reassured residents that the current services introduced throughout the pandemic will remain in place for the time being as the County follows the Government's roadmap out of Covid. The work on the third crossing in Lowestoft has begun. He also announced that the budget for Highways drainage maintenance has been doubled this year allowing more repair gangs to repair the damage caused by bad weather.

Both County and District Cllrs submitted reports to the Clerk which are available on the Parish website.

**44/21 SASES Update** – Michael Mahoney gave a short SASES update. The end of the examination process is nearing the end. The Planning Inspectorate will have 3 months to make a recommendation which will then go to the Secretary of State who will also have 3 months to make a decision. A final decision should be made in October. SASES have been present at every hearing to represent the village. The biggest risk identified was flooding and the County Council have been fully supportive with this view.

SPR have announced that they will be carrying out survey works locally before permission has been granted and the information given about the working hours has been disputed at the hearings as it differs from those previously stated.

It is SASES view that ESC should be moving to a position of standing against the development due to the information that is being revealed in the hearings.

Cllr Caplin thanked Michael Mahoney and the SASES members for their determination, commitment and sheer hard work throughout this process.

**45/21 Planning: DC/21/1157/TPO** - To fell cut leaved Beech in rear garden. Tree is central to rear lawn and is stated as preventing enjoyment of garden - The Retreat Low Road Friston – The Council recommended refusal that the TPO be lifted from this tree in order to preserve it. The tree is visible from Low Rd contrary to the application. Since the TPO was placed on this tree, other trees in the area have been lost due to The Meadows development. This is the only tree out of the three that were originally under the TPO that remains. It is a healthy tree and will be many years before it causes an inconvenience to the dwelling. The house is on the market and advertised as having scope to extend, it may be that the removal of the tree would facilitate this.

**DC/21/0962/FUL** - Extension and alterations to existing dwelling - Peace Haven Donkey Lane Friston – The Council recommended approval of this application with the addition of a construction management plan, especially if this development coincides with that of Nethercote.

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It was pointed out to District Cllrs that planning notifications were not posted at either property.

**46/21 SCC Flooding** – Cllr Simpson, after a conversation with Matt Williams (SCC flood officer) and evidence from the SASES group, asked that the Parish Council write to the planning Inspectorate in order to keep SCC as the flood authority in relation to the potential SPR development. ESC have requested to be the authority. SCC have the experience and knowledge in this area and there is no gain in allowing an authority without this to take the lead. All Cllrs agreed. Clerk to write.

**47/21 Annual Parish Meeting** – The Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual meeting of the Council will be the 10<sup>th</sup> May. These will most certainly be via Zoom.

**48/21 Village Hall** – Ian Culf had undertaken emergency roof repairs on Friday consisting of replacing or repositioning slates, fixing a hole in the valley and repairing the flashing to the chimney. He advises that it should take between 4-6 weeks to dry out. This should hopefully alleviate the damp walls which means the plaster can then be repaired in order to be redecorated. The Council had received 3 quotes for decorating the hall. The Clerk will approach one firm for a requote without the work to the chimney as this had now been done.

**49/21 Footpaths** – Footpath 32 that has been blocked by electric fencing and diverted to a dead end has been reported to the PROW team.

**50/21 Village Sign** – Will be removed and delivered to Cllr Simpson for storage and to allow the sign restorer to get a closer look at it.

**51/21 Highways** – Cllr Simpson asked that a letter be sent to the EA to ask that the drainage channel be cleared as it is badly silted. Clerk to write and copy in SCC and ESC Cllrs. Clerk to contact Matt Williams regarding any photos of evidence of silt.

The Clerk had received an email regarding the state of the village boundary sign to the west of the village. Cllr Simpson had inspected the sign and found the sign to be in good shape but that the painted letters were flaking off and that cleaning it may exacerbate this. Clerk to contact Highways with photos of the sign to ask whose responsibility it was to maintain or replace.

Cllr Jackson proposed that the meeting being extended by half an hour. This was seconded by Cllr Caplin. All in favour.

**52/21 Accounts** – The authorisation to pay was agreed. The Clerk had been asked for an invoice from ESC for the use of the Village Hall as a polling station on the 6<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr Burch will put an invoice together including a deep Covid clean.

Internet banking will be moved to next month's agenda.

**53/21 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations** – These were agreed and accepted by the Council.

**54/21 Correspondence – as received by the Clerk or Councillors** – Cllr Burch reminded the Clerk that she needed to include both Church Rd and Church Lane in the QLS application. Clerk to amend.

Cllr C Brooks informed the Council about 30mph temporary speed limits on some roads in the area to facilitate site entrances for the SPR surveying. Clerk to find details and circulate to the Cllrs.

**55/21 Date of Next Parish Council Meeting** – The next meeting will be the 10<sup>th</sup> May and will include the Annual Parish meeting and the Annual meeting of the Council.

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