

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

Clerk: Mike Mortimer, Lime Tree Farmhouse, Common Road, Shelfanger, Norfolk IP22 2DR
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Summons to: All Parish Councillors

Copy: Cllr Weeks, SNDC, Cllr Spratt, NCC

Meeting of the Parish Council Monday 7th of November 2011 at 7.30 at the Village Hall AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Declaration of Interests
- 3 To agree the minutes of the meeting of the 5th September 2011
- 4 Matters arising from the minutes
- 5 Report from County Councillor Spratt
- 6 Report from District Councillor Weeks
- 7 Development of the website
- 8 Highways
- 9 Correspondence
- 10 Planning – consider the findings of the LDF working group
- 11 Finance - agree a budget for 2012/13
- 12 Any Other Business
- 13 Date of next meeting

Mike Mortimer
Parish Clerk

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council**Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7th of November 2011**

The meeting opened at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors - Chairman, Mr R Aves, Ms Pam Dowling, Mrs J Delasalle, Mr R Hewitt, Mr D Craggs, Mrs S Craggs, Mr I Cattermole, Mrs E Handy and County Councillor Mr B Spratt.

Also present were Mrs J Harvey, Mike Mortimer - the Clerk - and one member of the public.

1 Apologies

Ms J Porter and Mr K Weeks

2 Declaration Of Interests

None.

3 To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on the 5th of September 2011

The Minutes were agreed.

4 Matters arising from the minutes

There were none.

5 Report from County Councillor Spratt

Mr Spratt reported that 95% of the 32 million pounds in Icelandic loans was now safe.

Several Councillors raised the matter of the condition of the roads with Mr Spratt. Mr Spratt sympathised expressing the view that rural areas did sometimes get a bad deal. Mr Hewitt asked if it would be possible for Councillors to meet a representative from Highways and Mr Spratt agreed to attend if possible. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting between Mr Hewitt, Mr Aves and Mr Overland from Highways.

6 Report from Mr K Weeks

Mr Weeks sent his apologies

7 Development of the Website

Mrs Handy provided some details of usage on the site and pointed out that the site was now being managed by Margaret Harris. A number of Councillors had seen the website recently and commented very favourably on the way it worked. Mrs Handy explained that certain changes had been made to make it possible to reach the site by several routes so that both villages in the Parish were treated equally. A payment of £57.32 to Margaret Harris for the registration costs was agreed.

8 Highways

Ms Dowling asked if information about the location of potholes should be directed toward Mr Hewitt to which Mr Hewitt agreed. Mr Aves referred to the lack of maintenance of some hedges on the roadside which he would point out to Mr Overland. Mr Hewitt expressed concern there could be an increase in heavy traffic through Fersfield as a result of the proposed digester plant at Kenninghall. Mr Craggs suggested it was essential to monitor the traffic and try to make sure there wasn't any increase. Mr Hewitt complained of existing heavy traffic "thundering" through the village though Mr Cattermole expressed his view that 98% of the vehicles were being driven responsibly. Mrs Delasalle commented that she had seen heavy lorries driving too fast.

9 Correspondence

The Clerk read a letter from Bressingham PCC regarding maintenance of the burial ground. It was agreed that there should be the usual small increase to the amount paid to both PCCs in the Parish. Mr Aves expressed thanks to those who looked after the church and burial grounds

A letter referring to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee was discussed and it was felt that the anniversary should be marked by a garden party. Following the success of the Summer Event it was suggested that the organizers of that event be asked if they would be prepared to do something for the Jubilee. The Clerk agreed to contact those concerned.

The Clerk read a letter from the National Ambulance Rescue Service asking for a donation. Councillors were unaware of the exact activities of the charity and asked for the subject to be put onto the agenda for the next meeting by which time they can have looked into it.

A report on Bumbles, the toddlers group, was read. Support for the group was expressed by several Councillors and it was agreed that the cost of hire of the village hall for its meetings should be paid for another year with a review at the end of that time.

10 Planning

A report was provided.

Councillors considered various documents that had been circulated relating to CILs and the LDF Site Specific Policies. Several Councillors commented on the complexity of the documents. Mr Falk, who attended the meeting and who had provided his own report to the Parish Council, explained what considerations needed to be made. He explained that villages were to be categorised as either hamlets, service villages to larger towns or "other". Fersfield was a hamlet and Bressingham an other. Mr Falk said he believed in growth and that if Councillors thought the same they needed to make it clear in their submission to South Norfolk. The Parish Councillors thanked Mr Falk for his help. Mr Hewitt was disappointed that the two parts of the Parish were categorised differently. A discussion on the future of the Parish followed. It was agreed unanimously that the recommendation of the Working Group on the LDF submission (**that the "potential development boundary", as presented in the consultation documents, should be maintained and that therefore all the sites be rejected as they were all outside that boundary**) should be accepted.

11 Finance

A report was provided.

The Budget document prepared by the Clerk, which required no increase in precept, was considered and accepted.

12 Any Other Business

Mr Hewitt informed the meeting that the Fersfield Playingfield had a new management committee and asked if the Council would consider making a donation to match the money it had recently raised itself. It was agreed that a donation would be possible if the committee made a direct request. Mr Hewitt agreed to inform it.

Returning to the subject of the Jubilee Mrs Delasalle wondered if a plaque by the church at the entry to Fersfield would be a good idea. Mr Aves reported a blocked footpath by Bungalow Road and it was agreed that the Clerk and Mr Aves would investigate. Mr Cattermole suggested that Councillors consider appropriate ways to use funds which had built up recently.

13 Date of next meeting

9th of January 2012 to be held at the Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 9.40