

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

**Others Present:** County Cllr M Kiddle-Morris, Dist. Cllr E Gould and 2 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 consider co-opting Emma Spratt onto the Parish Council**

The Parish Council had received a letter from Emma Spratt. The Parish Council agreed to co-opt Emma Spratt onto the Parish Council. She completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and the Clerk gave her 2 copies of the interests form to complete.

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

There were no interests declared. The Chairman briefed Emma Spratt on the meaning of this.

**4. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on January 17th**

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

**5. To discuss any matters from the minutes of January (not on the agenda)**

The defibrillator is now with Mr James. He collected it from the Canary & Linnet Pub. The Village Hall Committee will have a discussion as to whether it can go on the outside wall. A power connection is required and the Parish Council will pay installation costs. Once it is installed, some training will be needed.

Regarding Parish Councillor vacancies, the Parish Councillors were going to try to see if they knew of any residents who could be sought to fill the vacancies. Mr James advised those present that he may not be able to continue on the Parish Council for much longer.

The Chairman suspended the meeting for the Public Participation period.

A resident present spoke about pot holes down Love Lane and had photographs. They are very large and there are overhanging hedges causing a problem also. Cars need to drive too far over because of the hedges. The photos will be emailed to the Clerk and she will report the problem to Highways and Cllr Kiddle-Morris will be copied into the email. If nothing is done after 10 days the Clerk will advise Cllr Kiddle-Morris who will chase up the matter.

Resident Gerry Taylor reported that some people are using the playing field as a 'toilet'. An article will be put in the village magazine. The Dudgeon Community Fund was discussed and as some things are needed for the village hall, it was suggested to him that the Village Hall Committee fills in an application and applies for some funding.

Cllr Kiddle-Morris reported that N.C.C. has put up its council tax by 4.8% as he had predicted. The County Elections will take place on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Regarding the concern raised at the last meeting by Mr Salmon because of Home Farm and the speeding traffic down Beeston Road, an assessment was carried out and the criteria was not met for a reduced speed limit. However, the junction warning sign and posts (marking Cranes Corner) on the left when approaching from Beeston will be moved to a position before the bend and a farm vehicle warning sign will be added. No date was available for the work but it needs to be carried out before the Vegetation gets higher.

Dist. Cllr Gould reported that although Breckland has raised its council tax it is still the lowest in the Country. The Local Plan will be discussed on April 5<sup>th</sup> and then it will go out for Consultation.

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

#### **6. To discuss Correspondence**

The Clerk had received an email regarding Sir Vincent Raven. She will organize the information to be put on the website and the notice boards when they have been dealt with.

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

The crimes committed are as follows:-

December:- Kirkhams Meadow – 2 crimes of Violence Behaviour

January:- Kirkhams Meadow – 1 crime of Violence Behaviour

#### **8. To discuss any Planning Issues**

Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd. (2 wind farms) There will be a meeting regarding this project in Necton on Friday.

Breckland 3PL/2016/1314/F Mr H Powell, The Old Post Office, Main Rd, Fransham, proposed residential development consisting of 2 dwellings with associated dble garages, refusal received. Appeal is being made to the Secretary of State

Breckland 3PL/2016/0216/O Mr & Mrs Hill, Top Farm, outline application for 15 dwellings with all matters reserved bar access with a small shop. The Parish Council did not support this application. The Clerk will inform Breckland that the Parish Council considers this level of development in the village unsustainable as there are no facilities and no guidelines.

Breckland 3PL/2016/0211 Mr H Powell, The Old Post Office, Main Road, Fransham, proposed residential development consisting of a single dwelling house with associated double garage (revised application) planning application received. The Parish Council recommends approval of this application as it is in keeping with the built environment and will create a much needed enhancement of a very derelict site.

Breckland 3PL/2017/0191/F Mr & Mrs Alec Auchterlonie, Fransham Place, Little Fransham, proposed erection of 3 detached dwellings with detached garages, planning application received. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to arrange a site meeting regarding this application.

Breckland 3PL/2017/0281 Mr & Mrs H Pettitt, Church Farm, Main Road, proposed extension and alterations, planning application received. The Parish Council had no objections to this application and recommended approval.

Breckland 3PL/2016/1184 Mr M Flynn, Church Barn, Station Road, conversion of barn to create residential property, planning permission received.

Letter from CPRE England regarding opposing damage to new housing targets. This will be circulated and discussed at the next meeting.

**9. To discuss Highways Matters**

The road surface on the Bradenham Road is breaking up and there are water problems at the end of Crown Lane. The Clerk will report the problem to Highways and Cllr Kiddle-Morris will be copied into the email. If nothing is done after 10 days the Clerk will advise Cllr Kiddle-Morris who will chase up the matter.

On the A47 on the east of the village, Bumpy Road signs have been put in. The Clerk was asked to enquire as to whether anything is actually going to be done about the problem.

**10. To receive Local Plan update**

This was discussed under the Public Participation Period.

**11. To authorize finance payments**

Mr Lake proposed the following financial payments be authorized, seconded by Mr Sheringham and carried:-  
G Lake £412.50 Clerk's net salary for February & March £204.00, HMRC Tax £51.00  
Clerk's end of year expenses £226.10 Clerk's holiday pay in lieu £191.25  
Mazars LLP External Audit £30.00

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

There can be no progress until Highways England informs the Parish Council who the new service provider is. Once this information has been obtained a site meeting will be arranged.

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

This will be deferred until the May meeting. The Clerk will obtain more details.

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

Ongoing action. They will be looked at and dealt with in the near future.

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

Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year, Adopt end of year a/cs  
To consider the co-option of Mr Taylor onto the Parish Council  
To discuss any progress with fulfilling the seventh vacancy, Bus Shelter Update

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

The date of the Parish Council meeting is set for Tuesday May16<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 in the Village Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.21 p.m.

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Chairman

Date