

# **Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council**

Clerk: Mike Mortimer, Lime Tree Farmhouse, Common Road, Shelfanger, Norfolk IP22 2DR  
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## **Annual Parish Meeting 2015 Tuesday 21st April 2015 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

### **AGENDA**

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Approval of the Minutes of 2014 Annual Parish Meeting
- 3 Matters arising from the minutes
- 4 To receive the Annual report of the Council
- 5 To receive a Statement of the Parish Council's Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015
- 6 To receive the reports of the Charities:
- 7 To receive a report from Bressingham School
- 8 Reports from organizations within the parish: Bressingham PCC, Fersfield PCC, The Drama Group, The Ladies Group, The Village Hall Association, The Allotment Association, The Footpath Warden and The Website.
- 9 Report from Norfolk County Council
- 10 Report from South Norfolk District Council
- 11 Any Other Business

Mike Mortimer  
Parish Clerk

# **Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council**

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## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2015**

Chair of the Parish Council, Mrs J Delasalle opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed members of the public

Present:

Councillors, Mr B Claybrook, Mr R Hewitt, Mr K Traynier, Mrs A Lawson, District Councillor, Mr K Weeks, County Councillor, Mr B Spratt, and a number of representatives from village groups and the Clerk Mr M Mortimer.

1. Apologies for absence  
Mrs L Pearce

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 22nd of April 2014  
Copies had been made available and the minutes were approved and signed

3. Matters arising from the Minutes  
There were no matters arising

4. Annual Report of the Parish Council

Mrs Delasalle reported a busy year and she thanked all councillors for their hard work. Dealings with Highways regarding speed limits, signage and gritting had been disappointing and the condition of the roads and verges highly unsatisfactory. She thanked Simpson's Malt drivers for their considerate driving. The relationship with South Norfolk planning was frustrating as the parish council's recommendations seemed to go unheeded.

With elections imminent Mrs Delasalle expected some new faces would be seen but she expressed confidence that the council would continue to work on behalf of the parish.

A copy of the report is in the minute book.

5. Statement of Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

The Parish Clerk presented a statement of the Parish Council's Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. A copy of the statement is included in the minute book.

6. Reports from Charities

Elizabeth Barker.

Mrs Burroughes reported that £500 had been given to the school towards a project and £1183.62 towards the cost of a time lock for the church.

Report in the minute book.

The Fuel Charity.

The clerk reported that income for the year was £1950 and that £8656 had been donated, mostly to the Village Hall Association.

7. To receive a report from Bressingham School.

No report was provided.

8. Reports from Parish Organizations:

Bressingham PCC

Mrs Burroughes was pleased to report that at last the roof on the porch had been renewed. She commented on the success of the concert in Diss which had raised £3000. She thanked the PC for its contribution to the maintenance of the graveyard and all those individuals who supported the church.

A copy of the report is in the minute book.

Fersfield PCC

Mr Hewitt also thanked the PC for its contribution and raised the issue of the structural finances of the established church fearing that they were proving unsustainable with impossible costs falling at parish level. He hoped that the two churches in the parish could work together more in the future for their mutual benefit.

Bressingham Village Drama Group

Mrs Webb reported yet another highly successful year having raised £2000 for the Village Hall, with a number of productions including a murder mystery night. A much praised production of Modern Lives had used the new staging which had proved very successful.

Bressingham & District Ladies' Club

Mrs Harvey gave a report on a busy year with ten meetings starting with "Chocoholics Dream" proving very popular. There was a trip to BBC Norwich and the return of Rob Chartier with postcards. £100 was donated to Cancer Research and instead of giving each other Christmas presents the ladies made a contribution of £115 towards the repair of the village hall.

A full report is in the minute book

Bressingham and Fersfield Village Hall and Recreation Association

Mr Byrne drew attention to the official name of the charity as The Bressingham AND Fersfield Village Hall Association. He commented on the trauma of the severe damage to the hall but was pleased to announce that work had started on the repairs following the raising of the necessary funds. Mr Byrne thanked Keith Seagar for his part in making possible the much appreciated new play equipment.

There is a report in the minute book

Allotment Association

Michelle Lanchester reported that the ditches had been largely dealt with and that all the plots were rented. She described the AA as full and happy.

Footpaths

Mr Traynier reported that things had been rather quiet until recently when one particularly contentious issue had arisen. A path off Common Road appeared blocked and Norfolk County Council's involvement might be needed. Plans to replace the decrepit notice boards were well advanced.

The Village Website

Mrs Harris provided a report giving figures and context to visits to the site in the past month - 622 with 51% new visitors. It described the many areas of the site which provide information on local events and stated that it was updated several times a week. One disappointment was the Market Place page which isn't used as much as it could be and may be dropped. The huge amount of work put in by Mrs Harris and Mrs Handy was recognised and they were thanked for their dedication.

Report in the minute book.

9. Report from Norfolk County Council

Councillor Spratt reported that money from the Highways budget was going to Children's Services and that the cost of the Northern Distributor Road around Norwich was also affecting the share available for maintenance. He explained how proposals that parish councils might buy additional services such as pot hole repairs and winter gritting were being introduced. Mr Spratt sympathised with those calling for lower speed limits but held out little hope of them being introduced.

10. Report from South Norfolk District Council

District Councillor Weeks confirmed that he would not be standing in the coming election but said that he had enjoyed his 12 years in office which seemed to have gone very quickly. He commented on the changes in the way South Norfolk Council was now run saying how professional it had become.

11 Any Other Business

The issue of vehicle weight limits was raised and Mrs Delasalle, despite explaining that she had already tried, unsuccessfully, to get an answer she would pursue the matter further.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.