



Friston Parish Council

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall, Friston on the 8th May 2023 followed by the general meeting of the Parish Council.

There were present; Cllrs P Carlaw, S Jackson, M Mahony (in the Chair), M Schedrin and M Shipman.
In attendance Cllr T Daly (ESC), P Welby (Parish Clerk), 7 members of the public.

AGENDA

17/23 Election of the Chair: Cllr Mahony was nominated as Chair by Cllr Jackson. This was seconded by Cllr Carlaw. All in favour. Cllr Mahony accepted the nomination.

18/23 Apologies for Absence: None

19/23 Election of the Vice-Chairman: Cllr Jackson was proposed by Cllr Shipman. This was seconded Cllr Mahony. All in favour. Cllr Jackson accepted the nomination.

20/23 Election of Representatives:

Village Green – Cllr Shipman

Play Equipment – Cllr Jackson

Sizewell C – Cllr Mahony

SASES – Cllrs Mahony and Shipman

Allotments – Alan Simpson will continue as the Allotments representative

Highways – Cllr Carlaw

Footpaths - Cllrs Jackson and Shipman

Village Hall committee – Cllrs Jackson, Carlaw and Shedrin.

AGENDA

21/23 Apologies for absence – None

22/23 Declaration of Interest & Requests for Dispensations - None

23/23 Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting 3rd April 2023 were approved and signed by the Chair.

24/23 Open Forum – a member of the public mentioned the big help out on Bank Holiday Monday and that so much in the village depends on volunteers. They would like to see a village plan from the Parish Council of intended actions. Cllr Mahony will contact them to discuss directly.

Cllr Mahony followed up the volunteer comment with thanks to Mike Caplin the previous Chair and outgoing Cllrs for their work and time given to the Parish Council. He also thanked Marie Szpak and Cllr Carlaw for their work organising the Coronation screening in the Village Hall.

A donation of £50 was given to the Clerk from monies raised at the raffle towards the Village Hall and a donation of £164.80 from a raffle organised by Mr and Mrs Hill. Clerk to write and thank.



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25/23 County and District Councillor Reports – Tom Daly from ESC attended the meeting and reported that in the future one District Cllr would attend the meetings. The new Green Cllrs intend to be active rather than reactive. They are intending to set up a committee to look at the proposed energy projects. He will bring an update to the next meeting. Cllr Daly also listed three available funds for businesses. Details of these are available on the ESC website or from him directly.

26/23 Energy projects update – Cllr Mahony reported that SPR have launched the interactive maps. There are details that are incorrect on the footprint of the development. Cllr Mahony will contact SPR. Currently there are non intrusive walkover surveys being conducted.

Eurolink has been relaunched as Lionlink. This is the project that links Dutch windfarms to the UK. The community benefits discussion has been ramped up by Government. Currently the SPR benefits are minimal compared to the level of investment. Cllr Shipman attended the first webinar regarding this which was not very informative. Cllr Mahony will attend the next one and express dissatisfaction with the process. He'll ask what the benefits scheme is based on as currently it's decided by ESC and the developer behind closed doors.

SEAS will have their judicial review hearing later in May.

SASES are still waiting regarding their appeal request.

27/23 Planning – nothing this month.

28/23 Village Green – Cllr Shipman proposed that the quote to repair the two benches on the Green was too high and that it was more beneficial to buy one new recycled plastic bench. This was seconded by Cllr Carlaw. The Clerk asked whether any of the benches had dedications but Cllrs believed this was not the case. Cllr Shedrin will check with her contact to collect the old ones. If this is not possible the Clerk will ask Norse.

29/23 Footpaths – The new sign on footpath 22 has still not been replaced despite the agreement from SCC to do this. The Council will also engage with SCC regarding the surface of Church Path.

30/23 Highways – The Clerk had been contacted by a resident regarding potential traffic calming schemes in Friston like the ones in Hoxne. Clerk to organise a meeting between a SCC Highways Community Engineer and Cllr Carlaw to look at the possibility of such a scheme and the cost.

The verge in Low Road has still not been reinstated.

The parking when the pub has events has begun to become a problem in the village due to the lack of parking at the venue. Cllr Jackson to talk directly to the landlords regarding this.

31/23 Village Hall – The Booking Clerk had written a report detailing the costs and income of the Village Hall. The costs still far out way the income generated by the Hall currently, this will eventually have an effect on the Council and the precept. It is hoped that the new website www.fristonvenue.com will generate outside interest in booking the Hall.

A member of the public bought the Council's attention to one of the locks in the ladies' toilet that was sticking and unfortunately resulted in someone getting stuck at the Coronation event on Saturday. Clerk to engage someone to look at this.

It was also raised that the Hall did not have enough cups and saucers to cover the 80 people at seated event. The Clerk will look into prices and the Committee can discuss at the next meeting.



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The fire alarm lights are also flashing as a result of the power cut at the weekend. Clerk to contact company.

32/23 Village Sign – Three offers of a home for the old village sign had been put forward. Cllr Mahony proposed that it be moved to the Church. This was seconded by Cllr Carlaw. All agreed. Simon Ive to liaise with Alan Simpson.

33/23 Allotments – There is currently one allotment available.

34/23 Swift Sponsorship – The current sponsor of the Swift will finish in June. Cllr Mahony proposed that the Council take on the £50 cost for the time being in the hope that residents will come forward to sponsor the Swift. This was seconded by Cllr Shipman. All agreed.
Clerk to ask for sponsorship in the next edition.

35/23 Accounts – Statement of Accounts and Authorisation to Pay were received by the Council and approved.

36/23 Change of bank – The Clerk had looked at Unity Trust Bank as an alternative to Barclays which would allow her online access to the accounts and allow the Council to pay by BACS still with a two signature system. Cllr Shipman proposed that the Clerk go ahead and open a current account with Unity still keeping the Barclays' accounts. This was seconded by Cllr Carlaw. All agreed.

37/23 Correspondence – This was dealt with at 30/23.

38/23 Date of Next Parish Council Meeting – 26th June 2023