

**Minutes of the Meeting of Freethorpe Parish Council held
on Monday 18th July 2022 at 7.00pm at Freethorpe Village Hall**

Present: Nick Spencer (NS, Chair), David Lake (DL, Vice-Chair),
Paul Bacon (PB), Michael Blake (MB), Janet Church (JC),
Grant Nurden (GN, also District Councillor), Andrew Moll (AM, Parish Clerk)
Also present: John Fleetwood (JF, Tree Warden),
Lana Hemsall (LH, County Councillor, item 2a only) and 1 member of the public

1. Apologies

Andrea Rowlands (AR, Tree Warden).

2. Public Forum

a) County Councillor Report

Note that this item was dealt with after item 10a. LH was pleased to be supporting and funding road safety improvements in the parish and would also like to support an electric vehicle charging point. She updated on the cost increase from £190m to £254m for the proposed Norwich Western Link. PB raised a concern that Highways pothole fillings are deteriorating quickly. JC noted this at Halvergate Road. LH suggested raising concern with Highways. She will support them if needed if the contractor is not fulfilling quality obligations. Item 11 refers.

b) District Councillor Report

GN reported on the Local Government Association peer review of the district council and its positive outcome. He also advised of the roll-out of food recycling at the gate, with caddies being delivered from September. DL asked for re-assurance that the food waste is being processed affordably.

c) Tree Wardens Report

JF gave an update on the stand at the Royal Norfolk Show, also reporting on the work on the Sentinel project at Burlingham Wood and efforts to obtain biodegradable tree guards. Concerns that environmental conditions for developments are not being enforced will be raised further with the District Council, GN's suggestion being request for inclusion at a Town and Parish Forum.

ACTION AM

d) Public Items

No items were raised.

3. Declarations of Interest for items on the agenda

As a substitute member of Broadland District Council's Planning Committee, GN is unable to discuss planning applications under agenda item 9. There were no other declarations.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th June 2022

The minutes were **agreed** as an accurate record and were duly signed by NS as Chair.

5. Matters arising from the previous meeting

a) (2a) Write to LH (AM) – done.

b) (2d) Report broken sign Old Chapel Road (AM) – done.

c) (5d) Contact Ian Moncur and Shaun Vincent about checking on developer planning conditions (JF) – JF advised that he had received no reply but a senior officer had informed him that conditions are not enforced. GN suggested that this should be raised at Town & Parish Council Forum.

ACTION AM

d) (5f) Highways advice on Reedham Road safety (AM) – item 10a refers.

e) (8b) Advertise dog fouling posters (AM) – done.

f) (8f) Write to resident regarding Halvergate Road closure (AM) – done.

- g) (9) Register response to planning applications 20220838, 20220852 and 20220923 (AM) – done.
- h) (10d) Allotments – assessment of alternative sites (AM/AR) – item 10d refers.
- i) (10f) Parish Nature Survey (AM) – item 10f refers.
- j) (11b) Order extra 'no dogs' signs for Freethorpe Playing Field (AM) – done.
- k) (11c) Report potholes on Halvergate Road; chase Old Chapel Road (AM) – done, item 11a refers.
- l) Other matters arising – none.

6. Clerk's Report

All items are covered on the agenda.

7. Finance

a) Monthly Financial Update

AM advised the summary **forecast** financial position for 2022/23 as follows:

Income	£22,751.03
Operational Expenditure	-£16954.16
Earmarked Reserves Expenditure	-£4161.81
VAT expenditure to be reclaimed	-£2000.00
Contingency Reserves	-£13966.21

Current Bank balance, including deposit account £23,452.53

b) Payments - it was **agreed** to make the following payments:

Ref	Payee	Description	Amount (£)
1	Andrew Moll	Salary for June 2022	169.13
2	Andrew Moll	Administration Expenses – postage	1.63
3	HMRC	PAYE	42.40
4	The Sign Shed	Invoice SHED739025 VAT 5.50 Date 05/07/2022 'No dogs' signs for Freethorpe Playing Field.	33.00
5	Countrystyle Recycling Ltd.	Invoice INV312535 VAT 4.20 Date 30/06/2022 Emptying of bottle banks 05/05/2022 1.4 tonnes	25.20

8. Correspondence

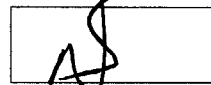
- a) Beech trees at Wickhampton Church – AM had received advice from NALC that Parish Council was not allowed to provide financial support towards tree surgery costs. JF agreed to follow up with the Broads Authority.
- b) Broadsheet newsletter was noted.
- c) Western Link update was noted.
- d) Invitation to NALC session on flooding mitigations was noted.
- e) NALC well-being update - making the most of nature - was noted.
- f) Community At Heart awards – nominations by 12/09/22 - was noted.
- g) Parish Partnership bids 2023/24 – by 09/12/22 - was noted.
- h) Rural Services Network update was noted.
- i) Norfolk Community Foundation update was noted.

9. Planning

a) New Applications

None.

Chair's initials



b) Decisions
None.

c) Enforcements – one open enforcement was discussed. Item 10i refers.

10. Update on Ongoing Matters and Projects

a) Speed Management

The new location near the shop, facing Acle showed 85th percentile speeds of 29.0mph and a maximum of 45mph. Of 23,647 vehicles, 1,541 broke the speed limit. When the machine was turned to face Reedham 85th percentile speeds were 30.3mph and a maximum speed of 60mph. Of 31,349 vehicles, 4,991 broke the speed limit. The second SAM machine was back at Chapelfield electricity substation facing Southwood. Volumes were up slightly to 23647. 85th percentile speed was down slightly from 33.6 to 33.2mph. However 7,036 vehicles exceeded the speed limit. With the machine turned to face the direction of the Rampant Horse, volumes in that period were lower, at 19,848 vehicles. 85th percentile speed was also 33.2mph. However, 4,991 vehicles exceeded the speed limit. PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY. A decision paper was presented on further actions to address the excessive speeds coming in on the Reedham Road approaching a dangerous junction, Highways have proposed additional 30mph signs on Reedham Road near the MUGA. They will also put up timed flashing 'School' signs on Reedham Road and the Green to encourage drivers to drive carefully around the Blacksmith's Shop junction. Funding for the school signs will come from LH's road safety budget. Item 2a above refers. NCC will also fund the additional 30mph signs. DL queried whether the additional 30mph signs would make people think the speed limit started there. AM to raise with Highways for advice. Notwithstanding this, Parish Council approved and welcomed the additional measures.

ACTION AM

b) New benches at Wickhampton and Freethorpe

With the installation of the seat at Palmers Lane, Parish Council **agreed** that this project, using earmarked reserves, is now complete. JC observed that the seat was already enjoying good use.

c) Play Area Inspections

No new or urgent issues have been identified in inspections. Feedback is awaited from supplier of surfacing for Freethorpe. Parish Council received a decision paper on replacing the broken wooden bench at Wickhampton and **agreed** to proceed with the cheapest quote, funded from Play Area Maintenance budget. Bench length to be confirmed with Wickhampton Play Area Committee.

ACTION AM

d) Allotments

AM and AR have met at the site on Mill Road and agreed that it is feasible. AM to check with landowner whether the Parish Council proposal would work for him at that site. If so, then residents will be consulted further as to their interest and support.

ACTION AM

e) Freethorpe Village Sign

Awaiting work to clean and re-paint.

f) Parish Nature Plan

Parish Council noted that the garden survey has been distributed to 400 homes and some feedback received. The school have also been engaged. Feedback to Parish Council in September.

g) Grounds Maintenance

A decision paper was discussed, containing the costs for additional services previously agreed, namely regular maintenance at front of Freethorpe Village Hall, Pavillion and bank beside bowls green. A further quote had been provided for a one-off clearance around poplar trees to discourage the hornet clearwing moth. It was unanimously agreed to accept both quotations.

ACTION AM

h) Tree Surgery at Freethorpe Playing Field

Chair's initials



Parish Council noted that David Grint, on behalf of the football club, has kindly sought three quotes to carry out the work in the report produced by JF and AR. JF reported on his meeting with David to give advice and confirm requirements. Parish Council reiterated that the work must be done to the professional standards required in JF and AR's report. To which end it was **agreed** to ask JF and AR to provide assurance of any quotation, in order to ensure that no work is carried out which creates future risks, costs or undue liabilities for the Parish Council.

i) Rampant Horse

Parish Council noted the good progress being made by those establishing community interest in the village pub, the Rampant Horse.

j) Electronic Vehicle Charging Point

AM and JC are meeting the contractor and NCC Project Manager at the Village Hall in July to establish options and feasibility. **ACTION AM/JC**

11. Other Matters

- a) Highways log – Parish Council reviewed the list of calls logged with Highways. The good work of Highways in carrying out maintenance and repairs was noted. DL asked that one particular pothole, which hasn't been fixed, in Old Chapel Road, be escalated as a priority 1. The durability of the fillings is also to be queried with Highways. **ACTION AM**

12. Reports from Parish Councillors and items for next agenda

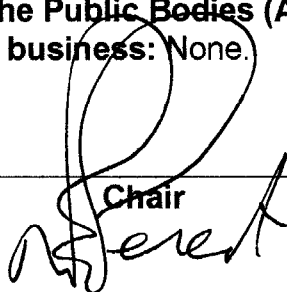
None.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 19th September 2022 at 7:00pm at Freethorpe Village Hall.

14. Exclusion of the Press and Public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to consider the following item of business: None.

The meeting closed at 8:20 pm.

Signed after approval by the Parish Council as being a true and accurate record by the Chair of the meeting or authorised deputy	Chair  Nick Spencer	Date 26/9/22
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