Friston Parish Council

Minutes of the Council meeting 5th September 2022 held in Friston Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs M Caplin (in the Chair), S Jackson, C Brooks, R Brooks, A. Simpson and M. Shipman In attendance: Cllrs Andrew Reid (SCC), Russ Rainger (ESC), Phillippa Welby (Clerk), and 11 members of the public

Minutes

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming Friston's new Vicar –Reverend Sarah du Boulay and the new Recorder for Friston – Elizabeth Ashton.

59/22 Apologies for absence – Cllrs Mahony and Schedrin.

60/22 Declaration of Interest & Requests for Dispensations - None

61/22 Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting of 18th July 2022 were approved.

62/22 Open Forum – A member of the public reported that a sign at the start of footpaths four and five from the pub has rotted through. People are now not using the path and walking in the field. There is also garden rubbish being dumped along the path. Clerk to report.

Another member of the public welcomed the new Recorder for Friston and reported that 2 residents had cleared some of the ditch. Cllr Shipman reported that Environment Agency appointed surveyors were seen surveying the ditch but it was unclear whether this was regarding SPR works or for the Environment Agency itself.

Another member of the public brought the potential fire hazards due to the dry conditions to the attention of the Parish Council. He asked whether the Council had made contingency plans in case of a fire in the village. Cllr Reid said that SCC has advice and signs that they can send the Parish Council to use. Clerk to contact Cllr Reid and put warning notices in the Swift. Cllr Jackson will look at the Council's emergency plan to see if anything can be added to this to take in to account fire hazards.

Cllr R Brooks has three times reported the rubbish bin on the Green to Norse for emptying but it has not yet been emptied. Cllr Rainger will follow this up.

Another member of the public asked that footpath 21 be reported as it is not wide enough. Clerk asked for a photo of the issue to help when reporting to SCC.

63/22 County and District Councillor Reports Cllr Reid gave the highlights of his report which mainly focused on the ways the County Council were helping people access information in the cost of living crisis affecting many across the county.

Cllr Rainger also reported on ESC 'Ease the Squeeze' campaign.

A member of the public asked that if there was room could the headlines from the ESC and SCC reports be included in the Swift. The Clerk agreed and will also put the reports on the Parish website.

Both Cllrs Reid and Rainger left the meeting after their reports.

64/22 SASES Update – Cllr Shipman gave a brief SASES update from a report from Cllr Mahony. SASES and SEAS have secured an OFGEN, BEIS and National Grid visit to the area and meeting for a discussion. National Grid have booked the village hall on the 11th November for an open day but it is unknown exactly which project this is for.

Cllr Jackson left the meeting at 7.40

65/22 Reclaim the Rain - There is an invite only meeting in September for local stakeholders and landowners to start discussions around potential projects and ideas. Cllrs Simpson and Shipman will represent the Parish Council.

66/22 Footpaths – The Clerk reminded anyone that when reporting anything to Highways a photograph of the problem will ensure the issue is looked in more detail by customer service agents.

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67/22 Highways – The grass has been cut along the footpath by SCC, thanks to Cllr Reid for chasing this up.

68/22 Village Hall – the village hall committee met for the first time in August and now have some projects to start work on. Quotes for blinds in the hall and kitchen are being sought from local and national contractors, a member of the committee is meeting an energy company to look at making the lighting and heating more efficient, the old photos of Friston have carefully been removed and scanned in order to make montages from to display on the walls and a marketing project has been undertaken by a committee member to look at ways of cost effectively marketing the hall outside the village.

A plumber was being sought to fix the men's urinals.

The damp work to the outside of the hall will start this week.

69/22 Village Sign – Cllr Simpson met with a Highways Community Liaison Engineer to discuss moving the village sign forward to enable both sides to be seen. Highways are responsible for the piece of land the sign currently occupies. He has given the go ahead subject to any utilities being found under where the sign will be moved to. Clerk to contact BT to see if there is a way of checking this. Cllr Shipman to contact LST (contractor working on the village hall) about moving the post and remounting the sign.

70/22 Allotments – the grass has been cut and Cllr Simpson asked the Clerk to email all allotment holders to remind them that smoking on the site is inadvisable due to the dry conditions after he found the remains of a cigarette.

71/22 Accounts – The accounts were agreed by the Council

72/22 Correspondence – A letter regarding fire hazards had been received by the Clerk – most of it had been referred to in the meeting.

73/22 Date of Next Parish Council Meeting – 17th October 2022