

FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting held on 16 November 2015
at Freckenham Village Hall, Fordham Road at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors D.E. Wheeler (Chairman); L.J. Barton (Vice); S. Cornell;
C. Pearson & P. Gibbs
In Attendance: Mrs H.A. Gurner (Clerk)

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| 1. | <u>Apologies:</u> Cllr Brian Harvey – District Councillor. | <u>Action</u> |
| 2. | <u>Declarations of Interest:</u> The Clerk handed round forms for Declaration of Pecuniary Interest which all Councillors signed. These will be kept in the Minute book. | |
| 3. | <u>Reports:</u> None received. | |
| 4. | <u>Minutes:</u> The minutes of the last meeting held on 21 September 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. | |
| 5. | <u>Matters Arising not covered in Agenda:</u> There were no matters arising. | |
| 6. | <u>Planning:</u> 6.1. (a) Trees in a Conservation Area Notification – Selbourne House, Church Lane, Freckenham IP28 8JF. Application No: DC/15/2193/TCA. Decision: Approved, members sent no objections. (b) Installation of on-farm anaerobic digestion plant to produce biogas with three digesters, Bay Farm, Worlington. Application No: DC/15/2109/FUL. Decision: Members agreed to object on the following grounds (i) position being too close to existing residential area, (ii) transport / traffic flow – road not suitable for the extra traffic that would prevail, (iii) that an EIA should be undertaken prior to any application being considered and (iv) in respect of any odour to surrounding villages / area. 6.2. Members noted the decision to approve Application DC/15/1614/TCA regarding 19 The Street, Freckenham. 6.3. Nothing further to note on the Single Issue Review (SIR) of Core Strategy Policy CS7 and Site Allocations Local Plan. | Clerk to send objections |
| 7. | <u>Highways:</u> 7.1. The Chairman reported that the flooding issue just outside Freckenham on the Mildenhall Road has been partly resolved going towards Worlington, but the opposite side of the road there is still a substantial problem and Cllr Wheeler has reported this to Highways once more. Cllr Gibbs reported that the pot holes on Chippenham Road have been repaired. | |
| 8. | <u>Recreation Ground & other Assets:</u> 8.1. The path is satisfactory now Sovereign have been back to re-lay. A safety inspection has now taken place and the painting of the equipment has been completed. The dog bin is being re-sited today along with the installation of new signage. A new sign needs to be obtained for the defibrillator and will also need to be installed. The spring on the gate to the childrens’ play area is still not working correctly – takes too long to close. The fabricator of the fence to be asked if he can look at the gate and get the spring working. Cllr Gibbs suggested that the spring be moved to the gate on the other side of the | Cllr Barton |

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| | play area at the same time rather than where it is now. There is already a gate there at the moment which is kept locked. | |
| 9. | <u>SALC:</u> 9.1. The next meeting to be held on Tuesday 8 December 2015 in Newmarket - Councillors Wheeler and Pearson will attend along with the Clerk who will be taking the Minutes. | |
| 10. | <u>Financial Matters</u> 10.1. Approval was given to the following payments:- (a) Sovereign Design Play Systems – Breedon Gravel Path £9,286.99 (b) The Clerk’s expenses being mileage at £111.60, Postage at £7.65 and stationery at £29.88 = total of £149.13 (c) SALC Planning Essentials Course for Cllr Barton at £12.00 (d) BDO, External Auditor’s Fee at £240.00 (e) Peter Taylor Whiffen for editing the Parish Pump at £140.00 (f) Expenses for Cllr Wheeler being a Wreath for Remembrance Sunday at £22 and mileage expenses at £25.20 = total of £47.20 (g) Gipping Press & Co for printing of the Parish Pump at £178.07 10.2. The draft Budget was discussed at some length and will be confirmed / approved at the January meeting. 10.3. Clerk’s contract of employment is currently being discussed by the Clerk and Cllr. Wheeler. 10.4. The appointment of the Clerk as the Responsible Finance Officer was confirmed. 10.5. The Clerk reported that in future all reclaims to HMRC for VAT can only be for invoices / receipts that are in the name of Freckenham Parish Council and not individuals. The Clerk to open up an Amazon Account in the name of the Council and any purchases via Amazon to go through the Clerk. 10.6. The Clerk reported that she is currently chasing a couple of bad debts via telephone and letters and will report further on the progress with this at the January meeting. 10.7. It was resolved that the Clerk should apply for membership of the SLCC and that the annual membership fee be paid for by the Council. | Clerk / Cllr Wheeler Clerk Clerk Clerk |
| 11. | <u>Working Groups Report</u> 11.1. Right of Way Improvement (Circular Walk working party). Cllr Barton had no updates on this. 11.2. Risk Assessment – Cllr Wheeler and the Clerk to look at this and report back. 11.3. Standing Orders – Cllr Wheeler and the Clerk to check the latest version of Standing Orders as recommended by SALC and update if necessary. 11.4. Emergency Plan - Cllr Pearson reported that the new co-ordinator of Elms Road is Hermione Bird – 01638 720230 mob 07733104490, Elms Farm, Elms Road, Freckenham. | Clerk / Cllr Wheeler Clerk / Cllr Wheeler |
| 12. | <u>Parish & Town Forum</u> 12.1. The next meeting to be held on Wednesday 20 January 2016 at Barton Mills Village Hall and Cllrs Wheeler, Barton, Gibbs & Pearson to attend. | |
| 13. | <u>Clerk’s Report</u> This was circulated and discussed. | |
| 14. | <u>Queen’s 90th Birthday Celebrations</u> - weekend of 11/12/ June 2016 This was discussed and decided that the Parish should come together to arrange any celebrations. It was suggested that a small working group be put together consisting of two Parish Councillors, two from the Village Hall | |

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| | Committee and two from the Church. | |
| 15. | <u>Correspondence Received</u> 15.1. The Suffolk View publication (Suffolk Preservation Society) had been circulated. 15.2. Community Green Space Funding is available via Tesco local with the money coming from the 5p carrier bag charge. This was discussed at length being ideal for cycle paths, footpaths etc. This is to be discussed further in particular with Shores Charity as need to promote the allotments which are currently underused. | |
| 16. | <u>Urgent Business</u> There was no urgent business. | |
| 17. | <u>Future Meeting</u> The next meeting was confirmed as Monday 18 January 2016 at 7.30pm. | |

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.05pm

Signed:

Date: