

FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of Freckenham Parish Council on
Monday 20th January 2020 at 7.30 pm at Freckenham Village Hall

Present: Cllr Wheeler, Cornell, Douch

In attendance: Parish Council Clerk Jadi Coe, Cllr Harvey, and 2 members of the public

Chairman Cllr Wheeler welcomed everyone to the meeting

1/20/01 Apologies for absence & approval of reasons tendered

It was reported that Cllr Barton had not sent his apologies.

Apologies were received from County Cllr L Busuttil and 4 members of the public

1/20/02 Declaration of interest in any items on the agenda

None

1/20/03 Members of the public are invited to speak on any item within the Agenda for a maximum time of three minutes.

Cllr Wheeler invited the members of the public to speak on any item on the agenda.

It was agreed to bring forward item 8.6 Update in Sunnica Solar Farm proposal as the members of the public wished to discuss this item.

1/20/04 Elect Vice-chairman

It was proposed to elect Cllr Cornell as Vice Chairman, this was carried following a unanimous vote

1/20/05 To receive reports from the County Councillor, District Councillor and to receive the Police Reports

Cllr Harvey gave his monthly report detailing ongoing concerns in relation to the operation of County Lines, the latest on Sunnica and issues of fly-tipping. He also advised if residents are aware of fly tipping in their villages please contact Dominic Owner by email at dominic.owner@westsuffolk.gov.uk with a copy to himself. He also reported that the Civil Parking Enforcement team would begin work from 6th April 2020. Cllr Harvey reported he had some locality budget available for the parishes in the Manor Ward area. It was agreed the clerk would formally write to Cllr Harvey and request funds of £350 from the locality budget to help towards the cost of the next Neighbourhood Plan public drop in event. (JC)

1/20/06 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th November 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2019 were proposed as a true record of the meeting held. The minutes were signed by Cllr. Wheeler.

1/20/07 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered in the Agenda

None

1/20/08 Planning:

1/20/8.1 To consider any planning applications:

None

1/20/8.2 To note applications pending:

DC/19/1911/LB and DC/19/1910/HH - Application for Listed Building Consent and Householder Planning Application - (i) Renovation and conversion of existing outbuilding to ancillary accommodation (ii) single storey extension (following demolition of C20th outbuilding lean-to) (iii)

single storey outbuilding for garden storage and (iv) replacement windows and doors to the main house at Lavrock House North Street Freckenham IP28 8HY

1/20/8.3 To note applications received after the agenda is published:

None

1/20/8.4 To note applications determined:

None

1/20/8.5 Update on Neighbourhood Planning Process

It has been arranged for two surveys to be carried out- Site Allocation options and also Landscaping. An application for a grant will be made to cover the landscaping survey costs. A drop-in meeting at Freckenham Village Hall detailing progress will be held in May.

1/20/8.6 Update on Sunnica Solar Farm proposal

This item was brought forward to be within item 4.

A member of the Sunnica Action Group public invited the Parish Council stating that a meeting had been arranged on 3rd February with the Graveney Rural Team who are further ahead in a similar proposal in their area. It is hoped the meeting will provide Freckenham with more knowledge on the next planning stages and put Freckenham in contact with professionals who are now experienced in this type of proposal. The member also voiced his concerns that he felt a large increase in the precept, to give a large budget for expenses in relation to Sunnica, may give negative feelings against the Sunnica Action Group. He continued to report that since Freckenham Estate was not included in the proposal this may change parishioners view and move the proposal further away from Freckenham and then any costs could be shared with other villages.

Cllr Wheeler reported that there were other options to gain income from grants and government funding so a large increase in the precept may not be required. He continued to report the three budget and precept options which were to be agreed within item 13.4.

Cllr Douch reported on the current stage of the Sunnica proposal, and work he had been doing in regards to Sunnica, this included the suggestion of another survey as part of the next consultation period; request to other Parish Councils for support; recommendation of a Barrister; and response from residents offering help.

1/20/09 Recreation Ground and other assets:

1/20/9.1 Playground Report

It was reported that the self-closing gate still needed repairing. Cllr Barton had previously indicated that he would contact a contractor to which the Parish Council are waiting for an estimate. Cllr Wheeler suggested a temporary fix could be carried out with the use of a rope latch.

1/20/9.2 Update on grass cutting

Cllr Cornell reported the grass was cut at the beginning of January.

1/20/9.3 Update on the wall between Chippenham Road & Shores Close

It was stated that it was likely no further work was going to be carried out therefore the item should be removed from future agendas.

1/20/9.4 Any other matters relating to the Recreation Ground

Cllr Cornell reported that there were some dead trees on the playing fields and a trim close to the swings that required trimming. Cllr. Douch would provide Cllr Wheeler with details of a tree surgeon who would be able to provide a quote for this work. (AD)

1/20/10 Highways Inspection

It was reported that the road markings have been repainted, some of the street lights that had been out had been repaired but there were still some lights that hadn't been repaired.

1/20/11 SALC

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting is Tuesday 10th March at 7:00pm at The Elizabeth Tithe Barn, Bardwell. The following meeting would be on 8th September at 7:00pm at Freckenham Village Hall

1/20/12 West Suffolk District Council Town & Parish Forum

The date of the next meeting is due to be held in March, the date is to be confirmed.

1/20/13 Financial Matters:

1/20/13.1 To confirm payment of invoices

The following invoices was approved for payment:

Name	Details	Q no.	Amount
HMRC	Clerk PAYE and NI	1049	£187.40
Jadi Coe	Clerk salary	1050	£750.10
David Wheeler	Expenses	1051	£75.30
Jadi Coe	Clerk expenses & ICO pyt	1052	£53.94
TOTAL			£1,066.74

It was reported that the following payments were made prior to the meeting taking place:

Name	Details	Q no.	Amount
Peter Taylor Whiffen	Parish Pump editing	1047	£140.00
Gipping Press	Parish Pump printing	1048	£147.83

1/20/13.2 To consider any invoices received after the Agenda was issued

None

1/20/13.3 Clerk to update on bank balances held and report on the 3rd quarter finances against the budget

Cllr Wheeler reported at date the Parish Council held £18,055 in the deposit account and £1,980 in the current account. During the year £6,348.00 was received from Groundworks for the Neighbourhood Plan, if this amount is not spent before 31st March 2020 on the intended expenditure then the amount needs to be repaid to Groundworks.

1/20/13.4 To approve and adopt the 2020/2021 budget and complete the Precept application form.

The clerk produced three draft budgets and corresponding precept applications:

	Total expenditure budgeted	Sunnica expenditure budgeted	Precept total	% increase for Band D properties
1	£16,925	£3,000	£13,800	4.06%
2	£18,925	£5,000	£15,800	19.14%
3	£21,925	£8,000	£18,800	41.76%

Following a detailed discussion, it was proposed and agreed to accept option 1, a precept amount of £13,800, which would see a rise of 4.06% to band D properties in the parish. The application form was completed and signed by the clerk and Chairman. The clerk is to submit the application to West Suffolk Council. (JC)

1/20/14 Working Groups Report

1/20/14.1 Circular Walk

It was reported that parts of the walk are flooded and that part of it is continuing to be ploughed. Cllr Douch reported that a low wooden sign on Elms Road, detailing the direction to Green Lane was destroyed by a flower cutter last year and had not yet been replaced.

1/20/14.2 Emergency Plan

It was agreed to contact the ex-councillor who was responsible for the Emergency Plan to obtain contact details and to request any information is passed onto the Parish Council. (DW)

1/20/14.3 Defibrillator monthly check Report

It was reported that the volunteer who carried out the checks was carrying out a superb job and the defibrillator was clean and tidy.

1/20/14.4 Community Speedwatch

Cllr Cornell reported the guns were still being calibrated so no checks had been carried out, she continued to report that the guns could in future, now be calibrated with the SNT. Cllr Wheeler reported that the Speedwatch coordinator had advertised asking for more volunteers and that he had had some responses. It was agreed to invite the Speedwatch coordinator to the next Parish Council meeting to report on any updates. (DW)

1/20/15 Correspondence Received

Cllr Wheeler read ex councillor Pearson resignation letter dated 4th January 2020 to the members and reported that he also intended to write a public letter to residents in the next Parish Pump edition.

Cllr Douch reported he had received responses from both Moulton and Lakenheath Parish Council in response to the latest Sunnica email.

Cllr Wheeler read out a letter from the Lord of the Manor, which included the idea to reprint copies of the book Manor of Freckenham. It was agreed that this is something the Parish Council would be interested in and this could be discussed further at the next meeting.

Cllr Wheeler reported that he had received thanks for the gift that was gifted to the volunteer who helps with the Parish Council website.

Cllr Wheeler reported that some old Parish Council records had now been deposited at the archives in Bury St Edmunds.

1/20/16 Urgent Business

Cllr Wheeler voiced his concerns that Cllr Barton had not attended 4 meetings in 2019 and that he had recently found it very difficult to correspond with Cllr Barton. Cllr Wheeler reported that the Parish Council required three members in order to hold a meeting and as there are currently only four members it was important that all serving members attended every meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Wheeler could ask Cllr Barton if he still wished to serve on the Parish Council. (DW)

1/20/17 Future Meetings

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 16th March 2020.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm

