

FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of Freckenham Parish Council on
Monday 8th March 2021 at 7.30 pm, held remotely via Zoom.

Present: Cllr Wheeler, Cornell, Douch, King

In attendance: Parish Council Clerk, Jadi Coe, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Busuttil and one member of the public

Cllr Wheeler welcomed everyone to the meeting.

03/21/01 Apologies for absence & approval of reasons tendered

None

03/21/02 Declaration of interest in any items on the agenda

None

03/21/03 Members of the public are invited to give their views on any item within the Agenda

No member of the public wished to give views on any items.

03/21/04 To receive reports from the County Councillor, District Councillor and to receive the Police Reports

Cllr Busuttil reported on Highways issues and confirmed other local parishes were also dissatisfied with responses from Suffolk Highways.

Cllr Busuttil stated this would be the last time he would attend the Parish Council meeting as a County Councillor as he would not be standing in the upcoming elections.

The members of the Parish Council thanked Cllr Busuttil for his help and contributions to Freckenham in his time held in office.

Cllr Harvey reported on local COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, Council Tax increases, locality budget, West Suffolk dog fouling campaign and the 2021 Census.

It was agreed the clerk would include Census details on the Parish Council website.

03/21/05 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th January 2021 were proposed and agreed to be a true record of the meeting held.

03/21/06 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered in the Agenda

None

03/21/07 Parish Council Vacancy update and to receive any applications

The clerk confirmed no applications had been received.

03/21/08 Planning:

8.1 To consider any planning applications:

None

8.2 To note applications pending and determined:

DC/20/1860/TPO - one Horse Chestnut and four Ash (T2 and G2 on plan T5 and A4 on order) fell at Pendleton Lodge, Elms Road, Freckenham, IP28 8JG. – *approved 2.2.21*

DC/20/1284/FUL – (i) change of use of Gypsy and Traveller Residential area, providing 12 pitches with concrete pads (ii) 12 no dayroom/amenity buildings (iii) vehicular access and 12 no parking spaces (iv) play area (v) post and rail fencing at Land opposite Pen Villa, Isleham Road, Worlington, Suffolk – *refused 22.2.21*

8.3 Update on Neighbourhood Planning Progress

Cllr Wheeler reported that the landscape and site appraisal have been completed and the technical consultants A R Urbansim are now putting together a report on site capability and also design codes for us. An update meeting is scheduled for 22nd March 2021.

Cllr Wheeler confirmed the plan was behind the original schedule but it is hoped that another drop-in session could be held in May/June and a referendum held later on in the year.

8.4 Update on Sunnica Proposal

Cllr Douch reported:

The Sunnica sub-group has continued to meet and will consider the next steps as soon as the formal application is made, thank you councillors and residents for taking part and supporting the Parish Council.

The Parish Councils Alliance Sunnica Group has met several times this year. The Alliance has asked each parish to use a standard four question anonymous household survey to confirm residents' views on the quality of the Statutory Consultation. The results will be shared with the District and County Councils to help them with the "Adequacy of Consultation" response they must make to the Planning Inspectorate as soon as the formal Development Control Application is made by Sunnica.

Freckenham included the survey with the latest edition of the Parish Pump, with a closing date of 8th March. We will analyse the results over the next few days, and feedback to the Parish Council alliance, West Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council.

Parishes have also been asked by the alliance to examine the list of issues found with the Statutory Consultation, and respond to West Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council.

It was discussed and agreed to supply the Freckenham Statutory Consultation Complaint letter, Sunnica's response to Freckenham's complaint and the list of inadequacies found by the Parish Councils Alliance Sunnica Group to West Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council, also sending a copy to the Parish Councils Alliance Sunnica Group, confirming that the Parish Council still finds the statutory consultation inadequate as set out in our complaint letter, and endorsing the list of inadequacies found by the Parish Councils Alliance Sunnica Group.

Cllr King confirmed that he had spoken to the Archaeology departments at Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council to find out about the excavation work taking place on the proposed Sunnica sites, e.g., on Elms Road. Both departments had confirmed that this was trial trenching work taking place with their knowledge, and part of the pre-application process.

8.5 Anglian Water Bury to Bexwell pipeline

A newsletter from Anglian Water was received giving an update on the Bexwell to Bury pipeline project stating that Parish Councils will have the opportunity to comment on any planning applications when received, which should be in late spring/summer.

Cllr Wheeler commented that he feels this does not affect the parish other than supplying a better water supply.

Cllr Douch commented that he felt reassured on the proposed project following receiving a copy of questions and answers put to Anglian Water by a resident in the parish.

03/21/09 Recreation Ground and other assets:

9.1 Playground/Recreation Ground Report

It was reported that some of the wooden posts on the exercise equipment were splitting and disintegrating.

It was agreed that the clerk would obtain details of local certified contractors so quotes for the work required could be requested.

It was noted that dog fouling had increased in the village. It was agreed the clerk would contact West Suffolk Council to see if more notices could be provided.

9.2 Update on grass cutting

Cllr Cornell reported that the field had been cut where possible as some areas were still too wet from recent flooding.

Cllr Wheeler requested that care is taken when cutting the grass near to the Basketball court so that it remains free of grass cuttings.

9.3 Any other matters

Cllr Cornell reported on the fallen and dead trees near to the river which would soon be removed.

Cllr Cornell also reported that she had had a positive response in a request for volunteers to join a playing field committee and hoped that by the end of March a committee is established.

03/21/10 Highways Inspection

It was reported that Suffolk Highways did not respond to all the points raised in a recent complaint letter. Suffolk Highways have confirmed a full response will be received by 11th March. In Suffolk Highways initial response, they stated no more annual site visits would be made and all issues should be raised on the online reporting tool.

It was reported other local parishes were also dissatisfied with Suffolk Highways engagement in local issues in particular Worlington Parish Council.

03/21/11 SALC, to confirm the date of the next local area meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 14th September 2021.

03/21/12 West Suffolk District Council Town and Parish Forum, to confirm the date of the next meeting as either 17th or 24th March 2021

Cllr Harvey reported that a date has yet to be confirmed and the forum was likely to be postponed until May.

03/21/13 Shores Charity

Cllr Douch reported that the new borehole had been installed and water supply is now available. He thanked both Cllr's Harvey and Busuttill for their contribution of locality budget to help fund the project. Cllr Douch noted he has seen an increase in new allotment holder applications.

Cllr Douch suggested a small gravel area is created around the borehole to help prevent the area becoming too wet and muddy, and estimated costs would be approximately £120 for a membrane and gravel.

It was proposed and agreed this would be funded by the Parish Council.

03/21/14 Financial Matters:

14.1 To confirm payment of invoices

None

14.2 To note payments made since the previous meeting

FPO	Fontus Water	Water bore hole deposit	£336.00
FPO	Gipping Press	Parish Pump	£165.86
FPO	Peter Taylor-Whiffen	Parish Pump	£140.00
FPO	Fontus Water	Water bore hole	£1,344.00
FPO	GeoXphere	Parish Online	£60.00

14.3 To consider any invoices received after the Agenda was issued

SALC - payroll service for 6 months to 31st March 2021, total cost of £22.80

The invoice was approved for payment.

14.4 Clerk to update on bank balances held

The clerk reported that at the end of February £994 was held in the current account and £22,145 in the deposit account.

03/21/15 Working Groups Report:

15.1 Circular Walk

Cllr Douch confirmed he has reported the broken and missing signs again and had noted that part of the walk was still being ploughed.

15.2 Emergency Plan

Cllr Wheeler confirmed he would review the plan and suggest amendments to ensure the plan included a pandemic.

15.3 Defibrillator monthly check Report

It was reported that the volunteer continues to do a monthly defibrillator check and that there are no issues to report.

15.4 Community Speedwatch

It was confirmed Community Speed Watch in Suffolk can restart from Monday 29th March.

03/21/16 Correspondence and Verbal Communication Received

Cllr Wheeler read out a correspondence received from a resident thanking the Parish Council for their work in opposing the Sunnica proposal.

An invitation was received from Worlington Parish Council to attend a recent meeting to discuss the application of Ferry Drove being added to the Definitive Map for the area, and the possibility of having Badlingham Lane also added to the Definitive Map.

Cllr Cornell agreed to contact Cllr M Peachey from West Row parish council to discuss public rights of ways in the village and whether they were on the Definitive Map.

03/21/17 Update on the re-printing of the book, Manor of Freckenham

The re-printing options were discussed including which book to publish, whether there would be a charge for new books and the possibility of waiting 4 years so the next re-print would be a quarter of a century print.

It was agreed to look at the total costs of printing the books.

03/21/18 Urgent Business

It was reported that contractors' vehicles continued to park on the path and the Chippenham/Fordham Road/The Street junction in the village although they had been given the offer of parking in the village hall car park and on the Chippenham Road grass verge.

Cllr Wheeler confirmed he would seek advise from PC Helen Self and Cllr Douch would find out the owner of the property of which the contractors were working on to ask contractors to be more considerate when parking.

03/21/19 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Monday 10th May 2021, which will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting and to confirm the date of the Annual Parish Meeting as being Tuesday 18th May 2021.

The date of the Annual Parish Council meeting was confirmed as 10th May 2021 however, this could not be held in the village hall, as the earliest date village halls may reopen is 15th May. The date of the Annual Parish Meeting was confirmed at 18th May although this may change if further guidance from SALC does not allow this.

Cllr Wheeler asked the clerk to add 'Public Rights of Way' to the next agenda.

The meeting closed at 9:10pm

Jadi Coe
Clerk to the Council
17 Bridewell Close
Mildenhall
Suffolk
IP28 7RB
Tel: 07759 263349