

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of Emergency meeting held on Monday 1st August 2016

Present: Councillor, T Threlfall, (Chair)

Councillors T Fiddler, Mrs. M Whitehead, St J Greenhough, Mrs. S Delany, Mrs N Griffiths, Mrs. P Holt, Mrs. L Willis, L Rigby, P Walton and. K. McKay

- 1) **To receive declarations from anyone (public or press) if they propose to record the meeting (film or audio) under the Openness of the Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.**

None were received

- 2) **To accept Apologies for Absence.**

Councillor Mrs. J Cartmell (working)

It was resolved to accept the reason for absence

- 3) **To consider what action to take regarding the proposed pen for grass cuttings on the Bush lane Sports field.**

The Clerk reported that he had now received 3 quotations for this work and they were circulated.

It was resolved, with 2 abstentions, that the quote from Snape and Hunter, for £4,630, should be accepted.

- 4) **To consider a response to the LCC's request for a completed application for the ownership of Freckleton library**

The Clerk read out the assessment criteria that had to be met if the Council or any Community organisation intended to submit an application for the transfer of ownership of the Library. In addition, he indicated that there were strict procedures that had to be completed (e.g. risk assessment) before the application had to be submitted by 14th August. Brian Willis, the Chairman of the Community group, stated that there was very little support from the Community to form a group to take over the running of the Library. He has had no response from LCC to the group's Expression of Interest and other enquiries made and no acknowledgement of the petition that they submitted. The Council thanked Brian and Councillor Mrs. M Whitehead for all the hard work they had put in to try to form a Community group.

It was agreed that there were alternative venues within the Village for the Community activities that take place in the Library, but it was disgraceful that the nearest Library would be at St Annes.

The Chairman suggested that the local school may be able to make use of the building.

It was resolved that the Parish Council should not submit an application to take over the running of the library as it would not be financially viable.

It was further resolved that the Clerk should respond as follows:

1. The Council wish to register a complaint about the closure of the library.
2. The Council have deep concerns at the time available to review an adequate response and to the lack of response from LCC to the Community group's Expression of Interest and other enquiries.
3. The LCC should consider transferring the use of this building to the adjacent school (Freckleton C of E primary school) as it is in need of additional space and it would be convenient as the building backs onto the school.

Councillor Mrs. M Whitehead reported that she was disappointed with the attitude of Julie Bell, the LCC's Library Officer, with regard to the missing American books from the Library. She had no co-operation from her when she attended a meeting at County hall and despite promises made by Julie Bell she has heard nothing since. It was agreed that the Clerk should make a complaint about the attitude and lack of support from Julie Bell.

Signed.....

Date..... 05/09/16.....