

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on Monday 13th April 2015

Present: Councillor L Rigby, (Chair)

Councillors, Mrs M Whitehead, Mrs Delany, T Fiddler, St J Greenhough, T Threlfall, Mrs L Willis, K McKay, Mrs G Cowell, Mrs. J Cartmell, P Walton and C Robb.

Apologies: There were no absences.

1. To review the minutes of the Annual Assembly meeting held on Monday 7th April 2014.

The minutes were noted.

2. Chairman's report.

Over the last 12 months your Parish Council has:

- a. Arranged a public meeting to listen to the concerns from the residents of Freckleton on the proposed explorative drilling on the Marsh.

The Council has produced a report that answers the concerns raised and re-assures the public that the Village will not be affected by any drilling that may have taken place. (The report is available on the Council's web-site).

Subsequent to the report being produced it was announced that the drilling would not go ahead.

- b. The Friends of the Memorial Park community group are raising funds for the re-vamping of the Memorial park. The Parish Council has pledged £20k and a number of other Organisations have also pledged support for this project.

Also, Fylde Borough Council has agreed to support the Friends of the Park Community group with a donation of £50k, for the re-vamping of the Memorial park play areas.

Special thanks go to the Parish Councillors who put in all the hard work to secure this donation.

There have been a number of exhibitions to explain the "Friends" proposals and a final plan has been agreed with the local residents.

- c. Installed a blue plaque on the Cenotaph railing, to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of start of World War 1, in recognition of their service to the Country by the men of Freckleton who served in the Great War.

- d. Supported Rural Splash again, in order to help to keep Kirkham baths open. The junior schools in Freckleton use the baths to teach swimming.

- e. Freckleton in Bloom and Golden Leaf must be congratulated for:-

a) A Gold award in the North West in Bloom competition.

b) In the Lancashire Best kept Village competition, the best kept large village award; the best kept War Memorial gardens award and the best public playing fields, for the Memorial park,

A lot of planning and hard work goes into winning these awards. **Well done Indeed!**

3. Chairman of Finance's report

- a. **Precept account (including Open Spaces).**

b. The Councils expenditure for 2014/15 was within the budget of £99,600.

- c. **Community Development Account**

The interest on the savings, in this account, has been reduced considerably due to the reduction in interest rates. A new bank account has been identified that will attract a better interest rate:-

- d. **The Council has set up the following Reserve accounts:-**

1. Memorial Playground Fund - £20,275

2. Open Spaces new equipment fund - £10,263

3. Tom Croft Car park maintenance fund - £8,692

Part of the money for these funds came from the grant from FBC in respect of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

In addition, the Council is in the process of selling to United Utilities a part of the Bush lane allotment land where they built the overflow tank. This money will be “ring fenced” for future allotment developments, hopefully to include providing additional allotments for people on the waiting list.

e. Capital expenditure

The following capital expenditure has been completed in 2014/15

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Donation to Rural Splash (for the running of Kirkham Baths) | - £2k |
| 2. Repairs to pathways in park & car park entrance to Rawstorne Centre | - £3.6k |
| 3. Plaque to commemorate WW1 | - £408 |
| 4. Re-line the Tom Croft car park | - £776 |
| 5. A defibrillator and box for the Rawstorne centre | - £1k |

f. Financial Savings

The Council has saved £2k by cutting back on winter plants.

g. Proposed Capital Expenditure for 2014/15

£20k to help the Friends of the Park re-vamp the play areas, subject to FBC supporting the project.

COUNCIL FINANCIAL RECORDS ARE KEPT STRICTLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND ARE AUDITED REGULARLY BY COUNCILLORS AND ANNUALLY BY AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR.

ACCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING FROM THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL.

4. Financial Statements – unaudited.

It was resolved that the unaudited Accounts, for the year ending 31st March 2015, be accepted. – see Appendix A

It was proposed that a vote of thanks go to the Chairman and the Chairman of Finance for the way they have conducted themselves over the last 12 months.

Also, thanks go to the Clerk for all the hard work that gone in to ensure the financial records were kept and for his help with the grant from FBC for the Friends of the Memorial park.

5. Public participation.

None.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed..... ..T Fiddler, Chairman

Date.....14/05/15.....

Appendix A

Summary of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2015

	2014--15	2013-14
<u>Income</u>		
Precept	£99,600	£99,600
Open Spaces		
Allotments	£1,846	£1,468
Community Dev.	£22,721	£22,322
Rawstorne Centre	£5,556	£9,177
Total income	£129,724	£132,566
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Precept	£97,445	£98,644
Including:		
Section 137 of		
the LGA Act		
1972	£525	£480
Open Spaces	£57,395	£63,690
Allotments	£634	£3,070
Community Dev.	£8,738	£16,970
Rawstorne Centre	£3,951	£4,619
Total Expenditure	£110,769	£123,303
Excess of Income over Expenditure	£18,955	£9,264
<u>Balance sheet as at 31st March 2015</u>		
Fund Balance at 1st April 2014	£98,218	£88,955
Plus Excess of Expenditure over income	£18,955	£9,264
Total assets	£117,173	£98,218
Represented by:		
Total Bank Balances	£115,728	£96,726
Prepayments	£1,445	£1,493
Fund balance at 31st March 2015	£117,173	£98,218

The above represents fairly the financial position of the Authority at 31st March 2015 and reflects its income and Expenditure