

# FRISTON PARISH COUNCIL



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## OPEN FORUM.

The Chairman welcomed Karen Kenny to the meeting, she is the eastern region representative of the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardens and is on hand to advise on the proposed allotments for Friston and setting up an allotment association. There is currently one land owner from the village who is very keen to support and discuss the use of his land with the Chairman when he is next in Suffolk.

Karen encouraged a small community orchard as this would benefit the village as a whole. An expert would give advice and teach about pruning. She also encourages allotment foresting which teaches coppicing and hedging, try to keep up the traditions of allotmenting. If the landlord agrees then chickens could be kept on the allotments and a chicken club could be formed.

Water would need to be considered and this could be via a bore hole and tank, the cost of the initial set up could be applied for through Lottery Funding, Awards for All, Locality Budget etc. The cost could also be worked into the rents. Secure perimeters with rabbit proof fencing and a vehicular access would need to be installed. Insurance would be needed.

The Chairman asked how much the likely cost to set up the allotments might be, however this would depend upon the size.

SCC Andrew Reid informed that he would be happy to receive an application for Locality Budget.

A member of the public asked if Bees would be allowed? This would be dependant on the land owners or PC decision.

Karen informed that she would be happy to help set up a constituted allotment association for the village. Members would need to pay £5.00 a year and would benefit from 50% off seeds.

The Chairman asked that she returns to advise on the next steps once the land has been confirmed.

**Mr Andrew Reid – SCC.** Reported that the council is to freeze council tax for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year and to continue to look for savings without damaging front line services. SCC will continue its support for the libraries and a new body is to be set up and administer the libraries. However mobile library visits will be reduced.

SCC is arranging a talk for Parish Councils from the Broadband Team, which has the most knowledge of and understanding of both the current project for superfast and attached wireless broadband rollout and the implications of broadband for the future. This is especially important for more remote, less populated areas, where improved services are going to become more crucial in the future. The broadband team is willing to give such a talk and his feeling is it may be best to bring together a group (of parish councillors only in the first instance) from the surrounding local Parish Councils, so as to maximise the use of the teams time, while keeping the focus relatively local.

The Parish Council are in agreement to take part.

**PCSO Thora Taylor.** The Chair read out the report for October and November – No crimes.

## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 12 December 2011

**PRESENT:** Cllr Alan Simpson - Acting Chair, Cllr M Caplin, Cllr Ann Patterson, Cllr Peter Pledger, Cllr Frances Cardy  
Also in attendance 9 members of the public, SCC Mr Andrew Reid and the Clerk.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** These were received from Cllr Peter Watkiss (unwell), Cllr Bryan Duncan (prior engagement), SCDC Phillip Dunnett.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST.** Mrs Patterson declared an interest in the Church and signed the declaration of interest book.

**3. MINUTES** of the last meeting held on 17 October 2011.

The minutes were approved as a correct record, proposed Mrs Cardy seconded Mr Pledger, signed by the Chair.

**4. MATTERS ARISING. a. Allotments.** The Chair will notify the village via the newsletter of the Parish Councils intentions for the proposed allotments. It would be advantageous for the PC to be apart of the allotment association as they will help with advice on funding.

Councillor Bryan Duncan has recommended that the Parish Council is not obliged to fund or buy any land for the provision of allotments, but could look to facilitate the land.

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**b. Potential Flooding within Low Road.** The Environment Agency has informed that the clearance has take place, however Mrs Patterson brought it to the PC attention that it has not been cleared beyond the pumping station. The Clerk will inform the Environment Agency.

**c. The Old Chequers, Friston.** A reply has been received from the owners of the pub informing that they are happy for any maintenance work to be carried out by local tradesmen. They are still looking at letting the pub out in the future, however they would welcome a consortium in Friston to run it. The Parish Council agrees that if the pub goes onto the open market in the future and is not sold then a meeting within the village could be organised to consider the idea of a consortium.

A village resident has seen to the removal of weeds and keeping the grounds tidy.

## **5. WAR MEMORIAL – response received from the War Memorial Conservation.**

A response has been received back informing that another quote is needed for the repairs. Mrs Patterson will get the name of anther stone mason. It was agreed by all to ask SCC Andrew Reid for Locality Budget towards the repairs.

## **6. FINANCE a. Statement of Accounts**

**a. Statement of Accounts.** Bank balances as at 12 December 2011, Barclays Community Account £6,636.67. Barclays Business Saver £5,006.34. Ipswich Building Society Village Green Account £5,018.59.

**b. Friston Church** – To consider the annual donation.

It was agreed by all to make the annual donation of £175.00 to the church.

**c. Friston Village Hall** - To consider the annual donation.

It was agreed by all to make the annual donation of £500 to the village hall and to also pay £12.00 which is due for the hire of the hall for the October & December meetings.

**d. Mrs F Cardy** – Expenses for photocopying Parish Council Newsletter, £6.29.

**e. Insurance for the village Beacon** – to take out insurance to cover the lighting of the beacon on the Queens Diamond Jubilee 4 June 2012. A quote has been received from Ecclesiastical for insurance, £111.30. It was agreed to seek a quote from the PC insurers Came & Company to see if it would be any cheaper with them.

**f. Playsafety Limited** – Play equipment inspection report, invoice to be paid, £79.20. The Clerk will pass on the inspection report to Mr Duncan.

**g. Clerks Pay and Expenses** – Invoice's to pay. £117.00 Clerks pay and £18.09 Clerks expenses.

The above invoices accept the village beacon insurance were approved for payment, proposed Mrs Cardy seconded Mrs Patterson.

**h. Thank You Letters.**

These have been received from East Anglian Air Ambulance, Suffolk Accident Rescue Service and the Citizens Advice Bureau, thanking for the recent donations which the Parish Council made to them.

**i. Grassroots** – Invoice to pay.

An invoice for £480.00, grass cutting on the village green & play area has been received and needs to be paid by 24 December 2011. Proposed Mrs Cardy seconded Mrs Patterson.

**7. PLANNING. a. C/11/2379 3 Church Walls, Church Path, Friston.** No objection from Friston Parish Council.

**b. C/11/2380 3 Church Walls, Church Path, Friston.** No objection from Friston Parish Council.

**c. C/11/2618 Rushmere Lodge Farm, Aldeburgh Road, Friston – Conversion of outbuilding to holiday let.**

No objection from Friston Parish Council so long as it is not made into a permanent residence.

**d. Permissions etc.** SCDC has granted planning permission to Crimsworth, 6 Church Road, Friston.

## **8. CIRCULARS & CORRESPONDENCE.** None

## **9. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS.**

**a. Mud, junction of Aldeburgh Road.** Mrs Cardy informed that complaints have been received regarding the mud on the road between The Whin and the junction of the Aldeburgh Road. It is never cleared and is causing the carriageway to become narrow.

There is also a problem of mud coming down onto the footpath beside 8 Aldeburgh Road.

The Clerk will inform Highways of both matters.

**b. Recycling Bin, Friston Chequers.** Mrs Cardy informed that the recycling bin at the Chequers has been removed by SCDC.

**c. Village Event to mark the Diamond Jubilee 2012.** Mrs Cardy reported that the Church are to hold a tea party on 2 June to mark the occasion. Should the Parish Council also organise an event which would tie in with the lighting of the beacon. In the past a Community Council within the village used to co-ordinate such events and have one big event for all village groups to take part in. This will be put on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

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**d. Hedges beside Church Parh.** Mrs Patterson asked that Mr Healds land agent is asked to cut back and lower the hedge beside Church Path. The Clerk will do this.

**e. Letter received from Friston Church.** A letter has been received from the church asking that consideration is given to help with financial funding towards the extra costs incurred in the churchyard maintenance and hedge cutting. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The Chairman suggests that a contribution could be made out of the village maintenance budget. It was agreed to hold a decision until the next PC meeting.

It was agreed by all that the Parish Council meeting may need to be extended by an additional 10 minutes.

**f. Localism Bill.** The Chairman suggests that this may need to be discussed again at another PC meeting.

**g. Friends of Aldeburgh Hospital.** The Chairman informed that the Friends who are running the hospital are to put out to Private Tender, could the Parish Council support the Friends?

## **10. TO AGREE DATES FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS DURING 2012 ALONG WITH ACTING CHAIR FOR EACH MEETING UPTO THE AGM.**

16 January – Mr Duncan. 27 February – Mrs Patterson. Annual Parish Meeting **TBC** – Mrs Cardy.

21 May AGM – Mr Watkiss.

Dates for the rest of the year, 2 July, 13 August, 24 September, 5 November, 10 December.

The meeting ended at 9.20pm.

### **Dates for future meetings 2012:**

Monday 16 January

Monday 27 February

Annual Parish Meeting **TBC**

Monday 21 May AGM

Monday 2 July

Monday 13 August

Monday 24 September

Monday 5 November

Monday 10 December