

DRAFT MINUTES OF FRANSHAM PARISH COUNCIL'S MEETING HELD ON 17TH NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7.00 P.M. IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Mr A Lake, Mrs Lynsey Rush, Mr R James and Mr C Horsley

Others Present: County Cllr M Kiddle-Morris

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

Mr James welcomed those present to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mr T Lewis, Mr J Sheringham and Mr T Mallon and these were accepted.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda

There were no interests declared.

3. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on September 29th 2015

The minutes had been circulated and read. Mr Lake proposed the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the last meeting, seconded by Mrs Rush and carried by the Council.

4. To discuss any matters from the minutes of September (not on the agenda).

Mr Horsley has carried out some investigations regarding WiSpire as he knows he would be able to receive faster Broadband through WiSpire. However, some residents would not be able to, due to high trees. Investigations would continue to be made and the idea of putting the piece of equipment onto the roof of a property owned by Mr Lake was discussed. Contractors have been seen pulling in the fibre optic cables and erecting the termination cabinet at Crown Lane.

Mr James suspended the meeting for the Public Participation period.

Cllr Kiddle-Morris spoke about the necessary budget cuts for 2015 – 2016 and said that every household should receive a copy of Norfolk Life, in which there are various ways explained, as to how residents can respond to the consultation. Norfolk County Council is considering raising the council tax by just under 2%. The last contract regarding Superfast Broadband has finished and the new contract is starting now. Little Fransham is on the list for it to happen but no-one knows for definite when this will be. It is a £12.5m contract. The Government has assured the public that by 2020 everyone will have 2 megabytes. Two bi-elections taking place this week. From now on, there will be 2 cuts a year taking place for grass verges, but Highways do not carry out grass cutting on verges along the A47. That will be done in the future by Highways England.

Mr James suspended the Public Participation period and resumed the Parish Council meeting.

5. To receive an update regarding the Chairman having a key to the Village Hall

The Chairman will speak to Mr Taylor again about the key situation. If a key is not forthcoming, it was suggested that Mr Taylor be asked to come to the village hall, on a meeting date and put on the heating a while in advance, to make sure it is warm for the meeting.

Action Mr James

6. To discuss Correspondence

The following mail had been received:-

Police report – 3 crimes in September, 2 violence against another person and 1 anti-social behaviour reported in Lime Tree Crescent. Residents in Station Road, Little Fransham, have been advised by the

Police of a house burglary in the road and requested to ensure doors and windows are securely locked when going out.

Copy of Clerks & Councils direct magazine

Letter from Mr Gary Lake re grass cutting at the churches. Mr Lake will be asked to carry out the extra cuts as mentioned in the letter.

7. To discuss any Planning Issues

Breckland 3PL/2015/1154 Dudgeon Offshore Wind Ltd, proposal is for an amendment to the already consented Dudgeon onshore electrical connection to ensure the most efficient method of cable installation at this location. The Parish Council has no objection to this amendment.

Breckland 3PL/2015/0994 Mr & Mrs Saleemi, 16 Station Road, proposed conversion of garage to form a single dwelling. The Parish Council does not support this application and recommends refusal as it would be a small and compact property, put between large and spacious properties. It would be out of keeping with the built environment of the Close. With the loss of the garage space, coupled with the likely increase in the number of vehicles, resulting from the additional accommodation, the Parish Council has concerns over parking on the site and concerns about setting a precedent if the proposed development is allowed to go ahead.

Breckland 3PL/2015/1299/O Mr C Shuart, Homestead, Main Road, erection of 2 dwellings. The Parish Council would be having a site meeting before making a decision on this planning application. The Clerk was asked to arrange an appointment with the agents.

Breckland 3PL/2015/1098/F Mrs Melanie Smith, Old Hall, Main Road, installation of up to 30kw of ground mounted solar PV, to generate renewable electricity for use on site, planning permission received.

8. To discuss any Highways Matters

Cutting of grass verges on the A47 lay-by and opposite the Farm Shop

The Highways Rangers have done some grass cutting. There is a street light that is not on but it is important that the light does work as it is in a very prominent position. Mrs Rush will let the Clerk know exactly which lights are out. The Clerk was asked to request that Highways replace both lamp standards damaged in Road Traffic Accidents, making the point that they are in a key safety position at the junction of Station Road and the A47 and with the dark nights, further accidents are likely, if they are not replaced.

9. To discuss update regarding the refurbishment of the village sign

The Clerk had written to Fransham Forge offering them the business of refurbishing the village sign and asking that she be informed when they could commence with the work, but she has had any contact from them. Mrs Rush will visit them to try to get some information regarding when they can start the work.

10. To receive an update on the play park idea

Mrs Rush is still chasing up a telephone call she is waiting for from the organisation that owns the land behind Glebe Close.

11. To discuss the A47 crossing –letter for Highways England

This will be deferred until the January meeting.

12. To authorize financial payments

Mr James proposed the following financial transactions be authorised for payment, seconded by Mr Horsley and carried:-

Clerk's net salary Oct-Nov £204.00
 Invoice from Mr Gary Lake £412.50
 G Lake Grounds Maintenance £412.50

HMRC Tax Oct. – Nov. £51.00
 Clerk's end of year expenses Ap '14 – March '15 £217.17

Mr James had visited Barclays as there are still problems regarding the change of mandate form and he told the Parish Councillors that the whole matter has to be dealt with, as if starting from the beginning.

13. To set the precept for 2016-2017

Mr Lake proposed it be set at £3,000.00, seconded by Mrs Rush and carried.

14. To discuss amendments to the Standing Orders

The Clerk had dealt with the necessary amendments to the Standing Orders and her copy will be emailed to the Councillors.

15 To discuss the Parish Council asset list

The asset list was discussed and the relevant changes were made to it.

16. To discuss moving to the Village Hall the litter/dog bin

Mr James had not had a meeting yet with the Breckland representative, so the Clerk will try to arrange this. The litter bin that is currently on the property of Mr Mallon needs to be removed and put into store. It will be an item on the January agenda.

17. To discuss renovation of the milestones

Mrs Rush will investigate on-line if she can find anyone locally who renovates milestones and it will be an item for the January meeting.

18. To discuss Street Lighting – replacement lights

This was discussed under item no 8.

19. To discuss updating the website

Apparently the Police information needs updating so the Clerk will investigate this. Mr James offered to take some photos in the Spring of various buildings around the village and these will be sent to Mr Darnell to upload onto The Gallery section of the website.

20. To discuss Defibrillators

Mrs Rush had ordered 2 defibrillators and they had been delivered, along with an Annie doll for practicing First Aid. It is hoped one of them will be housed at the Canary & Linnet pub and the other at the village hall. An update will go on the January agenda.

21. To discuss having an input in the Church & Village magazine

It was decided it was a good idea to have a précis of the minutes put into the village magazine and this will be done by the Clerk.

22. To discuss the need for Bus Shelters

The Clerk had some information from the local company, Westcotec and this will be circulated.

23. To discuss the latest situation on faster Broadband service

This was discussed under the Public Participation Period.

24. To receive items for next agenda

Crime and Policing Report

25. To set dates and time of meetings during 2016

The dates for Parish Council meetings for 2016 are as follows:-

19th January, 15th March, 24th May, 19th July, 20th September and 15th November.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday 19th January at 7.00 p.m.

Mr James thanked everyone for attending. There being no other business to discuss, he declared the meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.

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Chairman

Date