

FRITHELSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Frithelstock Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 9th January 2020 at 8.00pm held in Frithelstock Village Hall.

Present: Cllr M Goldman (Chairman)
Cllrs M Poole, A Heard, M Baker, T Warrington and M Thomas.
Also in attendance: Mrs K Graddock - Parish Clerk, Cllr A Saywell - Devon County Council, Cllr P Pennington - Torridge District Council and 6 members of the public.

FP27 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr E Hunkin.

FP28 Declarations of Interest

None received.

FP29 Minutes

Street lights down Church Lane. It took local residents several phone calls before it got done. Cllr Goldman encouraged members and residents to report their concerns or highway issues direct to Devon County Council as it is the most efficient and effective way.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be received, approved and signed by The Chairman.

(NC)

FP30 Public Participation

A member of the public spoke in support of the application to ride an electric bike, which goes 10mph in the Recreation Field. Originally went to the Commons in Torrington but could no longer due this due to a number 89 Byelaw. A representative from the Playing Fields Committee raised their concerns about setting a precedent for other users. This item would be on the Agenda for the next meeting, as members felt that there wasn't enough information at the last meeting. The applicant said that they would investigate insurance options as well.

Members of the public who was a councillor for Monkleigh Parish Council spoke on concerns regarding the state of the roads and asked if the Parishes around could work together to put on paper, rather than online reporting. The reporting is so disconnected from people. They further reported that they went to a meeting before Christmas and brought the issue up and a representative from DCC, Cllr J Hart was in attendance, however, it still took another fortnight for someone to clear the drains. It resulted in the member of the public completing work himself on the drains. They would like to see more pressure on DCC to start repairing roads and clearing drains.

The Chairman said that the online reporting does seem to be working well. We are privileged to be part of a new initiative of DCC Highways. Part of a trial to get things working more effectively and efficiently. Cllr Warrington informed members that he and Cllr Heard had a meeting with DCC regarding the roads and together mapped out the potholes, inadequate roadways/drainage and was told to keep reporting the issues via online forum. Concerns were raised regarding the issue with clearing when the matter is wet and also responding to reports but no actually unblocking the drains. Cllr Saywell suggested putting items in writing and he will endeavour to investigate and respond.

A member of the public raised concern over potholes in the village, one stretch has 16 potholes, but if DCC come out, they fixed two. Cllr Saywell said he has had a number of concerns regarding the fixing of potholes and will report this back.

FP31

Reports from outside bodies

a) Cllr Saywell - Devon County Council

- Currently during budget process. Government settlement has been received and should be able to inform parishes on figures shortly.
- Off street parking scheme for carers. Can park on single/double yellow lines for an hour. Further information on the DCC website.
- Had a meeting with DCC Highways to discuss Doing What Matters project. Went through each Parishes wish list and prioritised by road categories and will be speaking to parishes shortly.
- Have a meeting with Fire Authority to discuss changes to the Fire Service. Proposals have been changed and only 2 of the original 8 are changing (1 being closed and 1 relocated). They are looking at a new system to retain Fire Firefighters. They are not downgrading Barnstaple, Exmouth and Paignton, subject to the Trade Unions introducing a new shift system, which could free up fire fighters. They are also looking at aggregate crewing.

b) Cllr P Pennington - Torridge District Council

- Budget process currently being undertaken.
- Recycling rates still going well. One or two complaints about bags into boxes.
- Change of Leadership at Torridge. Special meeting shortly and will give further information as and when.
- Letter from Royal, Devon and Exeter Trust re: looking at running one organisation. Torridge District Council are looking at having a meeting with Chief Ex. Regarding the proposal in March.
- Cllr Warrington raised a concern regarding the recycling that is littered at the side of the road following recycling collections. Cllr Pennington replied that any concerns should be reported on 01237 428700, option 3.

c) Police

Members were circulated a report of figures for the area. There were concerns raised over the reports and the information does not give a better picture of the crime committed. Members understood that when PCSO Melissa Baker is in attendance further information is available but it was

RESOLVED: That the Clerk enquire as to whether a more detailed report could be received.

(NC)

FP32

Planning

a) Planning Application 1/1154/2019/FUL

Erection of tractor and machinery storage building at Clements Hill Farm, Frithelstockstone, Torrington, Devon

RESOLVED: That the application is recommended for approval.

(NC)

b) Decision Notices

1/0656/2019/FUL

Proposed concrete slurry store and access track improvements at Land to North East of Townsend, Frithelstock, Torrington. Refused.

1/1024/2019/AGMB

Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 no dwelling under Class Q and Associated operational development at Barn opposite Southcott, Frithelstock, Torrington. Approved.

RESOLVED: That the information be received and noted with concerns regarding the decisions between the two applications.

(NC)

FP33

Defibrillator

Members considered a request from Monkleigh Parish Council to jointly purchase a training defib with Buckland Brewer and Littleham. Cllr Pennington suggested that he could fund the Council's contribution of £100.00 through his councillor grant fund and it was

RESOLVED: That the Clerk apply for £100 from Cllr Pennington's Councillor fund at Torrington District Council and contact Monkleigh Parish Council to accept a contribution to the scheme.

(NC)

FP34

Polling Stations Review

Members were circulated information relating to a Polling Stations Review and it was

RESOLVED: That the information be received and noted.

(NC)

FP35

Torrington 100 Small Grant Scheme

Members were circulated information relating to grants available through the Torrington 100 Small Grant Scheme. Cllr Poole suggested that their had been discussions with The Poorlands Charity and churches in applying jointly for funding for a scheme. The Clerk replied that she would need further information on the possible scheme and evidence behind the reasons the scheme is needed in order to submit an application. She informed members that applications had to be received by the end of the month.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Poole will contact The Poorlands Charity and submit the relevant information to the Clerk to enable her to submit an application by 30th January 2020.

(NC)

FP36

VE Day

Members considered options for VE Day:

- A resident/local historian could be approached.
- Mr Adams (Royal British Legion) is looking at ideas.
- A possible event in The Village Hall or support the larger event in Torrington.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Mackie organise an informal meeting and an item is placed on the next Agenda for discussion and update.

(NC)

FP37

DALC - Royal Garden Party

RESOLVED: That M Goaman be nominated to attend the Royal Garden and if she does not accept, Cllr M Poole is nominated.

(NC)

FP38

Emergency Plan

The Chairman explained why an Emergency Plan is important and it could be a simple document that would outline details/procedures when dealing with an Emergency Plan. He circulated a draft which is attached as Appendix 1.

RESOLVED: That Cllrs think about adding items to the document and an item is placed on the next Agenda.

(NC)

FP39

Finance

a) Payments and Receipts

Payments:

31. Salary (net)	£250.25	CN: 100463
32. HMRC PAYE	£62.40	CN: 100464
33. Clerk's Expenses	£40.07	CN: 100463
34. Grant to Frithelstock Village Hall	£63.00	CN: 100465
35. Grant to Citizens Advice Bureau	£25.00	CN: 100468

Receipts:

4. VAT Reclaim	£2714.28
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RESOLVED: That the payments totalling £1007.71 and receipts totalling £2714.28 be accepted and approved.

(NC)

b) Church Finance

Cllr Poole explained that the two churches have not received their full grants. The Clerk explained that a Standing Order for £250.00 each was made on 3rd June 2019, therefore a balance of £250.00 was outstanding for the Church and £50.00 for the Cemetery.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk pay these via Cheque and from 1st April 2020 the Maintenance is billed direct to the Council.

36. Frithelstock Church	£250.00	CN:100466
37. Frithelstock Cemetery	£50.00	CN:100470

(NC)

c) Grant Applications

Mr Green explained to members that the Village Hall Committee had to action the repair of the Village Hall Wall and Car Park Surface as it became dangerous, therefore no grant application as needed, however, he informed members that he had been in discussions with the Clerk who has submitted the application to The Balsdon Trust.

FP40

Councillor Reports

Chairman thanked Cllr Warrington and Cllr Heard for their persistence in the highway's maintenance.

Hele Lane -Flooding. Flooding is going into the houses. Cllr Warrington encouraged councillors to ensure the residents submit the reports themselves and online as it is the quickest and most effective way of getting things done.

Cllr Warrington checked all the grit boxes and all had a crust, which has been broken and DCC Highways has confirmed that it is acceptable. Also applied for 100 bags of salt, which is due to be delivered.

Cllr Warrington felt that a litter pick would be great to complete soon to help with the hedgerows. Members agreed to place this on the next Agenda.

Website - the website now has most of the information on from the former village website. Thanks go to Cllr Goldman.

Cllr Warrington asked about the Welcome Packs for new residents. The Clerk reported that she had an out of date one. Cllr Goldman said he would forward a more recent copy and the Clerk said she would update and send to members for their comments.

Meeting ended at 9.47pm.

Signed:..... Dated:.....

DRAFT