



FRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Council Meeting** held on **Monday 4th September 2017** at 7.00 pm
in Friston Village Hall, Church Road IP17 1PU

Members: Cllr. M. Caplin (Chairman) Cllr. A Simpson Cllr. S Jackson
Cllr. D Brooks Cllr. A. Patterson Cllr. C Brooks
Cllr. M. Schedrin Cllr. J. Burch

Also present: K. Forster - Clerk to the Council & 11 members of the public.

62/17 Apologies: There were no apologies

63/17 Declarations of Interest & Request for Dispensation:

Cllr. Simpson declared a pecuniary interest in the Approval for Payments as he would be in receipt of a payment for expenses. Cllr. Burch declared a non-pecuniary interest in the item regarding parking in Church Road as he was a resident.

64/17 Minutes of the previous meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of the 10th July 2017 were submitted for approval. **It was unanimously RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.**

65/17 Open Forum

- a) A resident commented that the village was looking unkempt and that hedges, verges and footpaths had not been maintained. In particular Church Path was overgrown. Another resident stated that there had been an accident on the Village Green play area with a small child who fell into the ditch and broke his arm. She suggested that the play equipment should be moved to a different area on the green and fenced in. She also suggested that the CIL money should not be spent on play equipment but on different items such as flood alleviation, traffic management and similar. The Clerk clarified that the discussions regarding play and sport equipment upgrades was to use the S106 money which is specifically designated for sport and play only. Another resident asked what the Parish Council was doing with regard to the destruction of various footpaths. She also asked whether the Parish Council could be involved with The Mill. It was agreed to put this on next agenda. Cllr. C Brooks asked that thanks are recorded to Cllr. Simpson for all his work in improving the road in Low Road.

66/17 County and District Councillor Reports

- a) County Councillor Reid sent his apologies. His report has been circulated and features information about the Cycle event. Cllr. D Brooks pointed out that, due to the Tour of Britain Cycle ride, there are going to be a number of road closures on Friday 8th September between 14:15 & 15:45.
- b) District Councillors Jones and Haworth-Culf sent their apologies. Their report had been circulated. There were no comments.

67/17 Accounts

- a) The Statement of Accounts was presented. The Clerk confirmed that there was £ 20,998.86 in the bank accounts as at the end of July. The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation for July. The Authorisation to pay was reviewed and £3,161.86 was presented for approval. **It was**
- b) unanimously agreed that this the Authorisation for Payment was approved.** (Cllr. Simpson did not vote).



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- c) The external audit was complete and certified. An issues report had been raised however the issue that had been raised regarding un-signed minutes was wrong and an email from the Audit Manager had been received stating this. Therefore, there were no issues to be discussed. The Notice of Completion is to be posted on the Web Site and notice board. **NOTED**

68/17 Siting of the new bench and the remaining CIL funds

- a) The Clerk confirmed that the Land owner had no problem with the siting of the bench on the village green. The Clerk passed across the plaques for the benches. They are due to be in place in a couple of weeks. **NOTED**
- b) A letter had been received which questioned the use of CIL money for the bus shelter and play equipment. **NOTED.** Cllr. C Brooks stated that she believed that the bus shelter would be an asset to the community, particularly school children and the rest of council members concurred. The Clerk was asked to get 3 quotes for a timber structure with seating enough for 3-5 people.

69/17 Village Hall

The valuation had been completed and had been given as £135,000.

The structural survey had been completed. The Clerk read the summary to the Council. There are damp issues, the most serious of which is wet rot in a corner of the floor. There are areas of blown plaster and condensation is a problem. There are some minor problems with a couple of tiles. In summary, however, the surveyor stated that the hall was in good order generally for a building of its age and type.

Cllr. Caplin asked for a working party to be set up of 2 members from the Council with some members of the Village Hall Committee. The remit was for them to get costs and priorities of the repairs that are required and then to develop a longer term plan for the hall. Cllr. Burch and Cllr. Jackson volunteered to be on the working party. **It was unanimously resolved to set up a working party.** The improvements would be funded by the Parish Council. The Clerk stated that there were reserves that had already been earmarked for the hall. There may also be other sources of funds to help with the repairs.

There was much discussion about the viability of the hall. A member of the Village Hall committee reported on a visit she and two colleagues had made to The Hub at Huntingfield. It was clear from that visit that Friston Village Hall is currently not really fit for purpose. For instance, the kitchen contravenes health and safety regulations and that in order for the Village Hall to fund itself to implement improvements, active marketing would be required. The lack of parking was a major issue.

It was agreed that the village hall was an important centre for the village.

The Clerk was asked if the clause regarding the handing back of the hall, should it not function any longer as a community building, had been included. She is to check this as no transfer document has been received. **NOTED.**

It was unanimously agreed to proceed with the transfer, once the transfer document and terms had been agreed.

70/17 Parish Council Vacancies

There are no applications for the remaining vacancy

71/17 Village Parking

The Chairman invited Mr Lewis to speak regarding Church Road. He made the following points:

- There is insufficient space in the road for all residents to park
- Garages are not used as they are too small for modern cars
- Only 2 properties have off road parking



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- People from other areas in the village also park in Church Road as they don't have parking where they live.
- The parking is causing issues for emergency vehicles and damage.

Furthermore, there is no public land in Friston which could be adapted into parking. He has spoken to the MP who is sending him something on common usage of land which he will pass on.

The Clerk stated that she had spoken to the District Councillor who is asking SCDC if there is any land that they own that could be transferred to Friston and converted to parking.

A letter had been received from the PCC which offered to work with the Council and look at options with regard to the Church car park.

The Chairman stated that he wished to look at all of these options at the working party that had already been set up and report back to the next meeting. He asked Mr Lewis if he would be willing to be co-opted onto the working party and Mr Lewis agreed.

72/17 Highways Update

- a) Cllr. Jackson had sent the Clerk photographs of the various footpaths that were no longer accessible. This included the Sandlings Way, where there are now carrots being grown and the waymarker had been removed. These had been forwarded to Cllr. Reid but to date no reply had been received. The Clerk is to follow up again. **NOTED**
- b) The overgrown hedge in Mill Road was raised. Cllr. Simpson stated that he would discuss with the Community Payback (probation) group.
- c) An email had been received from Aldeburgh Council regarding speeds between Friston, Knodishall and Aldeburgh. The Clerk was asked to reply that Council 100% supports this initiative and for her to also send them the email sent to SCC earlier this year regarding a similar request. **NOTED**

73/17 Allotments Update

Cllr. Simpson stated that a couple of residents had approached and wished to take on an allotment. He proposed that they were not to be charged until January 2018 when all the annual allotment charge is due. **It was unanimously agreed that the allotment fee for the new allotment holders could be waived until January 2018.**

Cllr. Simpson also reported that the Community Payback team had completed the work allocated very well and had, in fact, done more than was asked.

74/17 Playground Update

Cllr. D Brooks stated that there was a problem with the slide which needs to be addressed He will obtain a quotation.

The next RoSPA inspection is imminent.

75/17 AOB

The Clerk distributed the Planning document sent by SCDC and asked if anyone would be attending the one-to-one sessions with the planning department. Cllrs. C Brooks and A Patterson said that they would be available on September 19th after 11.00. Clerk to organise. **NOTED**

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

The next meeting will be 7.00 pm Monday 30th October 2017 in Friston Village Hall.

Karen Forster

Clerk to Friston Parish Council, Orchard House, Chediston Road, Wissett, Halesworth, IP19 0NF