

MINUTES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

FOSTON ON THE WOLDS

At 1900 hrs, 4 April 2012, in Foston Village Hall

Present: **Mr R Watts** **Chair**
 Mr D Watt **Vice Chair**
 Mr T Sellars
 Mr P Farnsworth
 Mrs J Foreman

Mr RL Mole **Clerk**

Apologies: **Mr K Tate**
 Mr J Tickle

Agenda Item 1 - Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. The Minutes of the last meeting of the Council held on **07 March 2012** were read and agreed a true record.

Proposed: Mrs Foreman

Seconded: Mr Watt

Agreed: Unanimously

Agenda Item 3 – Mr Ashley Foster (Planning Application Cruckley Farm)

2. For the convenience of our visitor this item was covered first. Mr Foster introduced the topic with an explanation of his intentions as had been outlined to the Clerk (and passed to members) on a visit to Cruckley in the company of Mr Foster and his agent. There was a discussion relating to the location of the replacement building, materials to be used and other planning issues, referring to an outline set of plans provided by Mr Foster.

3. After a number of questions had been answered the Council thanked Mr Foster for taking the trouble of attending the meeting, wished him well for his project, and looked forward to seeing the completed plans at a later date.

Agenda Item 2 - Matters Arising

4. Theft/Removal of weir wood Gembling – replacement agreed. Mr Sellars kindly agreed to complete the task once measurements and quantities were passed to him by the Clerk.

Action: Clerk

5. Foston PC Jubilee Memorial, letter to Rev J Grainger-Smith – pending reply post-PCC meeting April 2012.

6. Standard of Conduct Training – bookings made: Clerk – Driffield 14 May 2012 and Chair/Vice Chair - Bridlington 21 May 2012.

7. Managing Ponds for Wildlife – Attended by Clerk 9 Mar 12.

8. Energy Saving and Oil Co-ops for Residents – Update from Mr Watt: 25 oil and 10 LPG respondents. 10 suppliers being approached, a saving of 3-4p/l seems possible. Letter of explanation as to process will be issued later.

Agenda Item 4 – Finance

9. Payment for Village Hall Hire for Parish Council Meetings made at 12 x £8 = £96. Cheque signed.

10. Salt Bin Bringham Invoice for £312:00p: Cheque signed.

11. Payment of actual annual expenses for office and related costs to the Clerk of £50:21p: Cheque signed.

12. Payment Net Retainer of £499:20p to Clerk for period April 2011-2012: Cheque signed.

13. In accordance with instructions from HMRC the Clerk has registered as an Employer to employ himself as Clerk for Foston PC. As an employer, on behalf of the Council, he can no longer classify the Clerk as self-employed. The law demands any employer to pay employees the national minimum wage (NMW= £6.19 from October 2012). To assist the meeting the Clerk had submitted to the Chair a ready-reckoner that showed:

- the current retainer of £624 pays for 2 hrs a week using the NMW.
- the **basic** duties of the Clerk took 4.32 hours a week.
- The NMW x 4.32 hrs/week (or 224.5 hrs/year) = £1389:65p per annum.

14. After some discussion it was agreed to increase the Clerk's annual pay to this amount for the year 2012-13. There was no requirement to change the Precept.

15. PAYE at £124:80 for the year 2011-12: Cheque signed.

Agenda Item 5 – Invite to Join ERNLLCA

16. A letter inviting the Council to join ERNLLCA was read out and the merits or otherwise discussed. It was agreed not to join.

Agenda Item 6 – Matters Communicated by E-mail

17. RSN 19 March 2012/LEADER Local Action Group AGM 25 Apr 12 (Chair & Clerk)/Northern Powergrid research and Bridlington & Driffield Area Community Partnership 24 Apr 12 Ulrome.

Agenda Item 7 Foston Focus Submission

18. Made by the Clerk.

Agenda Item 8: Jubilee Tree

19. Mr Farnsworth updated the meeting on the purchase and site of the tree. A 15ft oak had been reserved by Mr Webb on our behalf (£140), and the agreed wording and plaque/stake would cost about £20. It was agreed to go ahead with the purchase of the components, invoices to be passed to the Clerk, and arrangements made later for the ceremonial planting.

Agenda Item 9: Sustainable Communities Act

20. The success of the Leiston PC (Suffolk) initiative to encourage developers to attend Council Meetings and assist Councils with funding for impact assessments of developments was discussed.

21. At the request of the Chair the Clerk had composed a letter to the Rt Hon Greg Knight MP relating to the Planning Appeals Early Day Motion, encouraging him to sign it, and supporting the initiative. All signed and the Clerk will send it to the House of Commons.

Agenda Item 10 – Correspondence

22. Parish News.

23. Wind Energy Proposal – Land East of Gembling, **gaohenergy**. This proposal was discussed, and it was noted that the early stages of assessment will continue for 12 months, and the company would like to meet the Council nearer the time. There is no requirement for action at this time.

24. Discussion indicated that the density of turbines near Gembling was quite sufficient, and that any further development would be opposed.

25. Mrs Foreman indicated three locations for road repair on the Brigham road.

Action: Clerk

Agenda Item 11 – Date of Next Meeting

26. The date of the next meeting is to be **02 May 2012**, and is to be the **Annual Parish Meeting** followed by the **Annual Parish Council Meeting**. Mr Farnsworth offered his apologies.

27. There being no other business the meeting closed at 2115 hrs.

RL Mole
Clerk

R Watts
Chair