

MINUTES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - FOSTON ON THE WOLDS

At 1900 hrs. 7 November 2012, in Foston Village Hall

Present:	Mr J Tickle	Chair
	Mrs J Foreman	Vice Chair
	Mr T Sellers	
	Mr K Tate	
	Mr R Watts	
	Mr B Fleming	
	Mr C O'Connor	
	Mr RL Mole	Clerk

Agenda Item 1 - Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

1. None declared

Agenda Item 2 - Minutes of the Last Meeting

2. The Minutes of the last meeting of the Council held on **05 September 2012** were read and agreed a true record.

Proposed: Mrs Foreman
Seconded: Mr Watts
Agreed: Unanimously

Agenda Item 3 - Matters Arising

3. Maintenance Schedule update was presented to the meeting by the Clerk and outstanding items discussed. Additionally, the Village Task Force Satisfaction Survey 2012/13 was completed.

Action: Clerk

4. Winter Services Event – Mr O'Connor reported having attended for the Council. The presentation included details of the new salting/gritting vehicles and their equipment. There are 900 salt bins in place in the County. The insurance liability covering self-help was discussed. There is sufficient stock of salt for a relatively severe winter. Discussion followed on the location and filling of our bins, costs (expected to be zero), and the Local Grants Scheme which was declined.

5. There had been no response to the letters sent by the Chair to Ms Baker and Mr Hostick. After discussion it was agreed that the Chair and Mr Sellers would attend Gembling, and remove the lock on the weir, attended by Mr Cook and Mr Mole who would be notified.

Proposed: Mr Fleming
Seconded: Mr Sellers
Agreed: Unanimously
Action: Chair & Mr Sellers

Agenda Item 4 – Hedge cutting through Foston

6. The Clerk read out a letter from Mr & Mrs Rix relating to hedge cutting and 12/02843/PLF Town Farm Live Work Units. His reply relating to both items on behalf of Council was also read out. Since then all those with hedges next to footpaths have been approached by Mr Steel (ERYC) and the hedges maintained.

7. The Clerk was informed of blackthorn cuttings being a hazard after the cutting of the hedge by the paddock (almshouses) nearby the Old Post Office. Self-help was the suggested remedy and the Clerk cleared the pathway.

8. Telephone details for contacting the ERYC for such matters will be added to the website where there is already a generic fault form link to ERYC.

Agenda Item 5 – National Grid Carbon Capture update

9. The details received were noted, no action being required.

Agenda Item 6 – Finance

10. Invoice for contested election - £947:99p, cheque signed.

Action: Clerk

11. Invoice Garton Heritage Forge - £655:00p, cheque has been sent. After discussion it was agreed that this item should appear against the Lissett Windfarm Grant.

Proposed: Mr O'Connor

Seconded: Mr Fleming

Agreed: Unanimously

Action: Clerk

12. Invoice for Audit Commission - £60:00p, cheque signed.

Action: Clerk

13. Precept Forecast and submission – Draft sent by e-mail. Before content was discussed a letter from ERYC Head of Legal & Democratic Services was read out relating to dispensation being required due to the pecuniary interests of all Councillors. The Clerk presented a joint application form to the Responsible Officer (Clerk) and signed the prepared dispensation for all Councillors. Discussion on the Precept took place.

14. During discussion it was agreed to continue support for:

Foston Focus

Maintenance of the Church clock

Use of part of Lissett Windfarm grant for Jubilee Gates (see above)

Gembling School prize money

15. It was noted that:

£345 of the Lissett Windfarm Grant (2012/13) remains. It was suggested this be used for crockery for the Village Hall.

Proposed: Mr O'Connor

Seconded: Mr Fleming

Agreed: Unanimously

The consequences of the ash tree disease, the requirement to maintain trees along roadside verges, and associated responsibilities were all possible calls on PC funding.

16. It was agreed to retain the current level of the Precept at £2330:00p.

Proposed: Mr Sellers

Seconded: Mr Watts

Agreed: Unanimously

Agenda Item 7 – Drifffield Navigation Chair letter

17. The content of the letter dated 15 October 2012 from the Chair of the Navigation was noted, and although no feedback was presented now, it was agreed to monitor progress through the Minutes and associated activities.

Agenda Item 8 - Planning

18. 12/02716/STPLF 60m met wind mast 24 months Outgates Gembling – Granted; the follow up letter from the Clerk to the case officer asking for details of the process, considering the PC's position was to reject the proposal, was read out, as was the kind response. The case officer was pleased that the PC had taken the trouble to enquire as to the process so that they are better informed for future applications.

19. 12/02843/PLF Change of use agricultural buildings to 3 live/work units Town Farm Foston – Granted

Agenda Item 9 – Abolition of Council Tax benefits

20. The detail of this letter was noted.

Agenda Item 10 – Lissett Wind Farm Meeting Report – Chair

21. The Chair, having attended the last meeting at Burton Agnes, briefed the Council on its contents. This included the intention at the next meeting on 23 Jan 13 (in Foston Village Hall) to review the allocation of funds to projects so far in the life of the fund, in relation to population density, project beneficiaries and other decision making criteria. The future shape of the fund will then be considered. One of the options was to improve broadband provision in the area.

22. The Chair asked for the Council to consider any ideas for the fund and present

them at the next meeting, or at the latest at the January 2013 meeting.

Agenda Item 11 – Matters Communicated by E-mail/Circulated

23. The following were reviewed:

Waterways Strategy – circulated
Driffield Canal Partnership – Open Day 23 Oct 12
Rural Services Network 22 Oct, 15 Oct, 8 Oct, 1 Oct
ERYC assistance to off gas villages notice
Draft Statement of Community Involvement – by 5 Nov 12 (ER Local Plan)
Driffield & Community Partnership notes
Inventory – War Memorials – reply requested (Clerk to provide)
Budget Events attendance: Nil
Dog Control Order Consultation

Agenda Item 12 – Correspondence

24. The following were presented to Council:

Register of Electors
ER Parish News
Clerks & Councils Direct

25. A Freedom of Information request had been received from Mr R Cook (present at the meeting). Details are:

I would like to do a freedom of information request on the following please.

- *All the plans relating to the drainage ditches and weir built by the PC on Gembling Common.*
- *Copies of all correspondence between the Parish Council, Mason Clarke associates, the County Council and any other third parties involved regarding the drainage ditches & weir.*
- *Copies of the Agendas and Minutes of all Parish Council meetings from Jan 2000 to the present date, I know that is a lot so you could upload them to the PC website if that's easier than emailing them.*

If you could email them all to me as soon as possible I would be most grateful.

Thanks

26. The Clerk informed the meeting and the applicant that the only remaining copy of the plans was out on loan (signed for by another parishioner). There was no correspondence between Mason Clarke Associates and the PC as the contract had been between ERYC Engineering and Mason Clarke. That all the Agendas and Minutes were available at the Treasure House, Beverley, in hard copy format. That all the remaining documents were available either in hard copy format only (received documents) or in electronic format (if they originated from the Council). That all Agendas and Minutes had been on the PC website for up to 6 months before removal. That all plans and correspondence relating to the Planning Inspectorate had been in

the public domain through either their website or at the Public Meeting held on 20 November 2008.

27. All the documents are available but, assembly, copying (electronic or hard copy), and presentation on a CD in .pdf format would take 22 hours +. The FOI & Data Protection (Appropriate Limit & Fees) Regulations 2004 limit costs to a Parish Council to £450, based on a flat rate of £25/hour. This gives 18 hours work.

28. The actual cost to the Parish Council in overtime would be £136 based on 22 hours of work at the National Minimum Wage that the PC pays the Clerk.

29. The discussion that followed made it clear that - the request could be fulfilled but it exceeded the statutory limit; that although hard copies of agendas and minutes were available elsewhere they are also available in the parish; that there would be an overtime cost dependent upon the documents requested (whatever the format, hard copy, data storage, or website).

30. The Clerk reminded the meeting that all Minutes are ratified by the Council members after each meeting. The Chair informed all present that he had been a Councillor throughout the period and affirmed nothing had been concealed.

31. It was agreed that all Agendas and Minutes from 2003 to the present meeting would be supplied by the Clerk on CD, the likely cost in overtime being approximately £40:00p.

Proposed: Mr Fleming

Seconded: Mr Watts

Agreed: Unanimously

Action: Clerk

32. Mr Watts reminded the meeting of the agreement to have a framed acknowledgement of the refurbished cemetery gates within the Church. The Chair agreed to compose the document and present it at the next meeting. The Clerk offered to frame it ready for hanging when presented to the PCC.

Agenda Item 13 – Date of Next Meeting

33. The date of the next meeting is to be **5 December 2012**

34. There being no other business the meeting closed at 2110 hrs.

RL Mole
Clerk

J Tickle
Chair