

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

Clerk: Mike Mortimer, 1 Sycamore Close, Palgrave, Suffolk, IP22 1PF

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**Monday the 1st of March 2021 at 7.15
Meeting of the Parish Council**

REMOTE VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

**Topic: PC Meeting 1 March 2021
Time: Mar 1, 2021 07:15 PM London**

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AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Declaration of Interests
- 3 To Agree the Minutes of the 1st of February 2021
- 4 Matters Arising

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10 Minutes Public Speaking Time

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- 5 District Councillor's Report
- 6 County Councillor's Report
- 7 Flooding – a) Preparedness and Resilience KT
b) County Council Response and next steps
- 8 Traffic and Speed Limits AM
- 9 Planning
- 10 Finance – Donations
- 11 Website
- 12 Environment – a) Tree Wardens
b) To establish an Environmental Policy
- 13 Correspondence
- 14 Any Other Matters
- 15 Date of Next Meeting



Parish Clerk

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 1st of March 2021

The meeting was held by video conference and opened at 7.15 p.m.

Present Councillors – Chair, Dr A McMurray, Mr R Hewitt, Mr K Traynier, Mr M Wickenden and Mr M Wakefield. Also present were County Councillor, Mr B Spratt, District Councillor, Mr J Easter and the clerk Mr M Mortimer.

- 1 Apologies**
Mr J Kemp,
- 2 Declaration of Interests**
None
- 3 To agree the minutes of the meeting of the 1st of February 2021**
The minutes were agreed
- 4 Matters and Actions arising from the minutes**
Mr Hewitt reported on his enquiries into restrictions on night time driving and found there were none.

10 minutes public speaking time

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There were no speakers.

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- 5 Report from District Councillor**
Mr Easter pointed out that Census Day was on the 21st of March. He had nothing to update on flooding except to say that South Norfolk intended to enforce the clearing of ditches. He suggested the most effective way of helping SN establish ownership was for the PC to draw up a map of ditches requiring attention with their ownership. Parish councillors agreed to do that. Mr Traynier pointed that the lack of river maintenance was also a factor with which Mr Easter agreed..Mr Hewitt referred to poor reinstatement work by utilities as a problem and suggested that where ownership of ditches could not be established the county should take responsibility.
- 6 Report from County Councillor**
Mr Spratt agreed with many of the comments made during Mr Easter's report and asked for a copy of the report to be prepared for Mr Easter as there was an Anglian Water and Environment Agency presence at County Hall..
- 7 Flooding**
On the matter of future resilience Mr Traynier asked if the PC would support the setting up and registration of a Resilience Forum with financial backing. Registration with NCC could release further funds he said. The council voted unanimously to offer its support and Mr Traynier agreed to provide a list of priority purchases. Mr Hewitt suggested that the charity might be a source of funding.
With regard to the surveyors report on the long term flooding at Common Road and Highways' response Dr McMurray felt it right to resist Highways' view that it could only be the pipe alongside the allotments causing the problem and that discussion continue .Mr Traynier was of the view that the pipe was the problem.

8 Traffic and Speed Limits

Mr Wickenden explained that he was working on the mapping and analysis of parish roads, speed limits, and traffic volumes building on the considerable work already done by Mr Traynier. It was agreed residents should share their experiences on the website to maintain the profile of the issues and demonstrate the council's commitment to solving the traffic problems.

9 Planning

There were no applications to consider. An issue in The Street had been resolved. Councillors were asked to inform the clerk if they were planning to attend the Zoom planning seminar run by South Norfolk.

10 Finance

A report had been circulated and will appear on the website. Donations of £200 to the Norfolk Air Ambulance and £100 to the MAGPAS Air Ambulance were agreed.

11 Website

Several councillors had seen a presentation by Mr Claybrook on development of a new website and reported positively on its progress. Dr McMurray wanted assurance that it would be future proofed and Mr Wickenden felt able to give it as much as possible. Dr McMurray urged those PCs working on the development to take time to consider what needed to be on the site. Mr Wakefield, Mr Wickenden and Mr Traynier were asked to work on the development with Mr Claybrook.

12 Environment

Two parishioners had volunteered to become Tree Wardens an offer welcomed by PCs. However issues of health and safety, liability and supervision would have to be dealt with. Mr Wakefield suggested it would be good to get some trees planted on public land and Mr Hewitt suggested the playing field in The Street. It was agreed that the points of concern be communicated to the volunteers for their responses and the matter be considered at the next meeting.

Dr McMurray asked if the PC should have an environment policy in principle at least. She agreed to produce a more detailed proposition for the next meeting.

13 Communications

The clerk had received notice that the tenant on the grazing land at the allotments did not wish to renew his tenancy which ends on the 31st of March.

Dr McMurray had been asked if the airfield was public or private land and she was advised by councillors that she could report back that it was private.

Mr Hewitt pointed out that the response time for the GNLP consultation would soon expire and the clerk was asked to submit a comment stating that the PC felt there were no suitable sites for development in the parish.

14 Any Other Matters

Mr Wakefield was concerned about encrypting his emails and it was agreed that for the moment it was sufficient to do the best possible..

15 Date of next Meeting

12th of April on Zoom