

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

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Summons to: All Parish Councillors

Copy: Cllr Weeks, SNDC, Cllr Spratt, NCC

Meeting of the Parish Council Monday 1st of July 2013 at 7.30 at Fersfield Church AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Declaration of Interests
- 3 To agree the minutes of the meeting of the 13th of May
- 4 Matters arising from the minutes
- 5 Report from County Councillor Spratt
- 6 Report from District Councillor Weeks
- 7 To co-opt two new Parish Councillors
- 8 Presentation from Charlotte Meeks of Bumbles
- 9 Highways
Fenners Farm
Footpaths
- 10 Correspondence
- 11 Planning
- 12 Finance
Donation to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service
- 13 Any Other Business
- 14 Date of next meeting

Mike Mortimer
Parish Clerk

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 1st of July 2013

The meeting opened at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors – Chair, Mr I Cattermole, Councillors, Mr R Hewitt, Mrs E Handy, Mrs L Pearce, Mr B Claybrook, Ms P Dowling and Mrs J Delasalle. Also present were County Councillor, Mr B Spratt, District Councillor, Mr K Weeks, four candidates for the vacant positions on the council, Charlotte Meek and the Clerk, Mike Mortimer.

1 Apologies

Jean Harvey and Debbie Gosman

2 Declaration Of Interests

None

3 To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th May 2013

The Minutes were agreed.

4 Matters arising from the minutes

Mr Claybrook reported that the proposed meeting with Mr Scales over the allotments had not taken place. As a representative of the Allotment Association was at the meeting it was decided to cover the matter during Mr Traynier's report.

5 Report from County Councillor Spratt

Mr Spratt commented on the loss of Mr Aves saying he had served the community tirelessly and that he would be sadly missed.

Mr Spratt explained that the County was now being run by a coalition and when asked by Mr Hewitt if it was being run by a portfolio or committee system Mr Spratt said that at the moment it was by cabinet but that a working body was examining the various alternatives. He also pointed out that things weren't helped by the loss of several leading figures.

6 Report from District Councillor Weeks

Mr Weeks reported that uncertainty about positions at the county level was having a knock-on effect for the district affecting the leader's options. He said that the council's finances were sound at the moment but that he believed there could be trouble ahead after 2015.

7 To co-opt two new Parish Councillors

The four candidates each gave a presentation. Linda Holly and Christopher Scott were selected following a vote. Mr Cattermole thanked them all for offering their services and expressed sadness that any had to be disappointed.

8 Presentation from Charlotte Meeks of Bumbles

Taking over the running of the toddlers group had been a daunting task she explained. At that time there were around five toddlers at the group she said. Presently there were around twelve parents and fifteen toddlers each week and that fund raising activities were being planned. Questions over CRB checks, insurance and future "Individual Security Assessments" were raised and Ms Meeks agreed to look into all the concerns though she was confident she had already made any necessary provision.

At this point Mr Cattermole had to leave the meeting and Mrs Delasalle (Vice Chair) took over as Chair

9 Highways

Mr Hewitt explained that with the changes at Norfolk County Council it was necessary to build new relationships to continue the progress that was being made before the elections. On the issue of hedges Mr Hewitt raised the prospect of advising Highways about property owners whose hedges were causing a problem. He explained that Highways would write to the owners saying that unless the hedges were cut Highways would do it and recover the cost from the property owner. Concern was expressed over those for whom circumstances made things difficult or impossible. The clerk offered to write to individuals reminding them of their responsibilities as a first step and several councillors suggested direct personal contact. The clerk was asked to write to Fenner's Farm about cars parked by the bend at the property. Regarding footpaths it transpired that the footpath warden and the farmer concerned had already agreed a meeting.

10 Correspondence

There was none.

11 Planning

A report was made available.

12 Finance

A report was made available. A donation of £150 to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service was agreed. Mr Hewitt proposed donations to the Allotment Association, Bumbles and the Fersfield Church heating fund. It was agreed that each should receive £200.

13 Any other business

Mr Traynier from the Allotment Association was at the meeting and gave an account of the Association's first annual meeting. The ongoing dispute between a Pipers Piece resident and allotment holders over noise had not been resolved and Mr Traynier wished to get the parish council's view on the matter. General opinion amongst councillors was that mowers, strimmers and other noisy machinery should be used only between 10am and 6pm at weekends though several councillors suggested allotment holders try to finish such activities as soon as possible after 10am especially on a Sunday.

Mr Traynier reported on the costs incurred by those allotment holders who had shouldered the work of making the allotments attractive to new tenants. Their success was illustrated by the fact that almost all the plots had now been taken. Mr Traynier asked if the council would reimburse those out of pocket, a total of around £500. It was agreed that the request be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

14 Date of next Meeting

2nd September 2013 at 7.30 in Fersfield Church.