

Friston Parish Council



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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held in FRISTON VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 28 MARCH 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs F Cardy - Chair, Mr D Smith-Vice Chairman, Mrs A Patterson, Mr B Duncan, Canon P Brett, Mrs C Duncan, Mr P Watkiss

Also in attendance Mr C Fidler SCDC, 18 member of the public & the Clerk.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. She informed that unfortunately the guest speaker Rachel Farr of I Trust had been taken ill and was unable to attend the meeting to speak on the digital switchover, but had offered to attend a future meeting.

1. APOLOGIES. Mr R Hayes.

2. PRESENTATION Digital Switchover, Rachel Farr - I Trust. None

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH METING HELD ON 29 MARCH 2010.

The minutes of the last APM were read out by the Chair, agreed as a correct record, proposed Mr Duncan seconded Mrs Duncan, signed by the Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING. There were no matters arising.

5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF FRISTON PARISH COUNCIL - Mrs Frances Cardy

The Chair reported on activities over the past year. There are 7 members on the parish council who meet every 6 weeks in the village hall. During the year the new clerk Melanie Thurston replaced Lesley Sutton. Councillor Cyril Fidler SCDC attends most meetings but he will not be seeking re-election at the forth coming elections and the Chair thanked him for all his work and support. Planning has seen little activity during the year. Councillor Brett is the representative on the Sizewell Parishes Liaison Group, which was set up to monitor the proposed new build at Sizewell. RoSPA submits a report on the safety equipment on the village green every year and Councillor Bryan Duncan attends to anything which requires attention. Quotes have been obtained to make repairs to the War Memorial which will take place this summer. Mindful of the current economic climate the PC was able to set the precept for the coming year 2011/2012 at £6,000 which is £400 less that the last year.

6. REPORT FROM SUFFOLK COASTAL DISTRICT COUNTILLOR – Mr Cyril Fidler

Mr Cyril Fidler reported on constant work this year on the Local Development Framework. On finance SCDC was unique in provision of services and measures have enabled SCDC to reduce spend and contain Council Tax, monies saved in the current year was approx £2.3 million. From 2010 saw the restructure of the Directors Team and Heads of Service. The Localism Bill will see the handing down of empowerment to parishes or groups of parishes. Mr Fidler added that he has enjoyed representing Friston.

7. REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER – Thora Taylor

APRIL 2010;_Burglary - Other Building: During a weekend period access was gained by unknown_means to a locked barn on unoccupied site and various items taken from boat stored within. Theft-Other, during hours of darkness unknown offender has removed pansies from trough screwed into wall.

AUGUST 2010 (The following was recorded as a Theft-Other for Friston but did not occur in Friston):

During daylight hours unknown suspects have removed a brown leather purse from inside a zipped-up bag which was hanging from the back of a pushchair at some un-specified location in Woodbridge town centre. This was marked as Friston crime because of victim's home address by investigating officer.

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FEBRUARY 2011; Criminal Damage, Over a possible 3-day period entry gained to shed at the Business Centre whilst left secured – entry gained via the perspex skylight to shed, and exit the same. Nothing taken.

UPDATE: since finalised as no further viable lines of enquiry.

Criminal Damage- During the hours of darkness damage was caused to the B & B sign and fencing at The Old School location while owner resided within. Damage consists of the sign being ripped down. UPDATE: – since finalised as no further viable lines of enquiry.

8. REPORTS FROM LOCAL SCHOOLS – LEISTON HIGH SCHOOL & KNODISHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL.

No report from Leiston High School.

Knodishall Primary School. Head Teacher, Mrs Minton reported that the school has had a very successful year and was awarded the Silver Award in Healthy Ambitions Suffolk and was also highly recommended for their knowledge of healthy food and drink in the Greener Suffolk awards. Several in-school and out-of-school clubs were organised for the children in addition Safer Cycling is taught to the older children and new cycle pods were installed. The school runs a walking bus 2 mornings a week, encouraging children to walk to school.

Many educational visits took place in the last year. Planning has begun for the School Organisational Review building project at the school. A major building project is under way to provide one new classroom and extensive alterations to the inside of the school.

9. REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS.

Friston Lunch Club - Rosemary Fleet reported that the Friston Lunch Club had had a successful year with new members joining and outings to the Crown at Snape and to the Old Chequers Friston.

WI - Barbara Balls gave the final WI report. 2010 had started with a talk on Bees and followed by World of Toys, Quilts, Royal Year, Trees & Forests. Friston WI Birthday was celebrated with lunch at Marlesford café. In November at the AGM the WI was unable to form a committee so, sadly, was officially suspended.

A village resident expressed the sad loss of the WI in Friston, over their 87 years they had done a great deal for the village and community, with lots of fund raising for the village hall and church.

Village Hall Management Committee – Mr Bryan Duncan (Vice Chairman) gave the report. The new suspended ceiling in the main hall has proved to be successful and was therefore extended to the kitchen area. Redecoration has been carried out where problems of damp had occurred. Several grant applications are in the pipeline to enable the purchase of new curtains for the hall. Several fund raising events had taken place over the year including the annual car boot sale, Christmas mini market and archive film evening.

Friston Parish Church. Reverend Brooks reported that the past year has been difficult as the church has noted a drop in attendance at regular worship. Three Baptisms took place during the year and unusually there were few funerals. Three weddings took place. She said she is grateful to the PC for their support towards the churchyard maintenance as the church income does not cover the expenditure. The five year inspection of the Church building is due to be carried out in 2011, it is hoped that no major work is required. Several events have taken place in the community to raise money for the church which included open gardens and classic car rally. The curate Sheila Hart will become assistant priest in the benefice.

10. MATTERS OF VILLAGE INTEREST.

A resident expressed the problem of overhanging hedges in the village which includes Mill Road, Church Road and Aldeburgh Road. The Clerk will report this to SCC.

Mr Watkiss expressed the constant problem of mud on the Aldeburgh road leading up to the junction of the A1094. It is also causing the road to become narrower. The Clerk will report this to SCC. Reverend Brooks suggested that it is not sensible to store sugar beet on the field at the junction as it is a dangerous junction.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.