

# Frithestock Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008 (Ref: 2008/JUL)

8:00pm Frithestock Village Hall

Present: Mackie Poole, Roger Hunkin (late arrival), Andrew Heard, Heath Pettifer, Chris Ward, Di Beer (Clerk)

In Attendance: PCSO Melissa Baker, Richard Joseph, John Vickery

1. Welcome – Mackie welcomed all to the meeting
2. Apologies – Michael Baker, Josie Pomeroy, Hugo Barton, Phil Pennington
3. Opportunity for members of the public to speak
  - 3.1. Melissa Baker – There have been no reported crimes in the Parish in the last 45 days. 1 log of a vehicle on fire at Watergate. She warned all to beware of metal / fuel thefts, and to be vigilant. She announced two events at which people could chat to the Police:
    - 3.1.1. 16/07/08 Community Fun Day at Winkleigh Sports Centre
    - 3.1.2. 06/08/08 Stand at the North Devon Show (by the main ring)
  - 3.2. John Vickery – advised Melissa of a couple of incidents where youngsters have been doing handbrake turns on the Playing Field. He also gave a report on the installation of the new equipment in the field, and thanked everyone for their help in the installation (especially newcomers to the village). A request was made for warning signs near the playing field
4. Minutes of Meetings, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008 - unanimously agreed as true, and signed as such
5. Matters Arising
  - 5.1. Recycling Pavilion – Mackie had been approached a number of times by the Playing Field Committee wishing to re-locate the pavilion to the field. Chris Ward proposed, and Heath Pettifer seconded that it should be donated to the Playing Field. All were in agreement.
  - 5.2. Mill Lane (22/04/08 – *Item 4.2* / 06/05/08 – *Item 6.2*) – no progress
  - 5.3. Clerk's Stationery (06/05/08 – *Item 6.5*) some items had been purchased (see Finance)
  - 5.4. Land Registry (06/05/08 – *Item 7.2*) – Clerk to contact Alison Widdecombe to arrange an appointment to define the boundaries of the village green. The necessary landowners will be advised of the meeting. Suggested that the area inside the village green stones should be registered. A letter had been received from Stones Solicitors (Okehampton) offering their professional services in the registration process
  - 5.5. Internal Audit – Di Beer reported that the Internal Audit had been carried out, with no issues being raised. The annual return was approved by Chris, and seconded by Roger – all in agreement. The return was signed as necessary to be returned to the Audit Commission.  
(Roger Hunkin arrived)
  - 5.6. BT Kiosk (06/05/08 – *Item 7.9*) - an acknowledgement to the council's objection had been received, but nothing since. It was considered that the kiosk would benefit from a clean.
  - 5.7. Six-Acre Cottage (1/0422/2008/FUL ) / 3,Hele Lane (1/0450/2008/FUL ) Notification of approval had been received for both.
6. Election of Councillors / Officers
  - 6.1. Chair - Mackie Poole (proposed by Roger, seconded by Andrew)
  - 6.2. Vice-Chair - Roger Hunkin (proposed by Chris, seconded by Andrew)
  - 6.3. Clerk - Di Beer (proposed by Mackie)All approved.  
Mackie thought that the Clerk's wages should be increased from the current rate of £450/yr. It was proposed and seconded that they should be increased to £550/yr as from April 2009.
7. Correspondence
  - 7.1. HSBC (Higher interest account) – HSBC had advised that the Parish Council should consider opening a 'Business Manager' account to earn interest. It was proposed by Chris that if such an account be opened a balance of £500 be kept in the current account, with all else being in the instant access higher interest account. Seconded by Andrew. Approved.

- 7.2. Postwatch (Post Office Closures) – Clerk to write objecting to the proposed closure of rural post offices. The closing date for consultation had passed, but Clerk agreed to email an objection anyway
- 7.3. James Morrish / North Devon Council (Local Government Review) – Letters from both, and a publication was passed around councillors. Mackie asked anyone wishing to respond to do so individually.
- 7.4. HMRC (VAT status & claim form) – FPC is not VAT registered, VAT can be claimed back using a VAT126 form. Di voiced her concerns over the proposed claiming of VAT for the playing field equipment recently purchased.
- 7.5. DAPC (Training Course) – details of a future course were passed around
- 7.6. Village Green publication – A website for Devon village halls is advertised. Di had seen that FVH is not currently on the site. Di to contact Chairman of the Village Hall
- 7.7. TDC (Affordable Housing) – Mackie and Andrew reported on the Rural Housing Trust event at Merton Village Hall. A Guide to Developing Affordable Housing in a Rural Community leaflet was made available to view
- 7.8. DCC (Digital TV Switchover Roadshows) - notification of the nearest one at the Town Centre – Bideford – 15/07/08
- 8. Finance (Ref:2008/JUL/01)
  - 8.1. Balance at 11/06/08 - £4,175.76 (see attached accounts)
  - 8.2. Payments to be made –
 

Di Beer (office equipment)	£35.42
Lappset (FPPF equipment)	£11,750.01*
K Abraham (internal audit)	£28.00
S Adams (Wreath – 2007)	£16.50

All approved (proposed by Roger, seconded by Heath)

  - 8.3. Payments received - Playing Field Committee £10,000\*

\* No action yet to be taken until VAT situation clarified
- 9. Any Other Business
  - 9.1. Tomb-stoning – Chris Ham has been approached by Tarka Trail (TT) wardens as people are ‘Tomb-Stoning’ by the weir. TT say that Mr Ham is responsible as once the leave the bridge people are no longer the responsibility of the TT. Mackie has spoken to Phil Pennington who is going to look into the situation. Mackie also to contact Hugo Barton to discuss
  - 9.2. Phone call to Chairman – Mackie received a phone call from a parishioner who was upset that the death of a village resident had not been announced in The Prior. The general feeling was that it has not been done in the past, and that it is not necessary to start it now. It had also been suggested that newcomers to the village should be referred to as ‘Mr... & Mrs...’ as opposed to first names. Chris informed all that the information that he puts in The Prior is as it is passed to him
- 10. Planning
  - 10.1. Horwood Barton (Mr S Beer) – Agricultural Determination (1/0600/2008/AGR) – Erection of a Feed Store - this application was granted by TDC
  - 10.2. Holly Tree, Tythecott Lane (Mr J Screech) (1/0639/2008/FUL) – Removal of conservatory, extension and alteration to house, erection of garage. No objections were raised.
- 11. Date of next meeting: Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2008 – 8:00pm Frithelstock Village Hall

Meeting closed – 21:30

Signed as True: .....  
(Chairman)

Date: .....