

Frithestock Parish Council

Minutes of 7th Combined Annual Meeting for Parish Council, Village Hall & Playing Field Tuesday 21st April 2009 - 7:30pm Frithestock Village Hall

Councillors Present: Mr M Poole (Chairman), Mr R Hunkin (vice-chairman), Mr A Heard, Mr H Pettifer, Mr C Ward,

In Attendance: Mrs D Beer (Clerk), Mrs L Ball, Cllr Barton, Mr S Beer, Mr L Billig, Mr D Debnam, Mrs S Debnam, Mr M Goldman, Mrs M Goldman, Mrs J Hearn, Mr S Hunkin, Mr R Joseph, Mr J Miles, Mrs M Pearce, Cllr Pennington, Mr A Poole, Mrs M Poole, Mr D Raymont, Mr G Riddell, PC Rowlands (Neighbourhood Beat Manager), Miss J Seaman, Mrs J Short, Mr M Stokes, Mr J Vickery, Mrs K Warrington, Mrs S Weeks.

1. Welcome: Mr Poole welcomed all to the meeting
2. Apologies: Received from Mr M Baker, Mr G Ball, Mrs E Brown, Mr M Hearn, Mrs J Pomeroy, Mr M Short, and Mr T Warrington.
3. Crime Report – PC Dick Rowlands (Neighbourhood Beat Manager – Torrington Rural Community) gave an interesting and informative talk. Frithestock has one of the least numbers of crimes in the area. The total reported crimes in the past 12 months were 8 – the same as the previous year. He gave contact details for police, both national and local tel numbers, and via the ‘web’ – these are already on the parish website. He explained how a driver should always find somewhere safe to pull in if a police car is trying to pass or to stop them. PC Rowlands spoke of the usefulness of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, and the importance of the system of ‘Community Messaging’. Mrs Warrington raised the issue of car speed through Frithestockstone – PC Rowlands acknowledged that this is being targeted in the form of new 30mph signs and near future speed enforcement work. The chairman thanked PC Rowlands for attending and sharing his information and advice.
4. Minutes of Annual Meeting Tuesday 22nd April 2008 – these were read out & signed as true.
5. Matters Arising (Mr Poole)
 - 5.1. The recycling pavilion had been donated to the playing field and is now situated there.
 - 5.2. Rakeham Hill garages – a private land owner had tried to negotiate with the owners, but this has reached a stale-mate.
 - 5.3. Travellers’ sites – Cllr Pennington informed that the number of sites to be found remains the same (24 residential + 5 transit) – 8 residential are probably to be in the Holsworthy area.
6. Parish Council Financial Report – Copies of the accounts were circulated. There are now two bank accounts, with balances at year end of £1,962.11 & £15.92 (minute ref 2009/1). Total income was recorded at £7,648.69 with total expenses of £9,451.92. The Precept for the year was £2,500. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Mrs Goldman, seconded by Mr Heard.
7. Village Hall AGM – this was conducted by Mrs Goldman, Mrs Warrington & Mr Billig. Work had started on phase I of improvements in January & was completed on schedule towards the end of March. Mr Billig gave a detailed financial report. Mrs Warrington retires as minute secretary – to be replaced by Fiona Bridges. All other committee members / officers were re-elected. Mackie Poole thanked Mrs Goldman for her hard work in the past year, and presented her with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the parish.
8. Entertainment’s Committee Report – Mr S Hunkin reported a busy and successful year. Events organised included a Safari Lunch, a bike ride followed by BBQ, ‘Ring of Fire’ theme evening in the hall, Bonfire and firework evening and the annual Christmas Fun Night. He finished his report by thanking everyone for their continued support.

9. Playing Field AGM – was conducted by Mr Vickery and Mr Goldman. A quieter year was reported. Mr Vickery thanked all the volunteers who had helped to install the fitness equipment and gazebo. The aim is still to get a water supply to the field, but funds are needed to be raised first. Mrs Chanter & Mrs Giles-Larkin had come off the committee –all others were re-elected. Mr Poole thanked the committee and commented that the field seems to get used frequently.
10. Poorlands Charity – Mr Poole informed all that the initial fund is almost depleted, and that the parish council would be using part of the future precepts to pay a grant to the charity.
2008 – Bank balance £40.67, Distribution £39.00, Annual income 2009 £18.00
11. 50 Club Report – Mrs Hearn gave a report on the 50 Club. Last year there were 81 members at the start, decreasing to 78. £970.00 had been given out in prizes, with a further £974.00 being given to the Village Hall.
12. Chairman's report
 - 12.1. BT has agreed to sell the Telephone Kiosk at the end of Hele Lane to the Parish Council for a fee of £1.00 – now waiting for TDC to approve the removal of the service.
 - 12.2. There is an ongoing battle to try to get a 30mph speed limit through Frithelstock, especially important when the A386 is shut and traffic is diverted through the village.
 - 12.3. Foolish people had been 'tomb-stoning' off the bridge at Beam Weir – Mr Ham had been informed that he would be held responsible if someone were to injure themselves. The parish council had got involved and the outcome was a letter from the County Solicitor reassuring Mr Ham that the responsibility would not lie with him.
 - 12.4. Best Kept Village competition – Frithelstock were Runners up in 2008, an excellent achievement – a date is to be set to tidy up in preparation for this year's competition.
 - 12.5. Footpath to Village Hall – it is a dangerous walk from the village to the village hall – a petition of 100 signatures, collected by Mrs M Poole, was passed to Cllr Barton to request that something be done to provide a footpath. Cllr Barton was happy to receive this.
 - 12.6. Parish Plan – a team of villagers (to date Ms Seaman, Mrs Hearn, Mrs M Poole, Mr Raymont & Mr R Hunkin) have agreed to work on this – a meeting has been arranged for Monday 27th April with Alison Boyd.

The chairman finished his report by thanking the Parish Council and the Clerk. He thanked all for attending and supporting the meeting.
13. Any Other Business:
 - 13.1. Cllr Barton commented on the speeding problem through Frithelstock - a sub-committee is looking at, and it is hoped that a 30mph speed limit through the village may be achieved.
 - 13.2. Mr Pearce reported a problem of sewage seeping from a drain in Hele Lane, and her progress to date with her complaints. Cllrs Barton and Pennington took note.
 - 13.3. Mr R Hunkin thanked the Chairman for all that he has done in the last year.
14. Date of Next Meeting : Tuesday 20th April 2010, 7.30pm Frithelstock Village Hall

The meeting closed at 21:15hrs

Signed as a true record:

Date:

(Chairman)