

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5th March 2012, in the Methodist hall.

Present: Councillor M Foster, T Fiddler, L Rigby, Mrs M Whitehead, Mrs S Delany, Mrs L Willis, T Threlfall, St J Greenhough, K McKay, P Walton, D Chambers and C Robb.
County Councillor P Rigby

1) To accept Apologies for Absence.

There were no apologies

2) Open Forum

a) Police Update – Attended by PC Dave Little and PCSO Carly Smith

Figures: for 01/02/12 to 29/02/12

Location	Total Incidents	Total Crimes
Freckleton West	24	2
Freckleton East	30	1
Lower Lane/The Mede	23	4

The figures show a total of number of 7 crimes recorded for the month of February 2012.

The crimes for February 2012 are made up as follows; 5 assaults, 1 harassment and 1 vehicle crime, with the majority of the offences being detected and the offenders processed. The exception to this being the vehicle crime whereby items were stolen from a vehicle overnight with no witness/CCTV or any further enquiry for officers to follow.

This compares to a total of 22 crimes recorded for the same month last year which is a significant reduction.

Good news

We have continued on our PACT priorities, targeting problems on Lower Lane Estate in conjunction with the Housing Associations and working hard to tackle the problem of hare coursing. Information packs have been circulated to local farms to assist us with the problem. Numerous high visibility patrols conducted by NHPT have been covert observations conducted by evidence gathering teams assisted by the Wildlife Officer to help identify those responsible. As shown above the hard work is paying off and can be seen in the reduced crime figures.

Operation Pathway has again continued to run providing us with significant results. Fixed Penalty Notices issued by NHPT 29x seatbelts, 4x mobile phone and 1x driver reported for document offences following a total of 55 vehicles/drivers spoken with throughout the month.

Areas of concern

On Saturday 3rd March two different groups of youths were stopped, one on Goe Lane and the second on Ribble Avenue, alcohol was seized from both groups with the ages being 14-15yrs. Both groups were from Warton, so we would ask residents to report any groups seen drinking on either Goe Lane or the Memorial Park by contacting the Police on: 101.

Co-Op on Lytham Road has applied for a licensing extension, this is still in mediation at the moment so nothing has been agreed as yet but we've asked for extra conditions relating to underage sales training in the use of CCTV etc. However with their being no issues there previously we would struggle to object to the 6am to 11pm Monday-Sunday serving alcohol that they have asked for.

20MPH Zones...

Despite not being a current PACT Priority this has not been forgotten... a meeting is scheduled with LCC Highways this coming week to discuss the next steps in the Speed Management Process. This is likely to include increased signage and road markings. Following some prolonged discussions LCC are now looking at deployment of their own SPIDs in the village, these have been recently purchased by Highways and hopefully can be utilised in the area with no cost to the Parish Council.

Community Road Watch

The Aim of the Community Road Watch scheme is to establish a working partnership with your local officers, in order to directly address road safety concerns and reduce road casualties.

A Community Road Watch initiative allows trained members of the public who are Community Volunteers with Lancashire Constabulary, to work in partnership with the police at approved sites to provide a highly visible deterrent to unlawful and anti-social driving. The Community Road Watch activity is designated as an educational activity and not as police enforcement. It will be planned and operated under safe operating procedures.

The offences the Community Road Watch focuses upon are:

- Drivers exceeding the speed limit
- Drivers using mobile phones
- Drivers and passengers failing to wear seat belts and/or child restraints

The Community Road Watch team monitors and records these offences at designated locations, and when an offence is observed the details are documented and then processed by the Neighbourhood Policing Team. A letter is sent to the registered owner advising him/her that their offending action has been observed and informing them that if a second offence is recorded then a police visit, or possibly prosecution, will follow.

To ensure that the Community Road Watch volunteers who are involved with the scheme remain safe and can work effectively, a full health and safety risk assessment for speed enforcement and speed compliance tactics will need to be conducted. Once this has been completed I will be looking for volunteers to establish the scheme within Freckleton.

b) Public participation

There were concerns raised from a member of the public regarding the closure and selling of the Freckleton police house. The parish council strongly objected to the closure of the police house, but the decision has now been made.

It was reported that the bus shelters have now been cleaned.

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

All Councillors, as Trustees, declared an interest in the Rawstorne Centre.

4) To read and approve the minutes of:

a) The Parish Council meeting held on Monday 6th February 2012

It was resolved that the minutes of the above meeting, previously circulated, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

5) To receive the Clerk's report.

The comments in the Clerk's report, previously circulated, were noted.

6) Finance

a) Ratification of accounts paid by Clerk

It was resolved that the accounts be approved – *see Appendix A*

b) Monthly budget statements

The monthly statements were noted – *see Appendix B*

c) To review the mileage allowance for the clerk and committee clerk when using own car on Council business

The Clerk informed members that the tax free allowance increased from 40p per mile to 45p last year. It was resolved that from April 2012, the Clerks may claim 45p per mile for mileage.

d) To consider paying the subscription of £17.00 for the Lancashire Playing Fields Association

It was resolved to pay the subscription of £17.00

e) To review the Freckleton in Bloom Accounts for the year ending 31/12/11

Harry Hall, representative for Freckleton in Bloom explained the breakdown of the accounts

f) To consider re-appointing Derek Scholes as the Internal auditor for the 2011/12 accounts

It was resolved to re-appoint Derek Scholes as the internal auditor

g) To ratify that the Council's internal audit procedures have been carried out for the 2011/12 accounts

Councillor Greenhough and Willis have looked through the accounts.

It was resolved to ratify that the internal audit procedures have been carried out.

7) To receive an update from meetings held with other Organisations and Bodies

- **Frecklestone Project** – Councillor Chambers updated members on the 2 key issues regarding the project. Is there a need for this? And the sustainability of the project?
- **CAB** – A brief update was given by D Chambers.

8) To agree the Chairman, members, frequency of meetings and Terms of Reference for the new Rawstone Centre Committee

It was resolved to defer this item to another meeting

9) To consider a request from the Bowling section to provide disabled toilets and access to the club house

It was resolved not to provide disabled toilets, as there is a disabled toilet 50 yards from the bowling green for members to use.

It was further resolved that disabled access should not be provided to the club house because it would require major structural changes. It was suggested that a disabled shelter should be built adjacent to the club house.

10) To consider and approve the report for the Risk Assessment proposals

It was resolved to approve the risk assessment

11) To consider what action should be taken to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and the Olympics

The Council Chaplain, Terry Scholz informed members that Holy Trinity Church intends to plant a tree for the Queens Jubilee inside the graveyard wall opposite the public toilets. He would also like to invite other Organisations to plant a tree so that there will be an avenue of trees all along the wall from the rear gates of the churchyard. The trees will be ceremoniously planted and a small commemorative plaque will be put in place.

It was resolved that the Parish Council would buy a tree, and the Clerk volunteered to help out with the purchasing of trees if required.

12) To consider the request from the Freckleton Club Day Sports committee to organise an event for the children of the village to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee on Monday 4th June

The Club day's representative outlined their plans for the family event. This included children's rides, donkey rides, Punch & Judy show, vintage vehicles, dog agility show and a family picnic.

The Parish Council resolved to fund a mug for every child at junior school by way of a donation

of upto £1,000.

It was further resolved that the dog agility show should be held on the car park or the dog exercise area.

13) To consider a request from the Friends of the Memorial Park, to hold a fund raising fun day in the Memorial Park on Easter Sunday, 8th April 2012.

The Clerk read out the email from the Friends of the Memorial Park outlining their plans for the fun day which included an egg hunt, cake stalls and a consultation tent.

It was resolved to allow the Friends of the Memorial Park to hold this event in the Memorial park.

14) To consider the way forward on how to resolve burial issues

Terry Scholz explained to the Council that it was courtesy for the Parochial Church Council to inform the Parish Council of the situation regarding the lack of burial ground. He indicated that the decision to use the remaining land for cremation burials would allow it to be used for a further 30 years, as against only 10 years for normal burials.

He confirmed that the responsibility of the burial ground would only become the Parish Council's if the Parochial Church Council applied to close the graveyard. If this happened the Parish Council would have 3 months to decide whether to pass on the responsibility to Fylde Borough Council.

15) To consider the application submitted for a grant from the LSP Parish & Town Council Fund

The Clerk informed members that this application has been rejected, due to lack of support from the Police and Lancashire County Council.

16) To consider one councillor to attend the "Better Working between LCC Parish & Town Council's" meeting to be held on Monday 26th March at 1pm – 2pm, in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Preston

It was resolved that Councillor L Rigby will attend this meeting.

17) To receive an update from the FBC Councillors

Councillor Threlfall asked for an item to be put on the website regarding the gas drilling "fracking" in the area. Councillor Threlfall volunteered to answer any questions from residents. It was agreed to ask Martin Rayson to attend the next Parish Council meeting to explain the gas drilling and its effects to the Council.

18) To review the remuneration to the Contractor

It was resolved that there will be no increase for the year beginning April 2012.

19) To review the Clerk's and committee clerk's hours of work and salaries

It was resolved that there would be no increase to salaries for the year beginning April 2012. Both the Clerk and committee clerk are satisfied with their current hours of work.

Councillor T Threlfall proposed a vote of thanks to the Clerk, Mr. K Armistead for all his hard work, particularly with Open Spaces.

20) To agree the date of the next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting will be the Annual Assembly meeting to be held on Monday 2 April 2012 in the Methodist Church hall, commencing at 6.30pm. The Parish Council meeting will be held directly after the Annual Assembly.

Signed...Mrs. M Foster, Chairman

Date.....02/04/12...

Appendix A

	Cheque No.	£	VAT	Net of VAT
Precept Account				
KM Armistead - Salary	5517	£1,011.34		£1,011.34
PO ltd - Tax & N/I	5519	£345.74		£345.74
J Winstanley - salary	5518	£379.05		£379.05
KM Armistead - expenses	5529	£101.19		£101.19
Freeola - internet domain charge	D/D	£7.20	£1.20	£6.00
E-logic Computers - repair to JW's computer	5530	£38.00	£6.33	£31.67
Staples - Stationery	5532	£83.97	£14.00	£69.98
Open Spaces Account				
British Gas - Rawstorne electric	D/d	£67.57	£3.22	£64.35
Grangeland Services - grass cutting	5516p	£1,080.33		£1,080.33
Grangeland Services - Borders	5516p	£710.00		£710.00
J Garlick - litter picking	5516p	£511.50		£511.50
Scottish power - electricity charges	D/D	£34.00		£34.00
M Benson - Hedge cutting	5521	£369.60	£61.60	£308.00
J Garlick - Additional work	5522	£176.00		£176.00
A Davies - Additional work	5523	£154.00		£154.00
Contributions for PA testing in all buildings	cheques	-168.76		-168.76
Mowerpower ltd - Service Bowling club machines	5526	£210.92	£35.15	£175.77
Woodys - materials	5527	£53.88		£53.88
Smalleys - Service ransome & other machines	5528	1428.51	236.84	1191.67
Contributions for PA testing in guide hut	cheque	-£37.50		-£37.50
Townsend's - Diesel for pickup	5533	£142.35	£23.73	£118.63
Allotments				
Community Development Account				
Tile Mart - Tiles for Rawstorne centre upgrade	5524	£680.35	£113.39	£566.96
Disleys - part payment for Rawstorne upgrade	5525	£3,000.00		£3,000.00
Sportmedia - printing Jan'12 Newsletter	5531	£90.00		£90.00
M Shakeshaft - to supply & install bench	cheque	-£700.00		-£700.00
Disleys - part payment for Rawstorne upgrade	5534	£2,500.00		£2,500.00
Total		£12,269.24	£495.46	£11,773.78

Appendix B

Budget		Expenditure		Balance	Percentage used
Headings	Allocation	Feb-12	To date	Outstanding	
Wages	£20,000	£1,736	£19,097	£903	95%
Insurance	£9,500		£5,163	£4,337	54%
Stationery	£450	£70	£629	-£179	140%
Postage	£1,800	£107	£1,409	£391	78%
LAPTC	£600		£597	£4	99%
Audit fee	£650		£620	£30	95%
Chair Allow	£100		£100	£0	100%
Training	£100		£25	£75	25%
Civic functions	£500		£460	£40	92%
Election			£0	£0	
Reserve	£700		£0	£700	
equipment	£200	£32	£210	-£10	105%
Grants	£1,500		£500	£1,000	33%
Section137	£420		£480	-£60	114%
Open Spaces Account					
Grass cutting & shrub borders	£21,571	£2,391	£22,971	-£1,400	106%
FIB - Bedding out & Watering	£16,065	£1,040	£16,972	-£907	106%
Cleansing	£6,641	£512	£5,651	£991	85%
Maintaining Buildings	£5,000	-£161	£2,251	£2,749	45%
Organisations	£9,000	£484	£6,559	£2,441	73%
Electric & rates	£2,000	£64	£1,134	£866	57%
Total	£96,797	£6,274	£84,827	£11,970	88%

Other Accounts		February 2012		
Account		Income	Expenditure	Balance
Croft Butts lane Allotments		£695	£312	£383
Bush lane Allotments		£786	£309	£477
Community Development		£15,777	£26,554	-£10,777
VAT		£11,166	£9,541	£1,625
Total		£28,425	£36,717	-£8,292