

**Fritwell Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
following the Parish Council AGM in the Village Hall (8.15pm)**

**MINUTES**

Fritwell PC: Councillors Foster (in the chair), Barlow and Ultsch. Clerk.

Public: Gill Simmonds, Rob Aunins, Christine Denton, Colin Smith, Jenny Paviour, Jo Beeney, Marc Beeney, Ian Glendinning, Glynis Lowdon, Helen Metcalfe, Jenny Lyon, Clive Shellard.

1) Apologies

Apologies were received by Cllr Stillgoe and Cllr Rooth

2) Minutes of the AGM held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017

These were read, agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

3) Matters arising from the minutes

A member of the public asked about the Parish Council's reserves relative to the precept amount. These seem high. Cllr Foster explained that the PC has been accruing some reserves in order to undertake one or more special projects for the village within the next year and that these were to be discussed later in the meeting.

It was noted that the fence surrounding the pond at the junction of East Street and North Street was often covered in unsightly and permanent-looking notices affixed with bolts. Cllr Foster suggested that the PC might consider an official policy on putting notices on the fence, especially since we are likely to have a new, smart fence this year. Measures such as village-only notices, time limits, and an official noticeboard to be erected nearby were discussed.

4) Public Participation in the Village – Parish Improvement Projects

- a. Rob Aunins – who has been studying the data from the VAS signs located in Fewcott Road and East Street – asked what the PC would like to show with the data. Tidal flows, numbers of speeders, total numbers of vehicles, changes in speeds over time, were all mentioned. It was noted that if we can show that the Heyford Park development has caused an increase in traffic, or an increase in speeders in Fritwell, it is likely that we can obtain some funding for mitigation such as traffic calming measures.

It was proposed that a draft report be available at the September meeting for the PC to consider – Mr Aunins agreed.

- b. Jenny Lyon updated the meeting about her proposal for a Cycle Pump Track on the section of former Thames Water land at the back of the Playing Field. In particular it was noted that the land would need to be valued, purchased, funding obtained (since the total project cost would be beyond the PC budget), and in particular the insurance risk and maintenance costs. Cllr. Foster suggested that JL should consult with the Playing Fields Committee about the proposal.
- c. A wildlife/nature area of some sort on the same piece of land was briefing mentioned
- d. It was mentioned by a number of people that some sort of recreation facility for older children be considered.

- e. The piece of land on the south side of the bridleway that goes past the playing field was discussed briefly. Cllr Ultsch understands that it belongs to the County Council. There was a query about the possibility of it being sold to the village.
- f. The proposal of improvement work to the playing field car park and entranceway was discussed. Cllr Foster pointed out that she hopes Skanska Ltd (contractors for the pond work) will be providing some volunteer work to do improvements to this area, and that it is possible no further work will be needed once they have finished.
- g. Church Way was discussed. The Parochial Church Council has proposed that improvements be made to this road. It is likely that, in addition to the gravel or hard-core mentioned in the PCC letter, drainage work and verge reconstruction will be needed.
- h. Pond Repair / Improvements were discussed at length. Whilst the contractor will be repairing and rebuilding the road beside the pond, and providing us with fencing around the pond and a gate for ease of access, it is likely that any additional work, such as landscaping and planting, will need to be paid for by the PC, as will future maintenance. *ACTION: Parish Council to form Working Group and invite interested villagers – clerk to put note in 3 Parishes Magazine.*
- i. The provision of allotments for the village was suggested. The location of these was debated. The Clerk explained the regulations regarding the provision of allotments in the event of a request from the public.
- j. Cllr Barlow asked how decisions would be made about which of the project proposals would be chosen. Cllr Foster suggested putting an article in the 3 Parishes Magazine. She explained that what we are after is a “shopping list” of proposals so that we have a good idea of what villagers want us to work on, for planning and budgeting purposes in future. It is hoped that more than one of the proposals can go ahead, and indeed that, over time, many of them can be implemented.

Other special project suggestions that have been suggested in earlier meetings are listed here for completeness:

- Traffic calming measures
- Upgraded VAS signs – connected to the power supply for example to save batteries
- Central feature in the cemetery with tree and seating, and a memorial garden or similar
- A community transport project

## 5) Any Other Business

- a. There was a question about the closure of North Street for the pond works. Was East Street likely to close at any point, and was there going to be pedestrian access to North Street? Cllr Foster was able to confirm that it is highly unlikely that East Street would be closed, and that there would be pedestrian access to North Street at all times.
- b. Helen Metcalfe thanked all the parish councillors for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm