

FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
Minutes of a Meeting held on 21 September 2015  
at Freckenham Village Hall, Fordham Road at 7.30 p.m.

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**40. Present:**

- 40.1. Councillors - D E Wheeler (Chairman); L J Barton (Vice); C Pearson;
- 40.2. In attendance – District Councillor Brian Harvey; two parishioners; the Clerk.

**41. Apologies:**

- 41.1. Councillors P Gibbs; Mrs S Cornell.

**42. Declaration of Interest:**

- 42.2. None.

**43. Reports:**

- 43.1. District Councillor.

43.1.1...Cllr Brian Harvey mentioned Devolution and the fact that certain elements were being handed down to County & District Councils from the Government and may include schools. This will be put onto the Agenda for next time.

The Planning panel is working well, with due diligence being carried out on the solar farm (Bay Farm) this has been rejected and will not go ahead.

The Town & Country Planning Act which is including of all Farms, Barns, Sheds etc. built onto agricultural land – these can be built upon without the need to go through the full planning process. This applies to any agricultural land which has a barn on it and can be built upon under the Town & Country Planning Act. It is recommended that we write to Head of Planning requesting that they pre-notify us of any coming through.

Suffolk County Council has withdrawn its subsidy for the brown bin collection which means that residents will now have to pay to have their brown bin collected or lose the service.

Councillor Harvey confirmed that the cost of running the brown bin service is not already covered in our Council Tax payments as it was wholly subsidised by Suffolk County Council.

- 43.2. There was no written report from the County Councillor, but Councillor Harvey covered other items i.e. Barn storage for Tractor and Highways.

**44. Minutes:**

- 44.1. The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2015 had been previously circulated. The minutes were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**45. Matters Arising not covered in the Agenda:**

- 45.1. None.

**46. Planning:**

- 46.1. Applications Received:

46.1.1.. Trees in a conservation area Notification – Sycamore trees T1, T2 & T3 – Repollard back to previous pruning points leaving trees at 6m from ground level. Application No: DC/15/1614/TCA, 19 The Street, Freckenham – no objections sent.

#### 46.2. Decisions:

46.2.1.. Homefields, Fordham Road, Freckenham – this has been approved to build a single four bedroomed dwelling.

#### 46.3. Other Planning matters:

46.3.1.. Single Issue Review SHLAA. Freckenham is not part of this issue as the main sites involved are the larger villages and towns within Forest Heath area. However, three sites have been identified in Freckenham and we need to give our comments and thoughts on these prior to February/March 2016 and other issues that may be advised.

Councillor Barton has been looking at the current SHLAA plans and has declared that there are four options put forward that involve Red Lodge, which in turn could affect Freckenham. One option is for 360-400 houses to be built at Red Lodge, but the other options are all for much higher growth, the highest of which is 5000 houses. It was determined that due to the closeness of the expiry date (6 Oct) - a Working Group would be formed to look more closely at the impact this may have on Freckenham and our comments will be put forward. Suggested we contact Red Lodge & Worlington to get their comments etc. on this issue.

46.3.2.. A methane Digester Generator is planned at the back of Bay Farm, the solar farm next to the A11, whereby 40,000 tons of animal waste will be dealt with. This is more than the whole of Suffolk's total black bin waste and needs careful consideration by Freckenham PC.

#### 47. Highways Inspection:

47.1. The Chairman confirmed that he had driven around Freckenham with Guy Smith, Highways Manager, looking at potential problems. The flooding between Freckenham and Worlington was mentioned and the fact that a new soakaway had been installed which has helped on the right hand side as you travel towards Worlington, but the left side of the road was still a problem after heavy rain. There are still drainage problems in The Street, Chippenham Road & Mildenhall Road beside the Notice Board and the Freckenham Estates Meadow.

#### 48. Recreation Ground & other Assets:

48.1. The Dog fouling notices have all been approved out of our County Councillors Locality Budget. It was requested that the Clerk contacts Lesley-Ann Keogh to ascertain when we can expect to receive these. A notice to be put in the Parish Pump once these have been installed. The new bin is to be installed at Chippenham Road entrance and the existing bin to be re-located to the entrance via The Street.

Mr Geoff Dixon has advised that he will have to step down from cutting the grass in the new year.

#### 49. SALC Meetings:

49.1. The next SALC meeting is scheduled for 8 December. Councillors Wheeler & Pearson to attend. The meeting will probably be held at the Memorial Hall, Newmarket.

#### 50. Financial Matters:

50.1. Approval was given to the payment of the following accounts:-

50.1.1.. £100.80 to Glasdon UK Ltd for payment of the new Dog Bin

50.1.2.. £2,014.27 to Rodney Gillington which is made up of two payments as follows:

£176.77 for expenses comprising postage, photocopies, stationery, telephone, diesel for tractor, fold down post for recreation ground and laptop battery; and half year salary of £1,837.50.

50.1.3.. £26.10 to Councillor Wheeler comprising mileage expenses for trip to SALC meeting.  
50.1.4.. £25.00 Annual subscription to Suffolk Preservation Society  
50.1.5.. £205.00 to R Brighty Electrical Services for the installation of the Defibrillator  
50.1.6.. £520.00 to James Holdgate of PUREDEC for the painting of the swings & play equipment on the Recreation Ground.  
50.1.7.. £60.00 each paid to the following under Section 137:- Suffolk Accident Rescue Service, East Anglian Air Ambulance, St Nicholas Hospice.  
50.1.8.. The following are still owed £60.00 each under the Section 137:- Vitalise, Royal British Legion, West Suffolk Blind Association, Bury St Edmunds & West Suffolk Samaritans and the Alzheimers Society. These will be paid as and when the new cheque book arrives!

50.2. The Clerk is in receipt of the report of the Audit undertaken in March by BDO. Notices have been put up on the Parish Councils Notice Boards giving the Clerk's details should anyone wish to see sight of it. There were no action points arising from the report.

50.3. The Clerk mentioned that she has also received the insurance renewal quotation which has come in at £928 for a 1yr term (17% increase) or £882 for a 3yr term which represents an 11% increase on last year, but it does include all the new play equipment. It was **resolved** that the Clerk would renew the insurance on the basis of a 3yr term with Came and Company.

#### **51. Working Group Report:**

51.1. Right of Way Improvement (Circular Walk working party) It has been noted that Mark Harrison has been tending to parts of this walk. It is not clear whether this has been recently cut by Suffolk County Council staff. In abeyance for now.

51.2. Risk Assessment All up to date. In abeyance.

51.3. Standing Orders and Code of Conduct No further amendments required. In abeyance.

51.4. Recreation Ground Improvements Following a meeting between Councillor Barton, Councillor Cornell and Sovereign Design Play Systems Ltd it was agreed that the path be raked up (4") and re-laid. The cost of £23,000 has not been paid in full until the Council is happy with the result.

51.5. Emergency Plan Councillor Pearson confirmed the only thing close to an emergency involved a potato trailer tipping over on the road between Freckenham and Worlington! Our emergency plan is in place and no further amendments are required. Councillor Pearson to attend a meeting at Stowupland on 13 November 2015 to discuss further.

#### **52. Parish & Town Forum:**

52.1. It was noted that the next meeting is on 7 October 2015 at The Racing Centre, Fred Archer Way, Newmarket CB8 8NT. Councillor Wheeler will attend & Councillor Barton also if possible.

#### **53. Clerk's Report:**

53.1. This was circulated prior to the meeting and discussed.

53.2. The procedure for the defibrillator to go in the next Parish Pump. This must be checked weekly – agreed that Councillor Barton would take responsibility for this, along with Councillor Pearson and Simon Hutchinson. The record is kept by Community Heartbeat online.

**54. Correspondence Received:**

54.1. None circulated.

**55. Urgent Business:**

55.1. No urgent business.

**56. Next Meeting:**

56.1. Confirmed the next meeting will be Monday 16 November 2015 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Signed:

Date: