

Frithestock Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting 5th May 2009 – 8.00pm – Frithestock Village Hall
(Ref: 2009/MAY)

Present:

*	Mr. M Poole (Chairman)	*	Mr. H Pettifer
*	Mr. R Hunkin (Vice-Chairman)	*	Mrs. J Pomeroy
*	Mr. M Baker		Mr. C Ward
*	Mr. A Heard	*	Mrs. D Beer (Clerk)

(* denotes present at meeting)

In attendance: Cllr Barton, Mrs R Blake, Mr A Poole

MINUTES

- Welcome – The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting
- Apologies – were received from Mr C Ward, PCSO Baker, Mr J Vickery
- Public Participation
 - (Mr A Poole) – A streetlight in Hele Lane has been working continuously for a significant amount of time. The clerk informed all that she had reported this and that it is now off by day.
 - (Mr A Poole) – Who is responsible for the bench outside the village hall? It is in need of repair, and was commented on by the 2008 Best Kept Village judges. The chairman said that it is the responsibility of the village hall committee, and that they would be contacted to deal with the matter.
 - (Mr A Poole) – The guttering along the East side of the road between Church Lane and the village hall is in need of clearing. Clerk to contact the Lengthsmen. (Comment was made that the lengthsman had done an exceptionally good job in clearing most of the parish's gutters this spring).
- Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday 3rd March 2009 - these were unanimously approved and signed as true.
- Matters Arising from previous minutes
 - Parish Plan (2009/MAR 6.1) – a meeting was held with Alison Boyd, to discuss this. Unfortunately, no Councillors had attended the meeting. Parishioners are prepared to be involved, but want to help the parish council, and not to draw up the plan themselves. Mr Pettifer had received no interest from the note that had been put on the website following the last parish council meeting. A public meeting is to be held at Fursdon Farm Kennels – date TBC.
 - Pavement to village hall (2009/MAR 6.4) – a petition given to Cllr Barton at the Annual Parish Meeting. This has been forwarded to the Highway Engineer for discussion at a future meeting (Cllr Barton to advise of date, parishioners welcome to attend). Cllr Barton is in full support of the principle of a pavement.
 - HMRC – PAYE penalty (2009/MAR 7.1) – an initial penalty of £800 was sent, further to the appeal by the clerk, this was then amended to £100, and finally to £0. The clerk informed all that the return for 2008/09 had been submitted in time, and copies had been taken for future reference.
 - The clerk had been asked to keep count of hours worked. These amount to approximately 10 hours per month. DAPC recommend NALC p/t clerks' hourly rates - SCP (Spinal Column Point) 15 – 18.
 - Village Green Notice Board (2009/MAR 7.6) – this has now been repaired by Mr M Goldman. Clerk to send letter of thanks.
- Correspondence
 - Audit Commission – the Annual Return for Audit Commission is in the possession of the Clerk – Ken Abraham (internal auditor) to visit Clerk in June.
 - Land Registry
 - Village Green – registration complete (Title No. DN585853) – clerk to file documents in the Village Green folder
 - Pump & Bench (Church Lane) – Mr Hunkin and Mr Pettifer had met to try to sort out the way forward in the registration of this. A plan of the area has to be submitted, declaring that the parish council has been in charge of this area of ground for the last 10 years or more. Mr Hunkin and Mr Pettifer to pursue further.
 - Great Torrington Town Council – a copy of a letter from the Clerk to Torrington Town Council (Mr Tighe) had been received, regarding the proposed closure of Minor Injuries Unit in Torrington. The Chairman

recommended that anyone concerned about this should respond individually. Some felt that the letter was now somewhat out of date and that there had been progress since it's writing.

- 6.4. TDC – Working with Wildlife in Torridge – Possible funding is available for potential projects within the parish. Clerk to pass details to Mr Joseph for inclusion on the website.
- 6.5. TDC – Local Development Framework (LDF) – Councillors were informed that Torridge District & N Devon Councils want parish councils to become involved in LDF. There are consultation events at Merton (Tues 19 May 9:30 – 14:30), and Bideford (Thurs 21 May 9:30 – 14:30). For inclusion on the website.
- 6.6. CPRE & MVF – Best Kept Village Competition – first round of judging in May, second round June 8 – 30, final round July 8 – mid Aug. Winners to be announced early Sept. Mrs Blake was asked to inform the WI of the dates. WI to arrange a 'clean-up' date and inform the clerk. Clerk to inform the parish council of the date, to ensure that as many as possible help.
- 6.7. DCC – Parish Lengthsmen Service – a list of programmed dates for 2009/10 financial year has been received, with Frithelstock being w/c 31st August 2009 and 15th March 2010. They are also requesting views and comments (contact details provided, along with postage paid 'satisfaction cards'). Cllr Barton commented that any urgent matters can be dealt with outside these dates.
- 6.8. DCC – Highway Maintenance – there is an increase of £3million (£1mill towards improving drainage, £2mill to make safe winter damage) – a total of £60.895million allocated funds for 2009/10. The Chairman felt that funds aren't allocated well, and there are some poor levels of workmanship. Cllr Barton feels that there is nowhere near enough money put towards Highway Maintenance in general.
- 6.9. South West Peninsula Housing Consultancy – a Rough Sleeping Survey has been received to complete and return. However, it is only applicable if there are known cases, and there are not at present.
- 6.10. Di Beer – a letter of resignation giving 2 months notice from position of Clerk was read out by the Clerk, Mrs Beer. An advert is put into the notice boards, website, Frithelstock Prior, Torrington Crier. The closing date for applications to be Friday 5th June. It is hoped to be able to find a suitable applicant within the parish, however it could be advertised through DAPC at a later date if necessary. Mrs Beer was thanked by the Chairman for work carried out to date.
- 6.11. Any other received 30/04/09 – 04/05/09
 - 6.11.1. National Parish Magazine Awards – an entry form had been received – Clerk to pass to Mr Ward.
 - 6.11.2. The Chairman had been contacted by a resident of Stone Park, regarding a dispute with a neighbour. Mr Poole had spoken to both parties and feels that it is not a parish council problem. He had spoken to someone at Tarka Housing and was very disappointed to have received no response from them. It was recommended that Tarka Housing be written to advising of the poor response.
 - 6.11.3. Sewerage problem in Hele Lane. Cllr Barton updated the meeting on the seeping sewerage drain in Hele Lane. It is a private sewer that runs along part of the road, and it has to be of a certain standard before it can be 'adopted' by SWW. The problem has been solved for now, but is likely to recur.

7. Finance:

- 7.1. Balances at 4 May 2009
 - 7.1.1. Account 1 – 800.00, Account 2 – 1,461.03 (money transferred 04/05/09)
- 7.2. Received
 - 7.2.1. 96.00 Website adverts (48.00 paid in, 48.00 to pay in)
 - 7.2.2. 1,200.77 VAT Reimbursement
 - 7.2.3. 1,185.00 Precept
- 7.3. Payments to approve
 - 7.3.1. I A Brown 511.75 (445.00+VAT) (2008/09 grass cutting)
 - 7.3.2. FPPF 55.00 (remainder of 2008/09 grant)
 - 7.3.3. LD Beer 360.00 (2008/09 salary – net)
 - 7.3.4. FPPF 100.00 (sub from 2009/10 grant)
 - 7.3.5. FPPF 150.00 (rest of first part of 2009/10 grant)
 - 7.3.6. HMRC 90.00 (2008/09 PAYE)
 - 7.3.7. Designer's 30.00 (flowers for Mrs Goldman)

The Churchyard & Cemetery have both received their £250.00 grant Standing Order.

Acceptance was proposed by Mr Hunkin, seconded by Mr Baker – approved.

8. Planning

- 8.1. Coppins, Hele Lane (Mr & Mrs Jackson) Ref: 1/0386/2009/COU - Change of use, small pocket of land from agricultural to domestic. Acceptance proposed by Mr Hunkin, seconded by Mr Baker – approved.

9. Date of next meeting – Tuesday, 7th July – 8pm (this will be the AGM)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed as true

(Chairman)

Date