



## Friston Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall, Friston on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

There were present: Cllrs S Jackson, M Shipman, P Carlaw , W Ireland and M Mahony (in the Chair).

In attendance: P Welby (Parish Clerk), Cllr Tom Daly and 6 members of the public.

### Minutes

Cllr Mahony opened the meeting with the a tribute to Friston resident Simon Ive who recently passed away.

**119/23 Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Slack and Schedrin.

**120/23 Declaration of Interest & Requests for Dispensations** - None

**121/23 Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the previous meeting 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were agreed and signed. The Clerk will chase up SZC for answers to questions asked at the previous meeting.

**122/23 Open Forum** – A group of residents have planted the narcissi bulbs from ESC on the land surrounding the Jubilee Shelter and the village sign.

A resident asked whether there was a planning application for the Post Mill. The Clerk believed there was one from a while ago.

The same resident also thanked the Council for arranging the CPS to clear the ditch that runs along the Green. They also stated they had been in contact with Reclaim the Rain to alert them to the connection between fire protection and flooding.

A missing footpath sign on path 21 was also been reported.

**123/23 County Councillor Reports** – Cllr Reid had sent his apologies for this evening and the Clerk has circulated his report.

**124/23 District Councillor Reports** – Cllr Daly went through his report highlighting festive free parking in Leiston on 9<sup>th</sup> December and on the 16<sup>th</sup> December in all ESC car parks. There is also a polling stations review that is still live.

**125/23 County and District Councillors Energy Project update** – Cllr Daly reported from a strategic meeting with SPR. The only work planned for 2024 is archaeological works.

Cllr Shipman attended an online meeting with Nick Harding the officer at ESC connected to the Sealink project. Cllr Shipman found the meeting frustrating. There wasn't a chance to discuss issues with other PCs. It was hoped to arrange an in person meeting with ESC officers and the Highways officer from SCC. The response to the Sealink consultation from ESC will be ratified at Cabinet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January although Cllrs have agreed to it so it can be submitted by the deadline.

Cllr Mahony raised the issue of construction overlap between the SPR projects and Sealink. There are mistakes in PIER which have lead to National Grid not conducting a cumulative impact assessment and no reference to the flood risk to the north of the village. There is also reference to a GIS as having a smaller footprint but not including the information that although the footprint tends to be smaller they are often higher than AIS. There is a reference to the new gas in GISs as 'not as harmful'. Cllr Daly asked him to put this in writing to ESC.

**126/23 Energy projects** update – There is a village meeting in the village hall on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 10am. The SASES hearing at the Court of Appeal begins next week (6<sup>th</sup> December onwards).



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**127/23 Planning** – None this meeting.

**128/23 Reports from other meetings** – Cllr Ireland attended an online meeting with Suffolk Constabulary to explain the new ‘right care, right person’ system. There is a change in the PCSO system and our new PCSO will contact us after the 4<sup>th</sup> December when the system switches.

Cllrs Mahony and Shipman attended a meeting with SCC regarding drainage and flooding. SCC state that the culvert is satisfactorily maintained despite the flooding incidents at the bottom of Grove Road. Cllr Reid has agreed to put a protocol for flooding in Grove Rd together. There will be a legal dept representative from SCC attending a Reclaim the Rain session with land owners to discuss their legal responsibilities.

**129/23 Reclaim the Rain** – The team are hoping to start work next year to the east of the village with a SUDs pond and silt catchment at the top of Grove Rd.

**130/23 Village Green** – The play equipment passed its safety inspection. Cllr Jackson tightened the screws on the swings which had come loose.

Cllr Carlaw will contact the grass cutting contractor for a discussion about the ongoing provision of services.

**131/24 D-Day Commemorations** – A group has come forward to hopefully arrange an event which will include the lighting of the beacon.

**132/23 Footpaths** – The pavements on the Aldeburgh Rd have been cut. Cllr Carlaw will follow up with Annette Robinson at the PROW team at SCC about the surface of Church Path.

**133/23 Highways** – Cllr Carlaw had an online meeting with an SCC Highways engineer regarding speed reduction plans. SCC do not support the building of chicanes. The Parish Council would have to fund an audit of around £5000 - £7000 to decide whether chicanes would be approved and it would be unlikely. Cllr Carlaw is going to contact the Highways engineer regarding the installation of posts before the 30mph and 30mph/Slow roundels painted on the road.

The 20's Plenty campaign was discussed and the fact that it is not enforceable. To make an enforceable 20mph zone would necessitate a traffic regulation order for a cost of around £10000 but the Council could only apply if the average speed in a location was 24mph or lower.

**134/23 Village Hall** – The previous Committee meeting was cancelled due to not being quorate. Cllr Carlaw will contact Barry Smith the Builder regarding the damp in the accessible toilet.

**135/23 Allotments** – There are 3 spare plots currently. The front hedge has had its final cut of the year.

**136/23 Accounts** – The accounts below were authorised for payment.

	Service/Goods	Net	Vat	Gross
P Welby	Clerks Expenses	£40.78	£0.00	£40.78
Pat Donnelly	Green Clearance and Grass Cutting	£276.00	£0.00	£276.00
Hetty's Little Copy Shop	Newsletter Oct	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00
Hetty's Little Copy Shop	Newsletter Nov	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00
RH	Village Hall Oct	£42.00	£0.00	£42.00
RH	Village Hall Nov	£36.00	£0.00	£36.00
SALC	Conference Ticket	£15.00	£3.00	£18.00
Barry Smith	Internal Village Hall Door Lock	£170.00	£34.00	£204.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£679.78</b>	<b>£37.00</b>	<b>£716.78</b>



## **Friston Parish Council**

As the Council no longer used cheques, the double check of signatories matching the cheque amount to the invoices has gone. The Clerk will now send the invoices on a email to the signatories so they can match the amount of the BACS payment. The Council agreed this double check would suffice.

**137/23 Statutory Pay rise for Clerk** - The statutory rise of £1 an hour backdated to April 23 was agreed by the Council. Clerk to contact SALC.

**138/23 Correspondence** – The Clerk and Chair had received an email regarding the use of Grove Rd by JT Few aggregate lorries as cut through. Cllr Shipman will enquire and contact SZC/SCC regarding this.

**138/23 Date of Next Parish Council Meeting** – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024