

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on Monday 10th April 2017

Present: Councillor, T Threlfall (Chair)

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

Apologies: Mrs M Whitehead and Mrs. J Cartmell. (Other business)

1. To review the minutes of the Annual Assembly meeting held on Monday 4th April 2016.

The minutes were noted.

2. Chairman's report.

- The Memorial Park Play area has been revamped. Thanks to the Friends of the Memorial park for all the hard work put in to secure the funding. Numerous Organisations gave money towards the £175k cost and the Parish Council donated £20k.
- A huge congratulations to Freckleton in Bloom and Golden Leaf for:-
 - a) The best small town in Britain awarded by the Royal Horticultural Society.
 - b) A Gold award in the North West in Bloom competition.A lot of planning and hard work goes into winning these awards and I thank the local businesses for their support. In addition, I would point out that this is an initiative that I would encourage all that live in the Village to participate in.
- Unfortunately, LCC has now closed the Library despite every effort being made to try to keep it open. The Parish Council, with the help of County Councillor Paul Rigby, is trying to ensure the mobile library visits Freckleton on a regular basis.
- Most of the books donated by the Americans that were in the Library have been destroyed by inconsiderate LCC staff. However, a few have been saved or replaced and these will now be displayed in the Village hall committee room together with trophies won by the Village (e.g. the In Bloom awards).
- It has been noticed that there has been a considerable reduction in the Policing of the Village, but we have a good working relationship with them and we are making the best of what they can offer.
- I would like to remind everyone that the Parish Council has provided a dedicated dog exercise area on the southern side of the Rawstone centre car park, where dogs can be exercised off the lead. Discussions are taking place at Fylde Borough Council with regard to dog exercising and fouling and the Parish Council are pro-active in these discussions.
- The Parish Council is proud of its sports and community groups of which the Bowling and Cricket clubs sets good examples.
- Both the horticultural and agricultural allotments, with their own Management committees, are to be proud of and set a good example of how community groups can work together.
- We have supported the Village hall in keeping it a place and to be proud of and my thanks go to the Management committee.
- I commend the Parish Council's support for the Freckleton Club day committee and a big thank you in recognition of the great work the committee undertakes in and for the Village.
- Throughout the year Freckleton has continued to be in good health and all areas are well maintained.
- The Village has a wonderful Brass band who maintain their status as a *premier* league band. Everyone who is involved with the running of the band should be congratulated and I would like to thank them for supporting the Parish Council with the events that we have held in the past year.

- Last but not least, Freckleton Parish Council are committed to the care and maintenance of Freckleton's well-being. I would like to thank The Parish Councillors, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of all the committees, the Clerk, the Assistant Clerk and my Vice Chairman, who has been a rock this year.

Councillor Tommy Threlfall, Chairman

3. Chairman of Finance's report

- I apologise for my absence, which I am afraid is unavoidable, as I would have liked to have presented my report and express my thanks personally.
- Firstly, a massive thanks to Councillor Shirley Delany, who despite a heavy schedule of her own, stepped in when Councillor Noreen Griffiths was unable to take up the duties of the Vice Chairman of Finance.
- To Mr. Ken Armistead, our Clerk, a thank you for all the help and guidance this past year which has been much appreciated.
- **Precept account (including Open Spaces).**
 - The Councils expenditure for 2016/17 was within the budget of £99,600.
- **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 set up with Nationwide that attracts a better interest rate.

In addition, the Council has sold to United Utilities part of the Bush lane allotment land where they built the overflow tank. This money has been "ring fenced" for future allotment developments, hopefully to include providing additional allotments for people on the waiting list.

- **Capital expenditure**
- The following capital expenditure has been completed in 2016/17

Donation towards the new play area in the Memorial park	-£20,000
New Notice board	- £2,000
A new grass pen, on the Bush lane sports field	- £4,866
Additional lights for the Christmas tree display	- £ 880
2 new Printers	- £ 210
- **Income**

Interest on the Council's new Savings account	- £534.
Hire of equipment and land	- £850
Sale of Allotment land	-£35,000
FBC Council tax reduction grant	- £8,111
LCC grass cutting contract	- £2,415
- **Proposed Capital Expenditure for 2017/18**
None

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

Signed.....Mrs. S Delany, Chairman.....

Date.....02/05/17.....

Freckleton Parish Council

Summary of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2017

	2016-17	2015-16
<u>Income</u>		
Precept	£99,600	£99,600
Open Spaces		
Allotments	£1,846	£1,945
Community Dev.	£47,920	£12,771
Rawstorne Centre	£444	£16,140
Total income	£149,810	£130,456
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Precept	£91,151	£98,820
Including:		
Section 137 of the LGA Act 1972		£400
Open Spaces		£61,757
Allotments	£7,125	£1,828
Community Dev.	£29,406	£16,098
Rawstorne Centre	£0	£24,528
Total Expenditure	£127,682	£141,274
Excess of Income over Expenditure	£22,128	-£10,818
<u>Balance sheet as at 31st March 2017</u>		
Fund Balance at 1st April 2016	£106,356	£117,173
Plus Excess of Income over Expenditure	£22,128	-£10,818
Total assets	£128,484	£106,356
Represented by:		
Total Bank Balances	£126,985	£106,738
Prepayments	£1,499	£1,159
Unpresented cheques	£0	-£1,541
Fund balance at 31st March 2017	£128,484	£106,356