

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 4th February 2008

Present: Councillor Mrs. M Dowling (Chair),
Councillors Linda Burn, Mrs. E Willis, Mrs S Delany, Mrs M Whitehead, L Rigby, C Robb, St J Greenhough and P Quinn.

Apologies: Councillor Mrs M Foster, T Threlfall and T Fiddler

1) Open Forum

a) Police Update – attended by PC A. Scarisbrick and PCSO Ian Larmouth.

PC Scarisbrick informed the meeting that the number of incidents of crime in the village was down by one third on the same figures in January 2007. There had been three domestic incidents at one house in Lower lane and a number of incidents of theft of diesel from vehicles. There was no update to report on the progress of the Youth shelter, in the park. A fixed penalty notice, of £80, had been issued to a shopkeeper, for selling alcohol to an under age person. In addition, the individual had been issued with a penalty notice.

b) Public participation

James Amor reported that he had discovered a number of unpleasant items left on the area that has been set aside for dog exercising, including a syringe. The Clerk indicated that this has been reported to the Police.

He was also concerned about the flooding that recently occurred on Lower lane, at the corner of Dibbs pocket. He stated that he reported it to the Highways department, LCC and they had indicated that this area was prone to flooding and they were unable to take any further action. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Lancashire County Council Highways department.

2) Declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Declaration of Gifts and Hospitality.

There were no gifts or hospitality to declare.

4) To read and approve the minutes of:-

a. The Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th January 2008

Resolved: That these be affirmed as a true record, subject to the following amendments and signed by the Chairman,

“Item 1b) - amended to indicate that Mark Evans stated that the Application was being recommended for approval. In addition, the development was residential”.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. S Delany, seconded by Councillor St. J Greenhough and unanimously accepted.

Matters arising

The Clerk reported the following:-

a. Invoice for £25, from FBC, for uncontested election – West ward – Peter Walsh,

FBC had been informed that the Council thought they were being double charged. He responded by indicating that the FBC were entitled to charge under section 36(5) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

Councillor Rigby reported that these charges were discussed at a FBC meeting, on Monday 28/01/08 and it was agreed that Phil Woodward would investigate and report back to the Parishes.

b. Informal discussion with D Barlow, re land adjacent to 9, Preston Old road – FBC

have been informed that Freckleton PC wish to purchase this piece of land. Simon

Kularatne, FBC has responding indicating that there is an Assets meeting in February 2008 when this item will be discussed.

- c. **Incident on Community bus, Lower lane** – A mutual solution has been agreed with all parties after Councillor Threlfall arranged a meeting with the Police and the LCC Youth services.
- d. **Quality Parish status.** – A training course for Clerks, to prepare the portfolio, is being run by LAPTC, commencing in April 2008 (6 sessions at monthly intervals). The cost of course is £150. The cost of the exam is £70 and re-sits are £50.

Resolved: That the costs of the Course (£150) and the exam (£70) should be paid by the Council.

Proposed by Councillor L Rigby, seconded by Councillor Linda Burn and unanimously accepted.

The Clerk suggested that a sub-committee should be formed to review the other criteria for Quality status. They would then make recommendations to bring the Council's procedures up to required standard.

It was agreed that Councillors Robb and Greenhough should be on the sub-committee.

- e. **Burial ground**

Councillor Linda Burn enquired if the results of the seismograph had been received. The Clerk reported that he was still awaiting the results. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Jim Percival to enquire when the results will be available.

- c. **The Planning meeting held on Wednesday 16th January 2008**

Councillor Linda Burn indicated that item 5 in section 2 – previous applications – does not relate to a decision that has been made by FBC. It is an observation made by a member of staff at FBC.

The Clerk agreed to re-write the minutes.

- d. **The public meeting, on Dog Control Orders, held on Tuesday 22nd January 2008**

Resolved: That these be affirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman,

Proposed by Councillor L Rigby, seconded by Councillor Mrs. L Willis and unanimously accepted.

- e. **The Extra Council meeting, on Dog Control Orders, held on Tuesday 22nd January 2008.**

Resolved: That these be affirmed as a true record, subject to the following amendments and signed by the Chairman.

“The proposer for meeting with DEFRA, Police and dog warden was Councillor L Rigby and the proposer for the Community watch Scheme was Councillor T Threlfall”.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. M Whitehead, seconded by Councillor Mrs. S Delany and unanimously accepted.

- g. **The Open Spaces meeting held on Wednesday 30th January 2008**

Resolved: That these be affirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman,

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. L Willis, seconded by Councillor Mrs. M Whitehead and unanimously accepted.

Matters arising

Councillor Rigby stated that the community Watch scheme should be deferred until after the meeting with DEFRA and the Police. In addition, the procedures had been agreed by and Open spaces committee and they should have been discussed in full Council.

There followed a lengthy debate on the procedures that had been followed to set up this scheme.

Councillor Rigby formally proposed that the Community Watch scheme should be deferred, but there was no seconder. The proposal was not progressed.

Councillor Rigby requested that his name be disassociated with the Scheme.

The Clerk reported that he had written to DEFRA, for a delegate to attend a meeting,

but he had not received a reply. In addition, he has been informed that the PCSOs have been empowered to enforce Dog control Orders, providing they are authorized by the Parish Council. In addition, it has been confirmed that the dog warden has the same powers.

Concern was expressed by a number of Councillors that picking up off grass does not clear all the dog dirt. In addition, the dog warden had indicated that she was unable to issue a fixed penalty notice to owners of dogs on medication, where the deposit was too loose to be picked up. It was emphasized that this supports the view for a total ban on the sports field.

Councillor Rigby requested that the Council obtain a copy of the Sports field's constitution, which was drawn up in 1956. Councillor Mrs. Whitehead agreed to try to obtain a copy from the County records.

5. Finance

- a) Ratification of accounts approved by the Chairman of Finance and paid by Clerk – see Appendix A

Resolved: That the payments be ratified.

Proposed by Councillor Linda Burn, seconded by Councillor Mrs. S Delany and unanimously accepted.

- b) Monthly budget statements– see Appendix B.

The Monthly budget statements were noted

- c) To consider the annual rents for the Allotments

1. Bush lane Allotments

The Clerk reported that the charges for water, in the current year, amounted to £1062. In addition, there had been a small amount of maintenance work for £130. The rents from the allotments brought in £761. There are 8 half plots (rent £33 per annum) and 8 full plots (rent £65 per annum)

Resolved: That from the 1st April 2008, the rent for the half plot be increased to £50 per annum and the rent for the full plots be increased to £100 per annum.

Proposed by Councillor St. J Greenhough, seconded by Councillor Linda Burn and unanimously accepted.

Councillor Mrs. Willis suggested that the Clerk write to the Allotment Association informing them of the increase and requesting that they take care in the amount of water that is used.

2. Croft Butts allotment

The Clerk reported that the charges for water, in the current year, amounted to £209. In addition, the hedge maintenance work was £230. The rents from the allotments brought in £347. There are 22 plots (rent £15 per annum) and 1 larger plot (rent £17 per annum)

Resolved: That from the 1st April 2008, the rent for the plots be increased to £20 per annum and the rent for the larger plot be increased to £22 per annum.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. M Whitehead, seconded by Councillor Linda Burn and unanimously accepted.

6. Correspondence

Sender	Subject	Requirements	Action Agreed
FBC	Parish Charter document – to be discussed in Cabinet on 14/02/08	For information	No action
Ian Curtis, FBC	Vacancy for member of Standards committee	Consider	No action
Communities & Local Government	Consultation on Orders & Regulations comments required	To consider	Cllr. Linda Burn agreed to review.
M Thomas	Shrubs adjacent to the seat on Kirkham road/Lytham road	To consider	It was agreed that the shrubs should

			be cut back each year
Lancs. Fire Service	Risk Management plan – 2008/11	To review	No action
R E Cubbins	Permission to use the Bush lane playing fields for the fair on the club day weekend.		Agreed
James Amor	Litter problem in ginnel between Bush lane & Bramwell Rd. Hedge at corner of Croft Butts and Naze lane Flooding Preston Old Road/Lower lane/Marsh Gate corner	Consider	James indicated that he had reported this problem to FBC. It was agreed that the hedge was kept in a tidy state. See comments made in Public participation
Club day Committee	Request for a more permanent storage unit at Rawstone Centre	Consider	The Parish Council do not have any proposals to build a permanent store
Gary Baxter Rawstone Centre	Centre - Repair day light sensor	Consider	The Clerk reported that this work was already being progressed.
C Robb	Web site – Meter installed to monitor number of hits Confirm Renewal of web-site.		It was agreed that Cllr. Robb should give a report at each Council meeting. It was agreed that the web-site should be renewed.

Councillor Linda Burn suggested that the fair should be allowed to open on the Sunday of the club day weekend, but only for a short period. Councillor Greenhough indicated that this would have to be after the marathon had been completed, which would be around 6:00pm. It was suggested that the Club day committee should be consulted to establish a time when the marathon would finish and the car park re-opened.

Resolved: That the fair be allowed to open, for a short period, on the Club day Sunday, after consulting with the Marathon committee to agree a suitable time.

Proposed by Councillor L Rigby, seconded by Councillor Mrs. S Delany and approved by a majority of seven for and two against.

7) To set up a sub-committee to review of the Standing Orders and Financial regulations.

1. Standing Orders

It was agreed that the sub-committee should consist of Councillors Mrs. M Whitehead, Mrs. S Delany and Linda Burn. They will review the Standing Orders and report back.

2. Financial regulations

It was agreed that the sub-committee should consist of Councillors Mrs. M Foster and Linda Burn. They will review the Financial regulations and report back.

8) To Review Planning procedures.

It was agreed that this should be deferred until next months meeting.

9) To review the safety on the road around Strike lane School

The Chairman reported that the following issues had been raised as a result of a recent review at the school.

1. Additional traffic calming measures were needed on Kirkham road, adjacent to the school. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the LCC and the Police requesting the current speed limits are enforced.
2. The footpaths on part of Kirkham road need to be widened, to allow parents with buggies to use it safely. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the LCC highways department.
3. A Bush Shelter is needed on the south side of Kirkham road, adjacent to strike lane. It was agreed that there was insufficient room to erect a bus shelter in this area.

10) Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on Monday 3rd March 2008, commencing at 7:00pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed..... Mrs. M Dowling, Chairman.....

Date.....05/03/08.....

Schedule of payments for January 2008

	Cheque No.	£
Precept Account		
KM Armistead - salary	4538p	416.67
KM Armistead - expenses	4549p	60.68
Staples - stationery	4534p	14.21
Staples - hard drive	4534p	51.06
C Robb - rent of web-site	4548p	10.58
Open Spaces Account		
E4B - Electric charges - Rawstone centre	D/D	467.58
Scottish power - electricity charges	D/D	33.00
KM Armistead - salary	4538p	435.29
PO Ltd - Tax & N/I	4539	324.61
K Armistead - Expenses	4549p	39.48
Grangeland Services - grass cutting	4536p	1105.83
Grangeland Services -Borders	4536p	387.50
J Garlick - litter picking	4537	458.34
Braithwaites Hire - Repair to machinery	4540	79.61
Smiths Hire - Lights for carol service	4541	69.68
J Townsend - Diesel & materials	4542	44.93
Grangeland - Repairs to buildings	4544	340.00
Woodys warehouse - materials for carol service	4547	50.84
C Robb - materials for noticeboard	4548p	3.33
Kwik-skip - Remove rubbish from rear of Rawstone Centre	4550	150.00
Allotments		
PO Ltd - Bush Lane water	4535	242.23
Po ltd - Croft Butts - water	4546	10.71
Community Development Account		
Natwest - Interest	D/P	-424.38
Natwest - Interest	D/P	-7.51
Brackenwood - laurels for Balderstone rd.	4543	87.28
Rawstone - rent for AWS	cheque	-119.85
FIB - Donation towards tree lights	cheque	-200.00
Rawstone - rent for AWS	cheque	-129.84
Rawstone - rent for AWS	cheque	-54.93
Studio D - Map for Noticeboard	4545	450.00
Playground Fund		
Bank of America	D/P	-554.61
VAT		-912.39
Total		2929.93

Precept Account 2007/2008

Budget		Expenditure		Balance Outstanding	Percentage used
Headings	Allocation	January 2008	To date		
Wages	£5,000	£417	£4,167	£833	83%
Insurance	£650		£630	£20	97%
Stationery	£400	£12	£277	£123	69%
Postage	£700	£70	£679	£21	97%
LAPTC	£600		£563	£37	94%
Audit fee	£650		£610	£40	94%
Chair Allow	£100		£100	£0	100%
Training	£150		£72	£78	48%
Civic functions	£400		£720	£-320	180%
Grants	£0				
Election	£0				
Reserve	£0				
equipment	£200	£43	£185	£15	93%
Section137	£900		£900	£0	100%
	£0				
Total	£9,750	£542	£8,903	£847	91%

Open Spaces Account 2007/2008

Budget		Expenditure		Balance Outstanding	Percentage used
Headings	Allocation	January 2008	To date		
Grass cutting	£17,440	£1,144	£14,650	£2,790	84%
Borders & Plants	£10,302	£515	£10,601	£-299	103%
Watering	£2,659		£2,585	£74	97%
Cleansing	£5,665	£458	£4,583	£1,082	81%
Maintaining Buildings	£8,350	£536	£4,619	£3,731	55%
Outside Contractors	£7,690		£5,744	£1,946	75%
Civic events	£1,413		£1,414	£-1	100%
Indirect costs	£22,144	£1,230	£17,551	£4,593	79%
Reserves					
Total	£75,664	£3,884	£61,747	£13,917	82%

Other Accounts January 2008

Account	Income	Expenditure	Balance
Croft Butts lane Allotments	£347	£908	£-561
Bush lane Allotments	£761	£1,185	£-424
Community Development	£26,195	£16,265	£9,930
Playground Fund	£1,482		£1,482
VAT	£6,807	£4,964	£1,842
Total	£35,591	£23,322	£12,269