

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

Clerk: Mike Mortimer, Lime Tree Farmhouse, Common Road, Shelfanger, Norfolk IP22 2DR

Tel: 01379 642763 email:bressingham.pc@tiscali.co.uk

Summons to: All Parish Councillors Copy: Cllr Weeks, SNDC, Cllr Spratt, NCC

Meeting of the Parish Council Monday 7th of March 2011 at 7.30 in the Village Hall

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Declaration of Interests
- 3 To agree the minutes of the meeting of the 10th January 2011
- 4 Matters arising from the minutes
- 5 Report from County Councillor Spratt
- 6 Report from District Councillor Weeks
- 7 Parish Plan Update
- 8 Highways
Damage to Highways
Rangers
Fersfield rally
- 9 Correspondence
- 10 Planning
To consider timetable for Parish/Public meetings regarding duck sheds at Fersfield
- 11 Finance
To consider funding of signs for new Homewatch scheme
- 12 Allotments
To consider the estimate for necessary work to the roadway
- 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 7th of March 2011

The meeting opened at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors - Chairman, Mr R Aves, Mr RW Bartrum, Mr D Craggs, Mrs S Craggs, Mr I Cattermole, Dr A Kinnear-King, Mr D Hodges, District Councillor Mr K Weeks and County Councillor Mr B Spratt.

Also present was Mrs J Harvey, several members of the public and the Clerk, Mike Mortimer.

1 Apologies for Absence

Mr N Morley, Mrs E Handy

2 Declaration Of Interests

None.

3 To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th of January 2011

The Minutes were agreed.

4 Matters arising from the Minutes

Mr Spratt was asked about the plans to devolve responsibility for maintenance of footpaths to Parish Councils. He was able to clarify the position saying that they were still the responsibility of the County Council but that it was in the process of working with Parish Councils that might choose to take on the role.

Dr Kinnear-King pointed out that footpaths across land owned by Hallsworth had not been reinstated following ploughing. The Clerk was asked to write to the manager of Hallsworth.

5 Report from County Councillor Spratt

Mr Spratt spoke about the plans for an incinerator near Kings Lynn. It was essential, he said, as the cost of burying rubbish was becoming excessive. He hoped Bressingham would support the proposal.

Mr Spratt was asked if he agreed the salaries of senior staff at the County Council were too high. Mr Spratt sympathised with the view but pointed out that the Chief Officer was taking over the responsibilities, at no extra cost, of his deputy who was leaving.

It was agreed that Mr Cattermole and the Clerk should prepare a letter for consideration at the next meeting, to Mr Spratt and the Chief Officer expressing the Parish's concern.

6 Report from District Councillor Weeks

Mr Weeks reported that the search for efficiencies was continuing. He brought to the attention of Councillors a fund amounting to £20,000 available for community energy saving initiatives. Mr Hodges wondered if provision of water on the allotments via a bore hole might be considered and the Clerk was asked to approach the District Council. Mr Hodges agreed to look into the costs. With regard to the salary of South Norfolk's Chief Executive Mr Weeks suggested writing to Mr Fuller, the Leader of the Council.

12**Allotments

The allotments item was moved up the agenda as a number of allotment holders had come to speak.

Mr Aves reported that he had received an estimate for the necessary work to the roadway of £1150. Several allotment holders offered their help in doing the work to cut the cost. Mr Aves thanked them for their offer but felt it was essential to get the job done quickly and professionally. A vote was taken and it was agreed by 3 to 1 that the contractor be asked to start as soon as possible.

A plan by the Allotment Association to recruit more allotment holders by distributing flyers at Blooms was presented and the Parish Council agreed.

7 Parish Plan Update

Mrs Craggs reported that the analysis of the results was continuing.

8 Highways

Mr Hodges reported rubbish dumped in Stone Lane. Though the Council had been informed on the Friday it was still there at the time of the meeting on Monday evening.

The Clerk reported on a scheme from Highways called Rangers regarding light maintenance of paths, drains, verges and so on. The Clerk had passed on to Mr Craggs the email advising when the Rangers would be in the area and Mr Craggs had provided a list to Highways. Mr Craggs reported that to date nothing had been done though the timescale for the work had not expired. It was agreed that in future the Clerk should circulate the details of the Rangers' planned visits.

Mr Hodges described a motor rally which travelled along Stone Lane as part of its route. He said he felt it quite wrong that a designated "Quiet Lane" should be used for the purpose. The Clerk reported that he was in touch with the police and was trying to establish the facts of the matter and if necessary would write to the organisers.

9 Correspondence

The Clerk read a letter from Perfitts regarding damage to the War Memorial with an estimate for repair and renovation. It was agreed that the estimate of £550 be accepted.

A letter from Mr Curson confirming his offer to repaint the village sign and an estimate of the cost of paint was distributed to Councillors and the offer was gratefully accepted.

10 Planning

A report was provided.

With regard to the duck shed proposal the Clerk reported that Hallsworth had agreed to attend a public meeting. When asked if he would support the Parish's objection to the plan Mr Weeks said it would be improper for him to comment before seeing the plan. A discussion on the form of a meeting followed and the clerk was asked to contact Hallsworth and arrange a Special Parish Meeting.

11 Finance

A report was provided.

It was agreed that an annual budget of £100 be established for Homewatch signs.

12 Any Other Business

The owner of the village shop had complained that the bottle bank outside the Village Hall was not emptied often enough. Mr Bartrum agreed to contact the recyclers.

13 Date of next meeting

9th of May 2011 – APCM

**** THE DATE OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 19th MAY****

Annual Parish Meeting - 19th April

The meeting ended at 9.45