



Friston Parish Council

Minutes of the Council meeting 28th November 2022 held in Friston Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs M Caplin (in the Chair), P Carlaw, S Jackson, M Mahony, R Brooks, A. Simpson and M. Shipman

In attendance: Cllrs Andrew Reid (SCC) and Russ Rainger (ESC), Phillippa Welby (Clerk), and 8 members of the public

Minutes

91/22 Apologies for absence – Cllr C Brooks

92/22 Declaration of Interest & Requests for Dispensations - None

93/22 Minutes of the previous meeting: With the amendment of 'voted to noted' in SASES update with the minutes were agreed by the Council and signed by the Chair.

94/22 Open Forum – A member of the public asked for an update on the Quiet Lane Scheme. Cllr R Brookes will pick the signs up from Ipswich and Highways are still to put in the new posts. They also requested that energy project updates are included in the District Council's residents' magazine. Cllr Rainger will feed this back. Another member of the public asked whether it would be possible to consider having a fund as part of the Parish Council's finances to make improvements and tidy the village.

95/22 County and District Councillor Reports – Cllr Reid picked up on the comment about improvements to the village and reminded the Council that SCC can offer training to people to enable them to operate close to the road safely.

SCC are spending £8 million on developing the Foxhall recycling centre, this will stay open while the work is done. Cllr Reid also reported on the Suffolk Roadsafe Partnership with the Police. There are now 10 new ANPR cameras, these will sit on the same poles as SIDs or VAS machines. The ANPR camera will register the approaching vehicle's speed and display this on the screen. If the vehicle is speeding and does not slow down after the speed is displayed, the machine will record the number plate. This will generate a letter to the offender. Persistent speeders caught on these cameras will then receive a visit from a police officer. Friston are already on the list to host a camera and had a trial run earlier this year.

There is a currently a budget consultation online for residents to give their views regarding how SCC should spend its budget. This is open until Christmas.

Cllr Rainger repeated the information regarding the Ease the Squeeze campaign being run by the District Council currently to help people affected by the cost of living crisis to access information and practical help.

He also announced the appointment of Chris Bally to replace Stephen Baker as the Chief Executive of the District Council. Kate Blakemore has been appointed as the Strategic Director of the District Council.

96/22 SASES Update – Cllr Mahony suggested that this item could to be split on future agendas to enable him to give a SASES update as a member of SASES and an update on the other proposed energy projects as a Parish Cllr. SASES are hoping to hear regarding the judicial review on the Scottish Power proposed projects before Christmas. The National Grid Euro Link and Sea Link consultations took place in Friston and the Parish Council have submitted their comments on the scoping report. Currently the District Council's response to the report are supportive of the local community. There are forms available on line to have your say on the National Grid website. There are paper copies available in various places locally including Saxmundham, Leiston and Aldeburgh Libraries. The closing date for submitting them is the 18th December.

Several residents of Friston attended the meeting held by Therese Coffey MP on Friday 25th November. She is still pushing for Bradwell and other brownfield sites for the proposed energy developments. She also has a meeting with the energy minister this week to discuss this.



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97/22 Reclaim the Rain – Cllr Shipman reported that the drop in consultation event was well attended and that the team from Reclaim the Rain were impressed with how engaged the community was. There is another drop in session planned for January in the evening to allow anyone who missed the first one to attend. There will also be a follow up survey for the village.

A member of the public asked to speak at this point. They attended the meeting and was impressed by the team from RTR. He put forward the idea that if reservoirs are made as part of the plan then these may also be helpful in tackling any possible wildfires in the summer. He also raised the point that the flood work may have an impact on insurance premiums in the village.

98/22 Footpaths – The Clerk has received two emails from residents regarding the state of the footpaths in the village.

Cllr Mahony proposes that the Clerk writes an open letter to all landowners with land that has footpaths across them in Friston to ask that they take responsibility for these and check that they are passable and have been reinstated. This was seconded by Cllr Jackson. All in favour. The Clerk will also send a copy to Cllr Reid and Highways.

99/22 Highways – Cllr Simpson met with a Highways Community engineer to discuss possible options for discouraging speeding through the village. They discussed the village gateways at the start of the 30 mph zone to draw more attention to them. For Highways to install these would be a cost of around £5000. The Clerk had found a company that Highways approve of that supply them. She will ask if the Council can supply and fit the gates themselves. The cost of putting a 40mph limit before the 30mph to try and slow vehicles down before they get to the village was prohibitive at around £12000. The Community Engineer also denied responsibility for Church Path despite it being a registered footpath and patched by Highways in the past. Cllr Jackson to take photos of the worst parts and Clerk to report.

100/22 Village Green – The grass has been cut for this year, the Clerk has yet to receive a bill. Cllr Simpson suggested getting quotes for other companies as a comparison.

101/22 Bus Shelter – The Clerk will look at Glasdon for quotes for a prefabricated bus shelter. It was discussed that perhaps a bespoke shelter was not the best use of public money for the use it will get. Although the aesthetic still has to be right with a premade shelter as it will be right on the front of the village green.

102/22 Village Hall – Cllr Carlaw had overseen the instalment of the new blinds for the village hall which were automatic in the main hall and manual in the kitchen. He is also working on electrical quotes for changing the lighting to LEDs.

103/22 Village Sign – Cllr Shipman will contact LST about putting up the new village sign.

104/22 Allotments – Cllr Simpson has had an enquiry about one plot. He has completed the grass seeding on the empty plot.

105/22 Financial Risk Assessment – the risk assessment was signed for the year. Cllr Mahony suggested sending it to the Council's insurers for checking. Clerk to do.

106/22 Budget – it was decided to call a separate meeting to focus on the budget in January in order to be able to set the precept by the deadline. Clerk to send dates.

107/22 Accounts – These were agreed by the Council, with the addition of the Clerk's laptop, the basketball hoop sign and the donation for the QLS signs.

108/22 Correspondence – The emails received by the Clerk were dealt with in 98/22.

109/22 Date of Next Parish Council Meeting – 9th January 2023