

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 4th December 2013, in the Methodist hall.

Present: Councillor St J Greenhough, (Chairman)

Councillors Mrs. L Willis, Mrs. M Whitehead, Mrs. G Cowell, Mrs. J Cartmell, T Fiddler, T Threlfall, L Rigby, C Robb, and P Walton.

1) To accept Apologies for Absence.

Councillors K McKay, (away on business) and Mrs. S Delany (other business).

It was resolved that the reasons for absence should be accepted.

2) Open Forum

a) Police Update

No Police representative attended the meeting.

b) Public Participation

A member of the public reported that there was a large pot hole in Goa lane that needed filling-in. The Council agreed to investigate

A member of the public asked why the attachments to the agenda, and in particular the Clerk's report, was not made available to the public before the meeting. It was stated that this information was for the Councillors to debate and was subject to change or rejection. The information would form part of the minutes, if approved.

A member of the public informed the Council that moneys had now been raised for a seat and tree in memory of Andy Davis and asked if they could be installed. It was reported that the tree has already been planted and the site for the seat had been agreed. The Clerk requested that the person contacts him and he will arrange for the seat to be installed.

Paul Rigby reported that LCC was not running smoothly and it was difficult to get any request for work to be completed. He agreed to try to progress a solution to the grass cutting around the Library.

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

All Councillors, as Landlords, declared an interest in the Rawstorne Centre and, as Trustees, the Bush lane allotments.

Councillor Mrs. L Willis declared a pecuniary interest in item 6.d – to review the rents for the Bush lane allotments.

4) To read and approve the minutes of the following meeting:

a) The Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 6th November 2013

b) The Open Spaces committee meeting held on Monday 18th November 2013 and

c) The Fabrics committee meeting held on Monday 18th November 1023 and

It was resolved that the minutes of the above meetings, 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 should be approved – see Appendix A

b) Monthly budget statements

The statements were noted – see Appendix B

c) To consider the estimates for additional electrical work at the Rawstorne Centre.

It was resolved to approve the estimate of £430.00, from Paul Wenham, for the installation of a meter, new sockets in the kitchen and repairs to the sockets in the bar area.

d) To review the rents for the Bush lane allotments

Councillor Mrs. L Willis left the room.

The Clerk reported that the rents had not been reviewed for a number of years and for the period from 2003/04 to 2010/11 the expenditure over income was £8,075, due to various projects on the allotments. During 2011/12 and 2012/13 the income over expenditure was £1,000. However there was work currently being undertaken to improve the drainage and it was estimated that this would cost £2,500.

In addition, he reported that tenants with horses were currently paying as low as 64 pence a week in rent, when the rent in the area for the basic stabling facilities would be at least £20 per week.

It was resolved to increase the rents, with effect from 01/04/14, as follows:-

Full plots from £65 to £100; half plots from £33 to £50 and ¼ plots from £17.50 to £25.

Councillor Mrs. L Willis returned to the room

e) To receive the report from Plan4Sports Ltd with regard to upgrading the facilities at the Rawstorne centre.

It was resolved that Plan4Sports should be asked to undertake a review of all external funding at a cost of £500 plus VAT

f) To consider renewing the Service level agreement, from FBC, for the maintenance of the playground equipment

It was resolved to renew the SLA agreement at an annual cost of £1,996.90

7. To consider the report from L Battersby for improving the drains on the Bush lane Allotments

It was resolved that an overflow tank should not be used to improve the drainage on the allotments.

It was reported that there was another drainage ditch that ran from the allotments out to the river and it was located near the lane that ran off the main allotment lane. It was suggested that this should be investigated to provide an outlet for the drains.

It was suggested that this drain may be suitable for an outlet for draining all of the allotments.

It was pointed out that any estimate for this work would have to be considered with all the other major projects being considered by the Council.

8. To consider the report from Freckleton in Bloom for improvements to the Memorial gardens

It was resolved to use the services of a Consultant to make recommendations for plants in the Memorial garden area.

9. To receive suggestions for a blue plaque in memory of the 1st World war.

It was suggested that a plaque should be erected in memory of the men from Freckleton who fought in the 1st World war. The plaque could be placed on the Mill wall.

It was suggested that Mr. Shakeshaft should be consulted, to ensure the historical facts were correct, before any decision was made. The Clerk agreed to progress and report back.

10. To receive an update from meetings held with other Organisations and Bodies

The following updates were received:-

Carr Hill School – The Chairman reported that the school was considering upgrading the sporting facilities and would make them available to the public. They wished to seek the views of the local community to ensure there were no conflicts of interest.

11. To receive an update from the FBC councillors.

Councillor Threlfall reported that he was trying to secure support, from the Council, for the 70th Anniversary of the Air disaster.

12. To Comment on the proposals for the Future of Local Audit : Draft Regulations Consultation

The Clerk reported that the regulations were recommending that the external audits should be carried out more locally and a body would be appointed to decide who should undertake these audits.

13. To agree the date of the next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting would be held on Monday 6th January 2014

Signed.....St J Greenhough, Chairman.....

Date...06/01/04.....

Schedule of payments Nov '13

Appendix A

	Cheque No.	£	VAT	Net of VAT
Precept Account				
KM Armistead - Salary	5927	£1,130.27		£1,130.27
PO ltd - Tax & N/I	2929	£388.89		£388.89
J Winstanley - salary	5928	£284.29		£284.29
KM Armistead - expenses	5933	£119.92		£119.92
Freeola - internet domain charge	D/D	£7.20	£1.20	£6.00
Kirbys - wreaths for graves	5938	£30.00		£30.00
Staples - refund of Accountancy software	cheque	-£88.99	-£14.83	-£74.16
British Legion - Wreaths	5939	£80.00		£80.00
Methodist Church - hire of rooms	5931	£70.00		£70.00
Came & Co - Council's insurance	5941	£4,390.18		£4,390.18
Open Spaces Account				
Golden leaf - grass cutting	5936p	£2,000.00		£2,000.00
Golden leaf - Bedding out & Borders	5936p	£1,251.96		£1,251.96
Golden leaf - litter picking	5936p	£405.00		£405.00
R Cartmell - repairs to drains	5935	£32.00		£32.00
Scottish power - electricity charges	D/D	£27.00		£27.00
Smiths hire - materials for strimmer	5934	£18.88	£3.15	£15.73
LCC donation for ROW maintenance	D/P	-100		-100
Townsend's - Petrol & diesel	5940	£170.90	£28.48	£142.42
FIB - donation towards watering	cheque	-£145.00		-£145.00
J Rayton - repair to Guide hut electrics	5942	£90.00		£90.00
Smiths hire - materials	5945	£5.40	£0.90	£4.50
Golden leaf - fell 2 trees	5944	£230.00		£230.00

Allotments

M Garner - tree felling - Croft Butts	5930	£2,100.00	£350.00	£1,750.00
Croft Butts - rents	cheques	-£150.00		-£150.00
Croft Butts - rents	cheques	-105.00		-105.00

Community Development Account

Balmers - new Spreader & oil	5937	£742.96	£123.83	£619.13
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Rawstone centre

Bush Lane allots. Association - hire of room		-£10.00		-£10.00
CNG - gas		£81.61	£3.89	£77.72
British Gas - electric		£148.64	£7.08	£141.56
UU - surface water & drainage charge		£11.28		£11.28
C Robb - tea urn & light bulbs		£51.58	£8.60	£42.98
Pool table & AWS electric		-£43.40		-£43.40

Total		£13,225.57	£512.29	£12,713.28
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Budget		Expenditure		Balance	Percentage used
Headings	Allocation	Nov '13	To date	Outstanding	
Wages	£22,500	£1,803	£14,428	£8,072	64%
Insurance	£5,000	£4,390	£4,457	£543	89%
Stationery	£1,000		£395	£605	39%
Postage	£1,800	£126	£1,425	£375	79%
LAPTC	£550		£614	-£64	112%
Audit fee	£650		£470	£180	72%
Chair Allow	£100		£100	£0	100%
Training	£100		£0	£100	0%
Civic functions	£500	£100	£324	£176	65%
Election	£70		£70	£0	100%
Reserve	£1,200		£0	£1,200	0%
equipment	£300	-£74	£0	£300	0%
Grants	£2,500		£2,500	£0	100%
Section137	£480	£80	£480	£0	100%
Open Spaces Account					
Grass cutting & shrub borders	£16,760	£2,163	£12,395	£4,365	74%
Bedding out & Watering	£24,400	£1,237	£19,829	£4,571	81%
Cleansing	£7,080	£405	£3,316	£3,764	47%
Maintaining Buildings	£2,700	£122	£2,899	-£199	107%
Organisations	£9,710		£7,557	£2,153	78%
Electric & rates	£2,200	£27	£1,649	£551	75%
Total	£99,600	£10,379	£72,907	£26,693	73%

Other Accounts Nov '13

Account		Income	Expenditure	Balance
Croft Butts lane Allotments		£515	£2,250	-£1,735
Bush lane Allotments		£755	£308	£447
Rawstone Centre		£8,853	£3,253	£5,600
Community Development		£4,568	£14,804	-£10,235
Memorial park - playground	£15,275			£15,275
Tom Croft Car park	£5,274			£5,274
Open spaces -capital	£3,600			£6,932
VAT		£6,517	£6,357	£160
Total	£24,149	£21,209	£26,971	£21,718