

FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Freckenham Parish Council held on
Monday 9th January 2023 at 7.30 pm at Freckenham Village Hall

Present: Cllr Cornell, Cllr Englebrecht, Cllr Tucker and Cllr McCoig (following his co-option)

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

Cllr Cornell welcomed everyone to the meeting

23/01/01 Apologies for absence & approval of reasons tendered

None

23/01/02 Co-option of councillors

It was proposed and agreed to co-opt Mr Fergus McCoig.

Cllr McCoig signed the declaration of acceptance of office and joined the councillor table.

23/01/03 Declaration of interest in any items on the agenda

None

23/01/04 Members of the public are invited to give their views on any item within the agenda

None

23/01/05 To receive reports from the County Councillor, District Councillor and to receive the Police Reports

Cllr Stanbury reported on the recent Sunnica hearings; street light discrepancies between the old Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury areas; funding for keeping warm and the new County Deal.

Cllr Harvey reported on available locality funds which could be requested for expenses in relation to the Kings Coronation; the upcoming elections in which photo id would be required for voting at polling stations; warm homes funding; County Lines; Sunnica; closure of the A11 gaps; rough sleepers and the recent PCC meeting which he has asked for more police presence in the villages; planning changes which requires residents to contact the PC if they have any concerns.

Members informed Cllr Stanbury that a Highways sign had been left in the village

Cllr McCoig raised his concerns in regard to vehicles being on the wrong side of the road in Elms Road due to thinking this was one way coming off the A11 and asked whether any additional arrows could be painted on the road to assist drivers. Cllr Harvey confirmed that this part of the road would be altered in Sunnica's proposals

23/01/06 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2022 were proposed by Cllr Tucker as a true record of the meeting and was seconded by Cllr Englebrecht. This was resolved following a unanimous vote.

23/01/07 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered in the agenda

None

23/01/08 Planning:

1.1 To consider any planning applications

The clerk reported planning application DC/23/0004/HH for a two-bay cart lodge and log store at Horseshoe Barn was received after the agenda was published, and that if the PC wished to comment on the application an additional public meeting would need to be held.

The members agreed not to comment on the application.

To note applications pending and determined

DC/22/1073/FUL – conversion of barns to two dwellings, change of use of agricultural land to residential garden and associated external works at Hall Farm Church Lane, Freckenham – approved 16th December

DC/22/1832/FUL – a. one dwelling b. vehicular access on land north of Horseshoe Barn, Mortimer Lane, Freckenham – approved 22nd December

DC/22/1827/LB – one internal double door between garage kitchen with blocking up of an existing door at The Old Rectory, Church Lane, Freckenham – pending at 9th January

8.2 Neighbourhood Plan

Ian Poole confirmed at the last NH Plan meeting that the earliest that the NH Plan could go to consultation would be mid-February 2023. Before this the draft plan would need to be written, approved by the NH Plan committee and the Parish Council. Ian hoped to get a first draft out before Christmas. A draft plan was not available for the meeting. Nick Wooley, Chairman of the NH Plan has requested a NH Plan meeting.

West Suffolk Council have contacted the Parish Council regarding the Local Plan. Only site WS683 Fordham Road, is being proposed for allocation, and the allocation is for 10 dwellings.

8.3 Sunnica Proposal

Cllr Harvey, Stanbury and Cornell reported on their attendance at the recent Sunnica hearings in which they all registered to speak. They spoke on their objections including their concerns.

The Secretary of State is expected to make a decision April/May 2023

23/01/09 Recreation Ground and other assets

9.1 Playground/Recreation Ground Report

Cllr Cornell reported that the field is currently flooded.

Cllr Cornell had previously given permission for tree surgeons to access a property to cut down some trees via the playing field. The tree surgeon then kindly offered to cut back the tree near the park area at no cost, the offer was accepted.

9.2 Update on grass cutting

Cllr Cornell reported that grass cutting would continue once the conditions allowed.

9.3 Any other matters

£218.50 locality funds have been requested from Cllr Stanbury (SCC) and Cllr B Harvey (WSC) each to fund the costs of a memorial bench in the name of David Wheeler. The grant has been received from SCC but not WSC at date.

Once all funds are received the clerk is to order the bench for delivery to Cllr Cornell.

23/01/10 Highways Inspection

Pot holes had been marked for repair in Chippenham Road, but it has been advised it will be 8-10 weeks before the repair work is carried out.

It was agreed that the clerk would contact SCC in regard to the number of HGVs using Elms Road which are damaging the verges.

A path on Mildenhall Road has sunk, which has led to sitting water and mud making the path unsafe. The clerk to determine who is responsible.

The clerk to ask owner off the rotten fence on Mildenhall Road, when it would be fixed.

23/01/11 Chippenham Road Wall

Cllr Cornell reported that the work had been started but the workers had carried a poor job at present.

It was agreed to take photos and contact Flagship again.

23/01/12 Allotments

The water pump is no longer pumping water. The installer is no longer contactable and it appears the business has closed. It is believed the contractor didn't go deep enough.

Cllr Tucker agreed to look at the pump.

23/01/13 SALC, to confirm the date of the next local area meeting

The date of the next meeting has yet to be confirmed.

23/01/14 West Suffolk District Council Town & Parish Forum, to confirm the date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting has yet to be confirmed.

23/01/15 Financial Matters:

15.1 To approve any quotes received

None

15.2 To confirm payment of invoices

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Payee	Details	Amount
Jadi Coe	Clerk salary	£1,010.00
HMRC	Clerk salary	£90.00

15.3 To consider any invoices received after the agenda was issued - to be tabled on the night

None

15.4 Clerk to update on bank balances held

The clerk reported that at date £21,196 is held in the deposit account and £1,937 in the current account.

15.5 Approval of 2023/24 Precept application based on budget agreed at the November meeting

The draft budget which was distributed to all members at the last meeting showed a precept of £14,906.

The precept of £14,906 for 2023/24 was proposed by Cllr Tucker and seconded by Cllr Englebrecht and was agreed.

The precept application form was completed and signed by the clerk and chairman.

23/01/16 Working Groups Report:

16.1 Circular Walk

A resident reported that the path continues to be ploughed. James Pickeron, rights of way officer, has confirmed they have significant ongoing trouble the tenant farmer, partly as they are having to communicate through Suffolk County Farms. They hope to have the issue resolved as soon as possible and they will use legal means if necessary. It was suggested to invite James Pickeron to the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

16.2 Emergency Plan

No update

16.3 Defibrillator monthly check Report

The volunteer who carries out the monthly checks has reported that everything is as it should be.

16.4 Community Speedwatch

Cllr Cornell reported that the teams would start again soon.

Cllr McCoig asked about the locations that the speed checks were carried out and whether these were also done in the centre of the village. It was confirmed that they were however the police have advised that Chippenham Road is not suitable to carry out speed checks on.

23/01/17 Correspondence Received

None

23/01/18 Letting of woodland to the East and West of North Street

No update on proposal

23/01/19 Update on request from Village Hall regarding Film Nights

No update – repeated agenda item

23/01/20 Parish Pump

The final date for articles to be received has been published as 3rd March.

It was suggested to carry out a litter pick weekend on 1st and 2nd April. The clerk to provide details on how individuals can obtain litter pick sets from WSC.

23/01/21 Urgent Business

None

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 13th March

The meeting closed at 8:45pm

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