

Kimberley and Carleton Forehoe Parish Council

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST PETER'S CHURCH, KIMBERLEY ON FRIDAY 3rd MARCH 2017 AT 7PM

The following members were present:- Colin House (Chairing), Jane Fraser, and Val Evans.
The Clerk and County Councillor Margaret Dewsbury were also present.

Public Comments:

Margaret Dewsbury reported that the County Council had increased their precept by 3% for social care, and 1.8% as a general increase. Efficiencies were being examined alongside potential further cuts. The Council was exploring ways of increasing revenue.

Broadband provision was discussed, and it was suggested that WiSpire could be added to a landowner's mast to provide a service to the parish.

Action

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Diana Hambro and Joy Smiley, proposed by Colin House, seconded by Val Evans, all in favour. It was noted that Diana Hambro was approaching six months without attending a meeting, and **agreed** to approve her prolonged absence, proposed by Jane Fraser, seconded by Colin House, all in favour.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Val Evans declared an interest in item 6.4d as a Trustee of the Carleton Forehoe Fenland Trust.

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2016 were **agreed** as a correct record and signed, proposed by Val Evans, seconded by Colin House, all in favour.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The Council received the correspondence which was **noted**.

a) Road Safety outside Smithy House

The Clerk read an email from a resident concerning road safety outside Smithy House. It was agreed that this was a concern, and noted that the problem was on the B1135. It was **agreed** to email officers at Norfolk County Council, copying in the County Council, requesting a site visit to look at options to address the issue. The Clerk was asked to also note that the road signs had not been reinstated.

Clerk

5. FINANCE

5.1 The 2016/17 financial transactions to date were **noted**.

5.2 The Clerk presented three prices for insurance. It was **agreed** to insure with Zurich Town and Parish at a cost of £164.45, proposed by Colin House, seconded by Jane Fraser, all in favour.

5.3 It was **agreed** to appoint Anne Barnes as Internal Auditor, proposed by Val Evans, seconded by Jane Fraser, all in favour.

5.4 The cheque payments were **approved** as presented, proposed by Diana Hambro, seconded by Jane Fraser, all in favour:

a)	HMRC	Clerk PAYE April 2017	£50.00
b)	Information Commissioner	Annual Registration	£35.00
c)	Zurich	Insurance	£164.45
d)	Carleton Forehoe Fenland	Fenland Lease	£5.00
e)	C Moore	Clerk Salary Jan – March 2017	£200.00
		TOTAL	£454.45

6. PLANNING

6.1 Applications for consideration

None

6.2 Planning decisions

None.

7. ONGOING MATTERS

a) Community Emergency Plan

It was **agreed** that the Clerk would circulate the template questionnaires, then pick out the most appropriate and ask South Norfolk Council to print it for circulation with the Group News.

Clerk

8. NEW MATTERS

a) Community Governance Review

District Councillor Michael Edney gave a presentation outlining the forthcoming review of parish council boundary and governance arrangements. He outlined the options available, including merging with another council; creating a joint council; warding arrangements; or remaining with the current arrangements. The first consultation would be from March to June 2017, with draft proposals to be published in August and a further two month consultation period. Final proposals would be voted on in February 2018. Michael confirmed that South Norfolk Council would not impose new arrangements on parish councils, and that this was just an opportunity to consolidate or rationalise the governance arrangements. It was noted that if South Norfolk were able to enforce new arrangements, it would be better that the Parish Council chose where they ended up rather than becoming lost within a larger area such as Wymondham.

Councillors agreed that they would discuss this with parishioners, but that the general feeling was that they were a council that did achieve results for such a small population and precept, and that a merger would lose the local decision making ability. The Council did not particularly identify with any of the adjoining parishes. The Clerk was asked to confirm whether South Norfolk Council was able to enforce new arrangements without the consent of the Parish Council, and to draft a response to the consultation noting that the Parish Council wished to remain with the current arrangements.

Clerk

9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 19th May 2017 at Carleton Forehoe Church at 7pm (after the Annual Parish Meeting).

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed

Dated