

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 5th of September 2011 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 4th July 2011
- 4 Matters arising from the minutes
- 5 Report from County Councillor Spratt
- 6 Report from District Councillor Weeks
- 7 Highways
- 8 Correspondence
- 9 Planning
- 10 Finance
- Budget considerations for 2012/13
- 11 Allotments
- 12 Any Other Business
- 13 Date of next meeting

Mike Mortimer
Parish Clerk

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council**Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th of September 2011**

The meeting opened at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors - Chairman, Mr R Aves, Ms J Porter, Ms Pam Dowling, Mrs J Delasalle, Mr R Hewitt, Mr D Craggs, Mrs S Craggs and County Councillor Mr B Spratt.

Also present were Mrs J Harvey, the Clerk, Mike Mortimer, and one member of the public.

1 Apologies

Mrs L Handy, Mr I Cattermole and Mr K Weeks

2 Declaration Of Interests

None.

3 To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th of July 2011

The Minutes were agreed.

4 Matters arising from the minutes

Mr Aves apologised for not having arranged a meeting of the allotment committee though he had visited the allotments himself and expressed the view that they were a credit to most plot holders and that the situation was promising

5 Report from County Councillor Spratt

Mr Spratt explained that the youth centre in Diss had been saved from closure after a benefactor had made funds available to Diss Council to buy the site. He said that Norfolk CC had kept the price as low as possible to help the purchase and he called for volunteers to help run it. Mr Spratt referred to the forthcoming consultation on the Local Development Framework (LDF) and the possible payment to Parish Councils of a portion of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which would be paid by the builders of new houses. Mr Hewitt expressed concern that there seemed to be no formulae in place for determining how any funds should be distributed.

Mr Spratt reported that the concessionary fares policy had cost Norfolk CC three million pound and that the Council could not afford to carry it on.

Mrs Craggs asked about the incinerator at Kings Lynn and Mr Spratt expressed the view that it was essential. Mr Craggs disagreed believing that recycling was preferable to incinerating. Mr Spratt said that the County had tried the anaerobic digestion route and found it wanting. Mr Hewitt asked about EU legislation regarding unacceptable mercury levels created by the incinerator and the cost of dealing with them. Mr Spratt agreed it would be expensive but that there was no alternative.

Several Councillors commented on the state of the roads and the poor quality of repairs. Mr Spratt re-iterated the County's aim to have repaired all potholes by the end of September.

6 Report from Mr K Weeks

Mr Weeks sent his apologies

7 Highways

Mr Aves asked Mr Hewitt, who had raised the matter of potholes, if he would be prepared to meet Mr Overland of the Highways department and Mr Hewitt agreed.

8 Correspondence

The clerk read letters from South Norfolk regarding funding and from the people behind the Kings Lynn incinerator proposal. It was agreed that both letters should be circulated.

9 Planning

Mr Craggs expressed a view, echoed by others, that solar panels could disfigure some buildings. With regard to submissions on the LDF it was agreed that there should be a meeting to discuss the matter on the 26th of September.

10 Finance

A report was provided.

A discussion of the budget for 2012/13 followed. Given the healthy state of the PC's finances the use of some of its funds was considered. Mr Craggs pointed out that he had suggested in the past that maintenance and improvement of common parts of the villages would be desirable.

It was agreed that the Clerk should prepare a budget to present to the Council with zero increase in precept.

Mrs Craggs asked if the Toddlers Group was to be funded in the future as the original agreement had been for one year initially. The Clerk was asked to contact the organiser and ask for a progress and situation report.

11 Allotments

The Chair of the Allotment Association was present and expressed concern at the state of some of the allotments and the detrimental effect they had on neighbouring plots. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to all allotment holders reminding them of their responsibilities.

12 Any Other Business

Mrs Delasalle reported a traffic incident involving a large lorry in High Road and asked if anything could be done to limit the problem of heavy lorries. Several Councillors expressed similar concerns but no real solutions emerged.

Mrs Craggs asked if the Parish or District Council had any facility for archiving material built up during the development of the Parish Plan, The Clerk agreed to look into it.

Mr Hewitt informed Councillors that there was to be a meeting the following evening concerning pressure on PCCs to sell land for sustainable development and that views would be welcomed.

Several Councillors commented on the success of the flower show and Mr Hewitt proposed that the Clerk should write to the organiser with the Council's thanks and congratulations.

13 Date of next meeting

7th of November 2011 to be held at the Village Hall.

(26th September for discussion of LDF)

The meeting ended at 9.20