

The Parish Council Meeting of Fritcham cum Appleton Parish Council
Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 7:45 p.m.
at the Community Centre, Fritcham

In Attendance: Geoff Kilham Richard Gray
Ann Beasley Terry Allen
Roger Glazebrook
Gill Welham (Clerk)

6 members of the public were also present.

07.09.01 Welcome from chairman

The Chairman welcomed all present and thanked them for attending

07.09.02 To receive and consider apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Robert Walden and Cllr Moriarty

07.09.03 To receive declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

07.09.04 To approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th July 2021.

The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

It was noted the minutes had an incorrect date which was amended by hand. The Clerk agreed to amend the minutes shown on the website. **Action: Clerk**

07.09.05 Matters arising from the minutes

06.07.15 The meeting with Land Agent, Edward Parsons had been very affable. G Kilham had put forward a proposal regarding a circular walking route which EP thought might be possible, however the decision was not his to make and he would go back to the family to seek their decision. RWalden had mentioned the agreement with Castle Rising involving permits which EP appeared to regard as reasonable. A response was expected in due course, however if this was not forthcoming before the November meeting, the Clerk was asked to chase. **Action: Clerk**

06.07.13 The Clerk had been asked to contact Highways concerning the condition of the path through to Hillington. Highways had responded that the work was scheduled to be carried out within the next 6 to 8 weeks. It appeared the edge of the path had been sprayed with weed killer as the grass etc had died back but it didn't particularly ease the access of the pathway. The Rangers were due to visit in August so it was unclear whether the spraying had been undertaken by the Rangers or whether the path clearance team had carried out a very poor job. **Action: Clerk** to bring forward to next meeting.

07.09.06 Member of the Public Prepared Statement

The statement from NFuller had been circulated prior to the meeting. She stated there was nothing further to add. Her statement had been compiled following her request in the village Newsletter for parishioners comments on the situation. From her personal point of view she felt no consideration had been given to the elderly of the village with regard to the complicated paperwork it might incur.

The Chairman responded that this decision was just the start of a process. It would be a democratic process which would include the opportunity for every household to comment on the proposed changes. Not just those that vociferously rejected it.

NF felt that before the PC undertook such a move the councillors should have gone to every property to consult with the householders face to face. However, the Chairman felt that with all the information having been sent out in such ways as the Newsletter and on the PC website, the councillors had been keeping everyone informed. He again reiterated that this was just the very start of the process and everyone would have the chance to comment when the matter was passed to the Borough Council.

Public question time

The members of the public attending were not in favour of the proposal and the lengthy discussions made no progress other than to continue in a negative vein.

NFuller did ask to become a councillor to fill the current vacancy. The Clerk agreed to forward all the information necessary in order for this to go forward for voting at the next PC meeting in November. **Action: Clerk**

As too much time had been taken up with the Public Questions, the Chairman decided to move on to item 7 on the Agenda.

07.09.07 Village Re-numbering – decision

The Chairman invited RGray to vote regarding taking the process to the next stage. RG made the following statement:

I cannot support the Borough and Flitcham Council proposed Village numbering model:

For two reasons – One, in introducing more consecutive and identical numbers near the hub of the village along either side of the B1153 will heighten further issues, and I believe will raise additional health & Safety problems with vehicular movements on this busy road

Reason Two – I feel we, as a council, have not done enough to explore the original issue. The report by the working party should have been acted on even if it brought about a temporary solution to the issue, to date this has not been resolved and we are nearly a year around. Shocking.

A total renumbering and address change should be the last resort and when all other means have been exhausted, and then will need to be much improved, better than the one we have, or left well alone.

RGlazebrook refused to vote on the matter as he felt he had insufficient information regarding the process. He would not abstain. He was extremely unhappy with the clause regarding a non vote from a resident which would ultimately be deemed a YES vote. In his opinion this was unlawful. This needed clarification. The Clerk was asked to revert back to the BC to get this matter reviewed. **Action: Clerk**

He also pointed out it was a legal requirement that all streets and houses should have a clear house number sign or house name, enforceable by local councils. This should be pointed out clearly in the next Newsletter and the Parish Council should encourage those properties that do not have clear and visible signage to comply. **Action: for the Newsletter**

The Chairman was keen to continue with the vote but following discussion with the remaining councillors it was agreed that it would be more appropriate to reconvene a further meeting to decide a way forward.

07.09.08 Reports from the councillors of NCC and BCKL&WN

Cllr Moriarty had sent his apologies however he did state there was little to report as August is traditionally a quiet month at the Borough and the next Full Council would be held Thursday 9th September. There was nothing to add to the update the PC received last Friday from the Borough Comms team which the Clerk forwarded to Councillors, this contained useful information for those wishing to help with Afghan refugees.

Parish Councillors Reports

There was nothing to report from the Parish Councillors.

07.09.09 Income & Expenditure/Financial Report

a) Cheques for approval at this meeting

569 Clerk's Salary & Expenses (Gill Welham)	£182.45
570 HMRC (Clerk Tax)	£41.20
571 Cllr T Allen (Newsletter costs)	£95.44
572 Fenland Leisure Ltd (Playground maint)	£1,497.14
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Total Expenditure	£1,816.23
Balance in current account	£4,374.05
Balance in business saver account	£364.15
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Total balance remaining	£4,738.20

b) **Review of Standing Orders**

The prepared Standing Orders had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Following discussion the Standing Orders were accepted and signed off by the Chairman.

The USB Memory Stick was exchanged for safe keeping by the Chairman as per the Internal Financial Controls procedures.

07.09.10 Playground Maintenance update

TA had prepared a report prior to the meeting having inspected the Playground. The work carried out by Fenland Leisure had been completed and was a significant and cost effective improvement to the safety of the equipment. He would source and purchase No Dogs Allowed signs as they needed replacing. **Action: TAllen**

A suitable waste bin with lid also needs to be sourced as without a lid the bin becomes filled with water. All the wood structures require painting with wood preservative.

Community Action Norfolk have an online training course specifically for Play Area Inspection at a cost of £25. TAllen was willing to undertake the course to be held on 10th November. It was agreed that the PC would fund the course. **Action: Clerk to book**

07.09.11 Maintenance of Village Sign

It was unfortunate that RWalden was unable to attend the meeting as this was his Agenda item. He had sent information prior to the meeting. The sign was currently hidden due to the hedge surrounding it. RGray offered to speak to the tenants of the property who are responsible for maintaining the hedge and to request they cut the hedge back. **Action: RGray**

All agreed that the sign was in need of repainting and that a tele-porter would need to be used to remove the structure in order that work could be undertaken on the sign. It was agreed that RWalden should proceed with organising the removal and to liaise with councillors to give assistance where needed. **Action: RWalden**

07.09.12 Dog Fouling

TA made a proposal that a dog bin be reinstated in Abbey Road near the 30 mph sign. He was aware that this had been removed due to the cost incurred by the PC, but the mess that was now being observed needed to be addressed. It was pointed out that dog waste can be placed in general household waste bins; hence the bin was removed as it was deemed an unnecessary cost. However, the reality is that dog waste is not being taken home. It was noted that a waste bin was stored at the rear of the Community Centre and it was agreed that this would be replaced in Abbey Road. If the Borough start to empty the bin and charge the PC, then it would be accepted as a necessity for the appearance of the village. **Action: TAllen**

07.09.13 Norfolk ALC – A Perfect Storm

Information regarding the pipe laying across Norfolk to assist with the wind farms etc had been circulated. Norfolk ALC are requesting support of their campaign to control the damage. It was agreed that the Parish Council would send an email in support of their campaign. **Action: Clerk**

07.09.14 Correspondence

- ~ Norfolk ALC (A Perfect Storm)
- ~ Norfolk Coast AONB (Dark Skies)
- ~ The Circuit (Defibrillator Status update)

07.09.15 Business Extra to the Agenda

GKilham had carried out a Defibrillator check and all was in order, however the questionnaire asks if the thermostat is set at the correct temperature (as per manufacturer's guidelines). GK was unable to answer. RGray agreed to investigate. **Action: RGray**

TAllen asked for an item be placed on the next Agenda – Speed limits. He feels the speed limit needs to be reduced in Abbey Road and the boundaries extended. **Action: Clerk**

RGlazebrook suggested Councillors make an effort to persuade villagers to place clear numbering and house names on their properties.

07.09.16 Date of next meeting: Tuesday 2nd November 2021 at 7:45 pm

07.09.15 Action to be taken by the next meeting:

Clerk

- Change date of minutes displayed on website
- Send councillor information to NFuller
- Ensure response received from Sandringham
- Ensure footpath to Hillington on next Agenda
- Clarify with BC regarding the No Vote
- Book TA onto course
- Write to ALC – Perfect Storm

R Gray

- Speak to tenant re hedge trimming
- Check thermostat status on defib

R Walden

- Liaise with councillors re work on village sign

T Allen

- Purchase playground notices
- Place Dog Bin

Action for Newsletter

- Write article regarding house numbers/names

Items for next Agenda

- Footpath to Hillington
- Speed Limits

07.09.16 The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.