

Minutes of **Foulsham Parish Council** Meeting
held on **Wednesday 15th December 2021** at **19:30**
in the **New Frost Hall**

Present: G. Fearn (Chair) L. Riddett J. Duck C. Ferris
K. Hambrook C. Taylor

In attendance: Parish Clerk 2 members of public

Apologies: S. Stilgoe Cllr. G. Peck

049. Declaration of Interests: None.

050. Minutes of previous meeting, held on 10th November 2021: Acceptance of the previous minutes was proposed by L Riddett and seconded by K Hambrook. Approved.

051. Matters Arising: The Clerk advised that the Foulsham Relief in Need Charity had identified Linda Jennings as a candidate for the role of trustee for the Charity. The Parish Council voted unanimously to propose Linda as the PC nominated trustee.

052. Accounts

052.1 INCOME

-	M Dagless (Workhouse Farm Rent)	£ 328.50
	TOTAL INCOME	£ 328.50

052.2 EXPENDITURE (MAIN ACCOUNT)

-	E.On (Street Lighting – Nov 21) – Inv H1A7D62482	£ 176.82
-	Foulsham PCC – Church Clock	£ 150.00
-	M Smith Clerk's salary (11.11.2021 to 15.12.2021) (5 wks)	£ 300.00
	Internet & phone expenses (Oct)	£ 10.00
	Postage stamps (12 x 2 nd class)	£ 7.92
		£ 317.92
-	URM – Invoice 1014466 – glass collection (DD)	£ 18.00
-	Value Products Ltd (SafetySigns4Less) – Quote 134072	£ 133.44
-	G Fearn – reimbursement for tree lights and sundries	£ 74.52
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£ 870.70

Approval of the accounts was proposed by L Riddett and seconded by C Ferris.

053. Planning Application 20212145 – land off Twyford Lane

The Clerk reported that BDC had provided details of previous applications for this site, all of which had been refused or withdrawn. In addition, the site had been initially submitted under the GNLP proposals, but subsequently withdrawn. It was noted that the boundaries indicated on the application are incorrect and it was also noted that the proposed site is outside of the settlement boundary. The site is only accessible via Twyford Lane/Wallers Lane, neither of which are suited to construction vehicles. The consensus of the Parish Council was to object to the application. G Peck has advised that Highways have already objected to the application.

Action: Councillors to submit comments to the Clerk by 29th December

054. Football facilities

The Clerk reported that, having met with Colkirk FC on 16th November, he had subsequently been approached by Briston FC who have also shown a keen interest in moving both of their teams to Foulsham. It was noted that Briston FC had previously sought to play at Foulsham but were unable to come to a workable sharing arrangement with Longham FC. With the approval of the Chair, a meeting with Briston FC had also taken place. The merits of both applications were discussed, and it was voted that the facilities be offered to Briston FC.

Action: Clerk to advise clubs of decision.

055. Repairs to play equipment

The Clerk reported that a quotation of £4,409.28 had been received for the repairs to the majority of play equipment identified in the recent inspection report. The Councillors voted to proceed with the repairs as per the quotation.

Action: Clerk to instruct contractor.

056. Parish Precept for 2022/23

The Clerk reported that the Parish Precept had been held at £10,000 for the past 7 years. It was also noted that the Parish Council was expecting to incur additional charges of around £640 per annum with the impending rise in electricity prices and would also have the significant cost of repairs to the play equipment. Although reluctant to raise the precept during a time when everyone is already incurring increased costs, it was agreed to raise it by a modest £500 to partially offset the rise in energy costs.

Action: Clerk to submit completed precept form to BDC.

057. Parish Magazine

J Duck advised that the Parish Magazine was currently running at a loss due to reduced advertising revenue and the need to refund some advertisers during the pandemic. It was noted that the village hall committees had been approached for donations to help cover the shortfall and that responses were awaited. The Parish Council agreed, in principle, that a request for donation would be met favourably.

058. Comments from the public

A question was asked about the burger van on Station Road and the litter which was resulting from it. It was confirmed that the van is on private land and that the PC had no powers to deal with it although had sought advice from BDC Planning on a number of occasions. The operator has provided a bin for customers, but they tend to drop their litter elsewhere, away from the van.

A question was asked about bus services to the village. It was confirmed that the Parish Council had exhausted all avenues with respect to bus services and that it was a commercial decision by the bus company not to run a service, as it is not considered to be financially viable.

It was noted that the condition of Sneck Lane was dangerous due to the number and size of potholes and that there was a lot of foliage overgrowing the path.

Action: Clerk to report condition of lane to Highways and review the overgrowing foliage.

The broken fencing around the perimeter of the playing field was raised. G Fearn confirmed that it had been repaired several years ago at considerable expense but that it had subsequently been vandalised.

The Clerk confirmed that the noticeboard on the corner of the playing field was not in use as there were no keys for it.

It was reported that a number of dogs had been attacked within the village. It was noted that this is a police issue and that the Parish Council has no powers to deal with dog attacks.

The Clerk reported that he had received concerns over the intention to plant more trees on the land on the corner of Wallers Lane and Guist Road. The neighbouring property has a water meter on the land and requires access to the fences for maintenance and repair.

059. Any other business

G Fearn advised that NCC were offering oak trees to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. It was suggested that one could be planted in the churchyard.

G Fearn suggested that consideration be given to a Christmas light competition within the village next year, judged by resident's vote.

It was noted that some water ingress was evident in the football pavilion and that it would benefit from some re-pointing and re-painting. It was suggested that an advert be placed in the Parish Magazine for volunteers to help with this in the new year.

K Hambrook asked if there were any plans to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee next year. It was noted that there were already a number of celebrations planned by other parties and that it would make sense to link into the existing arrangements.

L Riddett reported that the road surface on Gunn Street (where the underground spring is) was in poor condition again.

Action: Clerk to notify Highways

Meeting closed at 21:00

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 2nd February 2022 at 19:30