

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 13th September 2004

Present:

Councillor L Rigby (Chair)

Councillors Mrs S Delany, Mrs M Whitehead, Mrs M Foster, Mrs. M. Dowling, Mrs. J. Maguire, M/s D. Morriss, T. Threlfall, T Fiddler, and C Robb.

1) Apologies:

None

2) Open Forum

a) Police statement

Sgt. Swift informed the meeting that she was taking up new duties and introduced Sgt. Jackie Hurst as her replacement. The Chairman thanked Sgt. Swift for all the hard work that had been put in to policing Freckleton and wished her well in her future role.

b) Re-cycled area on the School lane car park.

Harry Latham asked if this area could be kept tidy as re-cyclable waste was being left on the floor when there was still room in the containers. It was also reported that a similar situation was occurring on the Bush lane car park and broken glass was being thrown over the car park area. It was suggested that signs should be erected. The Clerk agreed to progress this with Fylde Borough Council.

c) Footpaths on School lane.

An enquiry was made as to when more bollards would be installed on the new footpath in School lane. Councillor B Whittle indicated that it was thought that placing more bollards in this area would be too restrictive and the residents in this area should be a little bit more considerate and not run or park on the footpath. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Lancashire County Council expressing concern at the current situation.

d) Balderstone Road - Grass verge areas.

Councillor T Fiddler suggested that this area had previously been designated as a play area and the "No ball games" sign should not have been erected. A resident from Lodge Close stated that at times in the summer evenings he and his wife were unable to sit out in their garden for fear of being hit by a football coming over the fence. On one occasion a ball came over the fence no fewer than 5 times and ball games were played upto 10:00pm. Another resident enquired what is a "play area"? The Chairman's view was that this was an area for small children to play. It was agreed that a separate meeting should be organised to resolve this issue and all residents of this area would be invited to attend.

e) Children Playing – Highways signs.

Strong concern was expressed at the letter from LCC highways indicating that these signs were illegal and should be taken down. Councillor Whittle agreed to discuss this with the person concerned. It was reported that new signs have been made, sponsored by BAE, and these are awaiting installation, once approval has been given by LCC. It was agreed that the representative from LCC highways should be invited to the next meeting so that this matter may be progressed.

3) Declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4) To read and approve the minutes of:-

a) The Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5th July 2004.

Resolved: That they be affirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

b) Matters arising from these minutes:

i) **5, Green lane** - The original planning application was withdrawn but a 2nd application for an extension has been submitted. The Council responded by objecting to this application on the same grounds as before.

- ii) **Excess speeds on Preston New road.**
The Clerk reported that the accident statistics have not yet been received from the police.
- iii) **Balderstone gate – historic interest.**
Councillor Whittle agreed to progress this.
- iv) **N Spann – Injury on Playground equipment.**
The Clerk reported that this has been referred to the Insurers and a site visit had been arranged for 11:00am on Thursday 14th September.
- v) **Disabled Toilets.**
The Clerk reported that FBC had responded indicated that disabled toilets should be made available but it was down to funding.
- vi) **School Lane Car park**
The Clerk reported that he had not received a response from Mr. Worthy regarding a meeting to discuss the progress of upgrading the car park. Now that the School has returned from the summer holidays he agreed to progress this item.
- vii) **North West in Bloom**
Councillor Threlfall informed the meeting that representatives from the village have been invited to the presentation at the Old Trafford cricket ground in Manchester on 24th September.
- viii) **New playground equipment**
The Clerk reported that the safety surface has not been put right and therefore the account has not been settled.

5) Finance

a) Ratification of accounts Authorised by the Chairman of Finance and paid by Clerk

July 2004

Precept Account

K M Armistead - Stationery	32.31
KM Armistead - Telephone & Expenses	71.40

Open spaces Account

KM Armistead - wages	680.30
G Danson - wages	1262.45
PO ltd - Tax & N I	730.89
Fox Valley Systems - Cricket Whiting	121.97
Portable Conveniences - Club day	393.63
J & B Cartmell - bedding plants	2655.08
Grangeland Services - Garden work	740.00
T Threlfall - Preparing beds	150.00
Grangland - Garden work	2133.00
J Garlick - Watering	600.00
K Armistead - Tractor - Fan Belts	7.25
PO – Ltd - Electric Rawstorne centre	623.96
PO- Ltd - Electric - Store room	298.66
PO – Ltd - Electric - band room	14.01
PO – Ltd - Electric -Cenotaph	24.87
J Gardener - Claim for broken windscreen	74.03
A & SM Singleton - Tractor repairs	53.14
Road safety services - Barriers	401.86
Structural Man. - Rubbish bin - Rawstorne centre	130.00
Kwik Skip - Skips for Club day	130.00
Smith Hire - materials	40.43
Petromex - Fuel	385.18
T Hollings-Hurst - Hanging baskets	458.10
B & Q Warehouse - paint & Varnish	63.12

Allotments

PO Ltd - Bush lane - Water charges	371.39
Community Development Account	
D Turcsannyi	60.84
Nat west - Interest	-202.12
J Noye -tarmac - play equipment	881.25
Bank of America	-360.95
Cubbins - Fair rent	-600.00
Parish plan	
C Robb - Ink Cartridge	34.99
VAT	
Vat refund	-772.29
Total	11688.75
August 2004	
Precept Account	
K M Armistead - wages	486.40
KM Armistead - expenses & postage	65.35
Open spaces Account	
G Danson - Wages	1133.27
PO Ltd - Tax & Insurance	571.21
A & SM Singletons - Lawn mower repair	32.31
Chubbs - Annual maintenance workshop	82.25
Petromex - Fuel	387.49
Huck Nets - Cricket score plates	193.88
FIB - Traders Combined Insurance	5074.77
Grangeland - Garden work	1500.00
J Garlick - Watering baskets	750.00
Alpha Amenity - Football line whiting	110.92
Smith Hire - materials	33.32
North west tree - woodchip	824.85
SPN - Materials	9.81
Allotments	
PO Ltd - Water charge	63.18
Community Development Account	
D Turcsannyi	60.84
Nat West - Interest	-222.60
Total	11157.25

Resolved: That the action of the the Clerk be ratified.

b) Monthly budget statements were noted.

c) Annual audit report

The Auditor's report was presented to the Council.

Resolved: That the Report be approved and accepted.

d) New Tipping trailer

The Clerk reported that he had received two estimates for a new tipping trailer and the cheapest was for £3,500. Councillor Threlfall indicated that, as this trailer would benefit the work done for the Freckleton in Bloom committee, he would endeavor to obtain a contribution from them.

Resolved: That the new trailer be purchased.

6) Planning

The following plans have been actioned by the Chairman prior to the meeting, due to the timescale for return:

04/0697 – 20 Balderstone Rd – Dormer to side elevation – **No observations.**

04/0699 – 15, Memory Close – Rear extension & First Floor Dormer extension – **No observations**

04/0713 – Lower lane Services, Preston New rd – Advertisement consent – Double sided free standing static display pole – **No observations**

04/0718 – 14, Briarwood – Conservatory to rear – **No observations**

04/0719 – 4, Orchard close – Single storey and first floor extensions to rear – **No observations**

LCC - Strike Lane primary School – Extension to existing car park, formation of a safe pedestrian entrance and extension to playground – **Support.**

04/0731 – 92, Preston Old Rd – 2 storey rear extension & Single storey side extension, new pitched roof to bedroom - **No Observations**

04/0740 – The Coach & Horses – Change of use of existing garden areas to rear to form new beer garden with access from Pub - **No Observations**

04/0755 – 36, Bush lane – 2 Storey side extension - **No Observations**

04/0769 – 31, Summit drive – 2 storey side extension, forming garage and bedroom – **No Observations**

04/0764 – 31, Lytham rd – Change of use from 2 flats to 1 dwelling house. – **No Observations.**

04/0785 – 5, Green lane – 2 storey side extension – **Object on grounds of over intensive use of site and wider exit would be an highways issue.**

04/0823 – 15, Naze lane – single storey extension - **No Observations.**

04/0840 – 9, Bracken Drive – Extension above existing garage, set back from front of house. – **No Observations.**

04/0821 – Health centre, Douglas drive – Temporary cabins to allow relocation of occupants during works. - **No Observations.**

04/0856 – 20, Bramwell Rd – single storey rear extension. - **No Observations.**

Resolved: That the action of the Chairman be ratified.

The following plans are for consideration:

04/0822 – Longroots, Lower lane – Single storey rear extension

Resolved: That this be returned indicating that the Council has no objections to this application.

7) Correspondence

a) **LCC – Freckleton C of E school – Co-opted Governor.**

Resolved: That Councillor C Robb should be nominated as the Council's representative.

b) **LCC – School lane – Parking restrictions. 2 letters dated 15/07/04 & 26/07/04.**

The comments were noted.

c) **Faber Maunsell – Transport study.**

It was agreed that no action was required

d) **LCC – Summit drive - Children Playing signs**

It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged with the representative from LCC.

e) Sara Moreton – Ramp between Goe lane and Balderstone Rd.

As this was an unadopted road it was agreed that the Parish council could not deal with it.

f) **Powergen – Community Power – site for wind farms**

It was agreed that no action was required

g) **LCC – Cemeteries & Crematorium services**

It was agreed that the Clerk should consult with the local vicar and then respond.

h) **Club day Sports committee – Request for a container on Rawstone Car Park.**

It was agreed that this should be dealt with at a later meeting.

i) **Lancashire Partnership for Road safety – Questionnaire.**

Councillor Foster agreed to respond.

- j) **Received from the Parish plan Steering Committee – Suggestions regarding ugly areas within the village.**
As the originator of the communication could not be identified it was agreed that no action should be taken.
- k) **FBC – Comments on draft Statement of Licensing policy.**
It was agreed that no comments should be made on this document.
- l) **FBC – Housing Strategy Forum – Nominations for attendance**
It was agreed that Councillor Robb would respond.
- m) **Police – representative for “Police & Community Together” meetings.**
It was agreed that all the Councillors would assist with this on a rota basis. The Clerk agreed to draw up a rota and pass it to PC Scarisbrick.
- n) **Email – Christine Slater – Internet café & Email – Pete Armitage – Hutton shop/ community centre**
It was agreed that the Council would be unable to finance these two requests.
- o) **Joanne Peet & Michael Duck – Sharing the use of Plot 8b, Croft Butts lane allotments**
It was agreed that the Clerk should approach the next on the waiting list.
- p) **Email - Peter Wilson – No Ball games signs.**
It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged with all the residents involved.
- q) **FBC – Offer to take over the Playground maintenance.**
It was agreed that this offer should be accepted for the repair of equipment, but the Council wished to reserve the right to maintain equipment that may be considered to be withdrawn.
- r) **Office of Deputy Prime Minister – Code of Conduct & Restriction on Political activities for Local Authority Employees. – Comments.**
It was agreed that no action was required
- s) **Lancs. Combined Fire Authority – LCFA Draft 2 year action plan – for review and comment**
It was agreed that no action was required
- t) **Mrs. E Cowburn – Claim for damage to car by stone from Strimmer - £307.44**
Resolved: That this item should be paid on completion of the work and the receipt of the invoice.

8) Vacancies for Councillors

The Clerk reported that there had been 5 applications for the vacancies. It was agreed that a separate meeting should be arranged to interview the candidates.

The Clerk reported that after protracted correspondence with Miss Burgess and the NALC in London, The NALC have confirmed that if a Councillor misses six consecutive monthly meetings and the reason for absence has not been approved by the Council, prior to the end of the six month period, the Councillor automatically ceases to be a member.

He suggested that the Council should approve, in advance, Councillor Fiddler’s absences due to his Mayoral duties.

Resolved: That Councillor Fiddler’s absences, due to Mayoral duties upto the May 2005, are approved by the Council.

9) Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

The Clerk reported that this item had been put on the Agenda as a result of the Auditors report.

a) Financial Regulations

The Clerk indicated that these had been prepared on the basis of a model produced by NALC. He suggested that the reference to the Financial regulations should be updated to reflect the Financial and Audit Regulations 2003. He also suggested that the lower limit for tendering should be set by Council.

Resolved: That the Financial Regulations, submitted by the Clerk, be adopted subject:- To the reference to the Financial regulations being the Financial and Audit regulations 2003 and

The lower limit for tendering being £25,000.

The adopted Financial regulations are attached as Appendix A.

b) Standing Orders.

The Clerk reported that he had produced a draft model of the Standing Orders and invited comments from the Council before presenting them for approval at the next meeting. It was agreed that Councillor Robb would review them.

10) Parish Plan

Councillor Robb indicated that the Questionnaire had been produced and a draft copy was circulated. It will be delivered over the weekend 25/26th September and collected the following weekend.

The Children’s painting competition will be judged by Councillor T Fiddler on 18th September and the winning posters will be displayed on the Parish Notice boards, along with the names.

30 suggestions had been received from the children, in response to the request in the June Newsletter.

11) Review of Security at the Memorial Park

PC Scarisbrick indicated that he had obtained funding for a post to be erected that could be used for flood lighting and CCTV cameras. He indicated that a similar arrangement had been installed in another part of the Fylde. It was agreed that Councillor Threlfall and PC Scarisbrick should progress this item.

12) Review of access and safety of footpaths within the village

Councillor Dowling informed the meeting that footpaths off Lower lane were becoming overgrown and should be cleared so that public access could be restored. Various other areas within the village were also noted. It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged with representatives of LCC and the Open Spaces committee so that these areas may be improved. It was agreed that a notice should also be placed in the next Newsletter.

13) Date of next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting will be held on Monday 4th October 2004.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed...L Rigby Chairman.....

Date.....05/10/04.....