

Freckleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th January 2012, in the Methodist hall.

Present: Councillor Maraline Foster (Chair)

Councillors, T Fiddler, L Rigby, Mrs M Whitehead, Mrs S Delany, Mrs L Willis, T Threlfall, K Mckay, St J Greenhough, 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 PCSO Carly Smith

Figures: for 01/12/11 to 31/12/11

Location	Total Incidents	Total Crimes
Freckleton West	30	5
Freckleton East	33	5
Lower Lane/The Mede	22	3

The figures show a total of number of 13 crimes recorded for the month of December 2011.

The crimes for December 2011 are made up as follows; 4x burglaries, 3x assaults, 2x criminal damage, 2x theft, 1 public order offence, 1x drugs offence and 1 other offence.

This compares to a total of 5 Crimes recorded for the same month last year. Although December saw an increase in the volume of crimes recorded compared to the previous year, it must be remembered that December 2010 saw the whole of the Country including the Fylde Coast brought to a stand still under a blanket of snow and ice, which obviously lead to an increase in RTC's but ultimately a fall in crime for that period.

We would continue to ask residents to pay particular attention to any suspicious vehicles/person (Eastern European looking) following on from last month's burglaries and thefts. CCTV enquiries as well as out-of-force enquiries have led us to believe the 4 individuals responsible are in-fact part of a larger group of Romanian nationals. Enquiries are on-going in respect of identifying this group and a crime bulletin has been passed to other forces as well as the local press. We are seeking to have it distributed to the national press as we believe the group are possibly connected to a series of crimes across the North of England.

As yet no persons have come forward or been identified as being responsible for the fail-to-stop RTC which damaged the wall opposite the Spar, all relevant enquiries have been undertaken.

We also believe there is an individual sleeping rough in the area who maybe responsible for some crime and would again ask that residents be extra vigilant. Please note that sheds have been targeted and bikes stolen.

Good news

Again the focus has been on our PACT priorities, in particular concentrating on the issue of 20MPH zones and also continuing to target problems on Lower Lane.

Operation Pathway has again continued to run providing us with significant results. Fixed Penalty Notices issued by NHPT 25x seatbelts, 10x mobile phone and 1x vehicle defect rectification

following a total of 44 vehicles/drivers spoken with throughout the month/ Laser activity has continued on Kirkham Rd although at the times when NHPT were present no offences occurred. We are still awaiting feedback from the Road Safety Partnership for results from the mobile safety van.

20MPH Zones

As I know you're aware the following process has been agreed with LCC:

1. Consideration as to the appropriateness of the speed limit
2. Speed monitoring
3. SPID / Speed Trailer
4. Community Engagement activities which includes schools, local businesses, local groups
5. Community Road Watch subject to road suitability and risk assessment.
6. Additional signage, lines or other minor engineering options

With regards to stage 1, it has already been agreed by LCC that the speed limit is appropriate for the area. I am aware numerous residents had objections to this but unfortunately it would appear to have gone ahead with minimal/zero consultation from what I have been told.

I have submitted a request to Traffic Mgt for 2 speed counts in the form of 'golden rivers' to be placed at either end of Lytham Rd in order to give us a statistical break down of the speeds throughout the Village. These are now in place and following the results meetings will take place with the Highways dept to discuss the way forward.

We have a slight problem with the deployment of SPIDS, it has now been agreed by LCC that the local Parish be responsible for the purchase of SPIDS and then LCC will provide training on the deployment of the devices to persons deemed appropriate. It is no longer the Police who deploy the devices. We are seeking to establish funding initiatives to purchase SPIDS on behalf of the Parish Council and are also seeking to loan devices from other areas as another possibility.

The Community Engagement/Road Watch is where some Laser activity may take place and this would be in the form of warnings. Once the previous measures have been undertaken and analysed, the area maybe considered for additional signage etc as mentioned. The process will be continually evaluated and monitored to ensure the appropriate action is taken. I am hoping that at this stage I will also be able to undertake some Laser activity as an increased presence in the Village.

If following the above interventions average speeds have not reduced to the required levels then enforcement resulting in prosecutions can be considered taking into account intelligence including casualty data as follows:

1. Initially undertake media and marketing in local press and community advertising future enforcement
2. Undertake CPU or Police enforcement as deemed appropriate

The period deemed significant for casualty data is the previous 3 years, however I have again submitted a request for the previous 6 years statistics to give me a wider view (I am still waiting for these statistics). The speed monitoring will also give us a statistical break down as to when the problem is so that any enforcement undertaken can be done at the relevant times etc.

I will continually aim to provide feedback to the Parish throughout this process and my intention was for all the information stated to be discussed at the next meeting. As I'm sure you will be aware the process in its entirety is likely to be very a long one with any actual enforcement undertaken by Police being when other measures have been exhausted. In the event of the above interventions failing to reduce speeds to acceptable levels additional long term engineering options could be considered as appropriate for example speed humps, chicanes etc.

2012

Inevitably 2012 will bring its own challenges, not only those brought about by financial constraint and change, but in many other ways as well. As your local officer I would like to assure both residents and businesses alike that the NHPT will continue to work closely in order to improve the quality of the lives for all concerned in the area.

b) Public participation

A member of the public raised concerns regarding a dip/hole in the pathway between Bramwell Avenue & Bush Lane. This fills with water and can become dangerous when it freezes. This requires filling in, however the pathway belongs to the residents each side of the passage. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask the Contractor to fill in these holes.

Concerns were raised over the state of the bus shelters in the Lower Lane area and on Kirkham Road. The Clerk will follow this up with FBC.

The top and bottom pathways to the Naze (after the Ship) were also reported. The Clerk will pursue this.

County Councillor Rigby confirmed that the crossing will shortly be put in place near to the library and the school.

Following the tragic incident on Saturday night it was agreed to send a letter of condolences to the family involved, and to enquire if a book a condolence could be placed in Holy Trinity Church.

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

All Councillors, as Trustees, declared an interest in the Rawstone Centre and the Bush Lane allotments.

4) To read and approve the minutes of:

a) The Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5th December 2011

b) The Communications meeting held on Monday 12th December 2011

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 be approved – *see Appendix A*

b) Monthly budget statements

The monthly statements were noted – *see Appendix B*

c) To consider committing to another 2 or 3 years of funding towards Rural Splash YMCA

It was resolved to review this decision annually and to ask for a balance sheet annually. The Council have already committed to a £2,000 donation for this year.

7) To consider the points raised by Councillor Robb regarding the running of the Frecklestone project

Following a discussion it was resolved that Councillor Delany will present Colin's points at the Rawstone and Frecklestone AGM next week, as Colin cannot attend.

8) To consider how the Council can assist with the running of the Rawstone Centre

The notes, on the suggested way forward for running the centre, were considered.

It was resolved to wait for the outcome of the AGM before any decisions are made. The Council will hold a special meeting to discuss the way forward following the AGM.

The Clerk reported that two quotes have been received to upgrade the changing room facilities at

the Rawstorne Centre.

It was resolved that the quote from Bob Disley, for £9,230, should be accepted.

9) To consider the counter-offer from United Utilities for the area of land they wish to acquire from Freckleton Parish Council

It was resolved to take the advice received from the Land Agent and try to improve the compensation offer.

10) To consider joining the Connect2Buy procurement portal

The Clerk reported that there would be no charge for this service and it may be useful in the future.

It was resolved to register to the Connect2Buy procurement portal

11) To consider the letter from the chair of governors of Freckleton C of E Primary School regarding the anniversaries to be held in 2014

It was resolved to invite Mr Jim Martin (Chair of Governors) to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss this further.

12) To consider commenting on the Chairman`s Three Tie Guidance notes

It was resolved that there should be equal representation of Parish councilors, Fylde Borough and Lancashire County councillors at all meetings.

Councillor Whitehead will pass on the Council`s views at the next Parish Liaison meeting.

13) To receive an update from the FBC Councilors

Councillor Threlfall informed members that he had a run round the village with Councillor Rigby and made a list of Highway areas of concern in the village including the railings outside the Spar and parts of the Village hall car park requiring re-tarmacing.

He suggested that a light is required to light up the Freckleton sign near to the roundabout. The Clerk will contact the LCC, Highways Dept.

Again, concerns were raised regarding the roundabout between Freckleton and Warton. This requires replacing with a T-junction, no right turn sign and clearer road markings, to make the area safer.

14) To agree the date of next meeting.

It was resolved that the next meeting would be held on Monday 6th February 2012 in the Methodist Church hall, commencing at 7.00pm.

Signed.....Councillor T Fiddler.....

Date.....06/02/12.....

Appendix A

	Cheque No.	£	VAT	Net of VAT
Precept Account				
KM Armistead - Salary	5487	£1,011.34		£1,011.34
PO ltd - Tax & N/I	4589	£345.74		£345.74
J Winstanley - salary	4588	£379.05		£379.05
KM Armistead - expenses	5499	£106.45		£106.45
Freeola - web-site rental	D/D	£10.80	£1.80	£9.00
Staples - stationery	5497	£18.28	£3.05	£15.23
In-Trak - PA system & lights for Carol service	5500	£288.00	£48.00	£240.00
Open Spaces Account				
British Gas - Rawstorne electric	D/d	£116.43	£19.41	£97.03
Grangeland Services - grass cutting	5484p	£1,080.33		£1,080.33
Grangeland Services -Borders	5484p	£710.00		£710.00
J Garlick - litter picking	5484p	£511.50		£511.50
Scottish power - electricity charges	D/D	£34.00		£34.00
J Garlick - additional work - Nov '11	5485	£275.00		£275.00
A Davies - additional work - Nov '11	5486	£55.00		£55.00
Rawstorne centre - donation for Electric	cheque	-£502.02		-£502.02
Bowling club - donation for materials	cheque	-£131.45	£0.00	-£131.45
Rigby Taylor - materials for Bowling club	5490	£155.35	£23.90	£131.45
Kirbys - materials	5491	£267.70	£44.62	£223.08
J & B Cartmell - winter plants	5492	£840.37	£140.06	£700.31
Braithwaites - materials	5494	£6.00	£1.00	£5.00
Woodys - materials for grit bin	5495	£66.33	£11.06	£55.28
Disleys - lagging pipes in Bowling hut	5496	£75.00		£75.00
Threfall Electric - repairs at Rawstorne centre	5498	£377.54	£62.92	£314.62
FIB - Donation towards winter plants & materials	cheques	-£269.47		-£269.47
Townsend - Petrol & diesel	5501	£251.34	£41.89	£209.45
Grangeland Services - grass cutting	5502p	£1,080.33		£1,080.33
Grangeland Services -Borders	5502p	£710.00		£710.00
J Garlick - litter picking	5502p	£511.50		£511.50
Allotments				
Croft Butts rent	cheques	-£30.00		-£30.00
Community Development Account				
AWS - donation from Warton Typhoons	cheque	-£450.00		-£450.00
Natwest - interest	D/P	-7.38		-7.38
Total		£7,893.06	£397.70	£7,495.36

Appendix B

Budget		Expenditure		Balance Outstanding	Percentage used
Headings	Allocation	December '11	To date		
Wages	£20,000	£1,736	£15,625	£4,375	78%
Insurance	£9,500	£0	£5,163	£4,337	54%
Stationery	£450	£15	£542	-£92	120%
Postage	£1,800	£115	£1,181	£619	66%
LAPTC	£600	£0	£597	£4	99%
Audit fee	£650	£0	£620	£30	95%
Chair Allow	£100	£0	£100	£0	100%
Training	£100	£0	£25	£75	25%
Civic functions	£500	£240	£390	£110	78%
Election		£0	£0	£0	
Reserve	£700	£0	£0	£700	
equipment	£200	£0	£178	£22	89%
Grants	£1,500	£0	£500	£1,000	33%
Section137	£420	£0	£480	-£60	114%
Open Spaces Account					
Grass cutting & shrub borders	£21,571	£2,375	£19,143	£2,428	89%
FIB - Bedding out & Watering	£16,065	£2,074	£15,932	£133	99%
Cleansing	£6,641	£1,023	£5,139	£1,502	77%
Maintaining Buildings	£5,000	£775	£2,133	£2,867	43%
Organisations	£9,000	£0	£5,783	£3,217	64%
Electric & rates	£2,000	-£371	£968	£1,032	48%
Total	£96,797	£7,983	£74,499	£22,298	77%

Account	Other Accounts		December '11	
		Income	Expenditure	Balance
Croft Butts lane Allotments		£650	£275	£375
Bush lane Allotments		£786	£246	£540
Community Development		£15,019	£20,313	-£5,294
VAT		£10,170	£8,641	£1,529
Total		£26,625	£29,476	-£2,851