

**Present:** Mr R James (Chairman), Mr A Lake, Mr T Mallon and Mr J Sheringham

**Others Present:** County Cllr M Kiddle-Morris and 3 Electors

**1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence**

The Chairman welcomed those present. There were no apologies for absence to be received as there are currently only four Parish Councillors and they were all present.

**2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda**

There were no interests declared.

**3. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on November 15th**

The minutes had been circulated and read. Mr Sheringham wished for some amendments to item 7. Planning, Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd. and then he proposed the minutes be accepted, subject to the amendment, as a true and accurate record of the last meeting, seconded by Mr Lake, carried by the Council.

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

Mrs Rush had obtained two defibrillators but she has now moved from the Canary & Linnet Public House. The Clerk will investigate whether they are both still at the Pub.

The Chairman suspended the meeting for Public Participation.

Mr Salmon, a resident from Hyde Hall spoke about his concerns regarding speeding along the road from the A47 to Beeston. There are 6 properties on the road that house families with children and there is a blind bend with farm vehicles crossing at slow speed. Two cars have hit his workshop and there have been many near misses. Cllr Kiddle-Morris reported that there is no money in the Highways budget for introducing new speed limits but it may be possible to put up some advisory signs. Statistics generate changing speeds and there have been no fatalities. The road from the A47 to Beeston is a designated HGV access route. Cllr Kiddle-Morris will look into the situation and investigate what options are available.

Cllr Kiddle-Morris supplied some information regarding the NCC council tax and explained that the money for Adult social care has been increased, as this was a necessity. There is a £12m shortfall but the Committee will be meeting soon to debate this and in February there will be a decision as to what the council tax will be. There could be a 4.8% rise but a decision will be made at the Policies Resources meetings. There is a little confusion regarding Vattenfall, It appears that National Grid will use the substation erected for Dudgeon but that Vattenfall will need to erect their own within 3km of the National Grid one. Cllr Kiddle-Morris has written to the company to ask for clarification.

The Chairman closed the Public Participation Period and resumed the meeting.

**5. Update on Parish Councillor vacancies situation**

Emma Spratt was present at the meeting and is interested in joining the Parish Council. She was asked to send in a brief note of her background and will be proposed for co-option onto the Parish Council at the next meeting. Mr Sheringham will go and consult with others to see if they are also interested in joining.

**6. To discuss Correspondence**

A donation appeal from Norfolk Age UK had been received. This will be considered in March along with any other requests.

**7. To receive the Crime and Policing Report**

The crimes committed are as follows:-

September:- Lime Tree Crescent – 1 crime described as ‘Other’, Kirkhams Meadow – 2 crimes of Violence and 1 Anti Social Behaviour

October:- Lime Tree Crescent – 1 Burglary

November:- Lime Tree Crescent – 1 Burglary, 1 Theft, Goggles Lane – 1 Anti Social Behaviour

Mr James had been visited by a resident from Lime Tree Crescent regarding the recorded crimes in that street. He was concerned that there appeared to be more crimes reported than observed. Mr James advised that the figures came from the police UK website and suggested he visited the Police Station and seek verification. If he was still concerned Mr James suggested a visit from a PCSO at a Parish Council meeting may be useful. Mr James has not received an update yet from the resident.

**8. To discuss any Planning Issues**

Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd. – There were no comments made on this proposed project.

3PL/2016/1184 Mr M Flynn, Church Barn, Station Road, conversion of barn to create residential property. The Parish Council wishes to have a site meeting, so this will be arranged.

3PL/2016/1184 Mr Mallon, Old Hall, Main Road, change of use from B1 (office) to C3 (residential), Refusal of Planning Permission received

**9. To discuss Highways Matters - speeding down Beeston Road**

This problem was discussed under Public Participation. The Chairman assured those present that the Parish Council will put as much pressure as is possible on Highways to tackle this problem.

**10. To receive Local Plan update**

As Dist. Cllr Gould was not present this item was not discussed. However the Chairman handed out a paper from Breckland stating that the crucial 5 year supply of building land now existed. This means that any planning refusals that go to appeal would now be considered against local policy rather than "automatically" passed, as had happened previously.

**11. To authorize financial payments**

Mr Lake proposed the following financial payments be authorized, seconded by Mr Sheringham and carried:-

Clerk's net salary for December & January £204.00      HMRC Tax December & January £51.00  
Fransham Forge invoice (renovation of the Village Sign) £600.00

**12. To receive update on the bus shelter project**

The Clerk will check with Shelter Solutions whether they are on the list of approved contractors with Highways England. Highways England need to tell the Parish Council what costs they need to progress. The Clerk reported that she has made several telephone calls to Highways England but to date none have been returned. If she does not get any response soon a letter will have to be sent. She has filled in an application to cover the shortfall in funding with Breckland, using their Large Match Funding grant scheme. This is administered through the Norfolk Community Foundation.

**13. To receive an update on the Village Sign**

The Village sign has been renovated and put back in its place. One of the Parish Councillors will inspect the work and, upon satisfactory inspection, the cheque will be sent to Mr Barnett.

**14. To discuss renovation of the milestone**

The Clerk had spoken to Mr Burks and had been told the work should start in April, weather permitting.

**15. To discuss the state of the Notice Boards**

Mr James has not been able to go and clean them, as he offered to do, due to illness. Mr Sheringham and Mr Lake will take up this task and also attend to the access problem reported at the November meeting.

**16. Set dates for the meetings for 2017**

The remaining meetings for the year will take place on the following dates:-

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall. This meeting will be preceded at 6.30 p.m. by the Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall

**17. To receive items for next agenda**

Co-option – Emma Spratt

Local Plan Update

To discuss the War Memorial at Little Fransham Church, St Mary's

**18. To confirm date and time of next meeting**

The date of the Parish Council meeting is set for Tuesday March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

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Chairman Date