

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 12th December 2011

Present: Councillor St J Greenhough (Chair)

Councillors C Robb, Mrs M Foster, Mrs. S Delany, Mrs M Whitehead, Mrs L Willis, L Rigby, K McKay, P Walton & D Chambers

County Councillor Tim Ashton

1) To accept Apologies for absence

Councillors Fiddler & Threlfall – Other commitments

2) Public participation

Members of the public raised various issues and concerns regarding the 20mph speed limits in the village. It was felt that 20mph is too slow on Lytham road and the signs are too small to let motorists know they are entering a 20mph zone. It was pointed out that the Lower Lane estate should be made a 20mph zone. Councillor Tim Ashton agreed to look into these points.

Concerns were also raised regarding the application recently passed to build houses on Goe Lane. Council members advised members of the public to write to the Local Government Ombudsman regarding this application.

3) To record declaration of interest from members in any item to be discussed.

There were no declarations of interest

4) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th November 2011

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th November 2011, previously circulated, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

5) To explain the 20mph pilot scheme and the proposed outcome of the scheme

County Councillor Tim Ashton attended the meeting to give an explanation on the 20mph pilot scheme and the proposed outcome of the scheme. All residential areas in Lancashire are to become 20mph zones. This will be enforced in a number of ways, residents will be encouraged to report motorists travelling above the speed limit at PACT meetings. Community roadwatch volunteers accompanied by a uniformed officer or special constable will use speed guns in these areas and the mobile speed camera will also be used. The scheme will be reviewed after 2013.

6) To consider the following applications:

App. No.	Location	Description	Decision	Comments
11/0766	Workshop rear, 42-46 Kirkham Road	Proposed installation of ground source heat pump to serve proposed dwelling to rear	Supports	
11/0752	197, Kirkham Road	Retrospective application for 2.2M steel fencing	Supports	
11/0726	Ravolds Farm, Brades Lane	Proposed steel framed portal building for storage of machinery	Objects	As the positioning of the building would be obtrusive to the countryside, unsightly from the main road and should be green to fit in with the surrounding countryside. The Council support the use of the building for storage, but object on the grounds of the positioning and colour.

				The building should be in uniform with the other buildings on the farm.
11/0756	Newfold Farm, Browns Lane, Wrea Green near Parish boundary	Wind turbine of 18 metres high, close to the boundary with the three parishes of Warton, Kirkham and Freckleton	Objects	As this would be obtrusive to the countryside and would interfere with the radar and air traffic controls at BAE Systems, Warton

7) To consider the email regarding the “notification of relevant planning applications by FBC”

The following reply was sent to the Planning Officer, Fylde District Group:

Freckleton Parish Council holds a Planning Committee meeting on the second Monday of every month.

Normally the Chairman and vice chairman receive e-mail notification of applications on the Monday or Tuesday of each week, and download the relevant information from the FBC planning portal.

They decide if the application can be accepted without going to committee. If it cannot be accepted it goes on the agenda for the next Planning committee meeting.

This is repeated each week.

Unfortunately there are problems with the FBC Planning portal such as:-

1. The application may be listed but no planning data is included.
2. Incorrect data is sometimes included
3. Duplicate data is often included
4. Some data is corrupt.
5. Irrelevant data is often included, such as monitory receipts.

All these can cause delays in Freckleton Parish Council responding.

However as the agenda is issued the first week of the month, any applications coming in during the first week of the month, if they need to go to committee, will be delayed until the following months planning meeting.

As a result the minimum delay in Freckleton Parish Council responding is 7 to 10 days and the maximum is 4 to 5 weeks, depending on the number of Mondays in the month. Bearing in mind that Parish Councillors are unpaid it is unreasonable to expect them to meet more frequently than once a month.

The attached flow chart illustrates the above.

Freckleton Parish Council would welcome the suggestion that the 21 day clock starts running 10 days after the application is received.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed Councillor St Greenhough

Date 16th January 2012