

Minutes of the **Council Meeting** held on **Monday 8th August 2016** at 7.00 pm

in Friston Village Hall, Church Road IP17 1PU

Members: Cllr. M. Caplin (Chairman) Cllr. A Simpson Cllr. S Jackson

Cllr. D Brooks Cllr. A. Patterson Cllr. C Brooks

Cllr. M. Schedrin

Also present: K. Forster - Clerk to the Council, 3 members of the public

70/16 Apologies: There were no apologies.

71/16 <u>Declarations of Interest & Request for Dispensation:</u>

Cllrs. Simpson, Patterson, Jackson & C Brooks declared non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 6 (Planning applications).

72/16 Minutes of the previous meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of 27th June were submitted for approval. It was unanimously RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

73/16 Open Forum

A member of the public commented that the ditch by the village hall was still blocked. Cllr. Simpson replied that he was still chasing this.

A member of the public wished to speak about the planning application for The Bungalow Chases Lane. He commented that they had been well consulted by the applicant and appreciated that effort. However, they had concerns about the proximity of the building to their boundary and also the position of the windows which would have a direct line of sight into their windows. A letter expressing this had been sent to the planning department and had been circulated to the members.

At this point, the chairman moved to change the order of the agenda so that item 6b could be addressed, as it flowed from the comments made at the Open Forum.

74/16 DC/16/2731/FUL – The Bungalow, Chases Lane: All members had seen the plans and made comments. In summary all members approved of the application although 3 had concerns regarding the access for vehicles getting in and out of the property. They also expressed support for the points made by the member of the public There were concerns regarding the construction and access for people living in Low Road, particularly if the construction were to coincide with any other construction. The Clerk advised that they were able to support an application but with comments regarding specific concerns. It was unanimously RESOLVED that the Clerk reply to the planning application stating that in principle the Parish Council supported the application but had concerns regarding the access, potential construction traffic and supported the items raised by the member of the public.

At this point the meeting returned to agenda item 5.

75/16 County and District Councillor Reports

76/16 Planning

County Cllr. Reid had submitted a report on Monday morning, however a number of members had not yet received it – the Clerk to distribute later **NOTED.** He sent his apologies. District Councillors Haworth-Culf and Jones had sent a report and Cllr. Haworth-Culf had sent apologies. The Chairman asked that the report is put onto the notice board so that people can see the information regarding telephone calls & scams.

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- a) Diversion of footpath 13a: No update
- b) Updates on previous planning applications: The Clerk reported that she had received another letter from planning regarding the application for Bowling Green as a report regarding Bat Ecological Impact Assessment had been received and the parish council were invited to comment further. It was unanimously RESOLVED that the Clerk should reply that the members ask the planning department to consider in their decision the items in paragraph 6 regarding the timing of the works.

As there had been a number of comments made by both residents and the Parish Council, it was inevitable that the Parish Council would be asked if they would like the application referred to committee for decision but would only have 5 days to reply. It was unanimously RESOLVED that the Clerk, when/if asked, should request that this application is referred to committee.

77/16 Accounts

- a) Statement of Accounts: The statement of accounts was reviewed and the credit recharge of £ 319.32 from the training of Benhall/Sternfield & Snape was noted. The Clerk was asked to correct the posting of Last Year Grass Cutting. There is currently £19,703.46 in bank. NOTED
- **b)** Approval of Payments: Cheques totalling £ 474.27 were approved which included £ 168 for grass cutting, £ 35 for registration of data protection, £ 180.62 for membership of SALC & £ 90.45 for expenses incurred by the Clerk. **NOTED**
- c) New Signatories: Barclays Bank had confirmed that the new signatories were in place.
- d) Update on External Audit: The Clerk explained that she had received further questions from the External Auditor regarding the significant differences in income and expenditure to the previous year. This was mainly to do with the receipt of a number of grants, the acquisition of new assets such as the PC & the VAS system and an increase in administrative costs. She had provided BDO with scans of signed minutes to verify this and these explanations were accepted.

At this point, District Cllr. Jones arrived, having been at another parish meeting.

78/16 <u>CIL Payment & Grant of £200 from SCDC</u>

It was agreed to defer this to the next meeting however, the Chairman asked for the Clerk to send around the notice detailing what the CIL can be spent on. **NOTED**

79/16 Village Plan

Cllr. Schedrin had uploaded the village plan and all members had had an opportunity to review it. District Cllr. Jones stated that Thorpness P.C. were developing a neighbourhood plan and invited members and any parishioners to open day that is being held **on 23rd August in the Thorpness Country Club between 1pm & 7pm**. The Chairman encouraged all to attend.

After some discussion, It was unanimously RESOLVED that any further development of the village plan be put on hold until progress is made on the Village Hall and Village Green.

At this point the Chairman invited the District Councillor to address the meeting.

80/16 Cllr. Jones did not have anything to add to the report that had already been submitted but asked about the Windmill. There were funds available to assist with heritage projects. It was pointed out that the Windmill is privately owned however the Clerk was asked to provide Cllr. Jones with the contact details. NOTED

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81/16 Highways, Paths & Transport

- a) Cllr. Simpson reported that there were still potential problems with flooding in Church Lane, as raised by the member of the public in the Open Forum, however he was continuing to pursue the various agencies to get it resolved.
 - Grass Cutting was underway and being monitored.
- **b)** Footpaths are very overgrown. District Cllr. Jones stated that the agencies would only cut at ground level and suggested that the members contacted local charitable organisations such as the Plymouth Brethren who may assist.
- c) A successful meeting with Norse and a number of different agencies took place regarding the damage being done to banks and thanks were given to Cllr. Jones who facilitated it. Since then there had been noticeable improvements.
- d) The bank needs to be reinstated with soil and turfs. Cllr. Simpson agreed to establish some costs. The local resident would also like to put bollards there, to deter any further incursions. Cllr. Simpson to discuss with Highways.
- e) There were comments on the lack of regular emptying of dog bins. District Cllr. Jones said that she would take this up.
- f) The drain on the green is still blocked and Highways have identified a long time ago that a new soakaway needs to be created. Cllr. Simpson has not been able to get this progressed further. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Reid to see if he could assist. **NOTED**
- g) There were still problems with tractor traffic. This had been identified as being linked to Mr. Mann. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Mann **NOTED**
- **82/16** Sizewell C Forum: The Clerk was asked to take this off the agenda as there is no activity presently.

83/16 Village Green:

The Clerk summarised the current position. Following the application of the Parish Council to register the village green as an ACV (asset of community value), she had received a phone call & email from the Land agent saying that the owners were surprised at this move and would now not be engaging in any further discussion of a lease agreement. Following conversations with the Chairman, the application had been put on hold until this meeting so that council could decide how to proceed. Subsequent to that an email had been received from Mr & Mrs Borrows solicitors stating that unless the application was withdrawn completely, they would not enter into any discussion.

There was much discussion regarding this item. The Chairman stated that he wished to enter into a dialogue with the Borrows and possibly meet them. It was RESOLVED by a majority of the members to withdraw the ACV application and restart negotiations for a lease of the Village Green and to send a letter to the Borrows explaining the history and reasons that Council had applied for the ACV.

84/16 Allotments: Nothing to report

85/16 Playground and village green

Cllr. D Brooks reported that the repairs to the playground were completed. He also reported that Phil Harris has offered to restain/treat the benches at his own expense. The Council much appreciates this and asked for a letter of thanks to be sent. **NOTED**

Cllr C Brooks reported that there had been another minor fall on the bridge. Cllr. Simpson and Cllr. D Brooks had been looking at options and had concluded that the original proposal for a ramp and a hand rail was the most expedient . As discussed at the previous meeting this would be funded by S137 monies. Cllr. Schedrin was concerned about the spending of money on private land, although it was pointed out that the Parish Council was a legal occupier. It was RESOLVED by a majority of the members to authorise Cllrs Simpson & D Brook to proceed with the work up to a budget of £ 200.

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86/16 Update on Vacancies:

No new applicants. The Clerk is to contact SCDC for an official notice. **NOTED**

87/16 Newsletter:

The next newsletter is to be published in September and will be a 4 page item and the Clerk asked for contributions.

88/16 **Devolution Consulations:**

The Chairman stated that he thought this item should be deferred as the current proposals for devolution are not consistent.

89/16 Correspondence Received:

A letter had been received from the police regarding public meetings with the PCC and Chief Constable giving local updates. A list of places and dates will be made available on the web site and notice board.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

The next meeting will be 7.00 pm Monday 19th September 2016 in Friston Village Hall.

Karen Forster Clerk to Friston Parish Council Orchard House Chediston Road Wissett, Halesworth, IP19 ONF

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