

Minutes of **Foulsham Parish Council** Meeting
held on **Wednesday 8th January 2020** at **19:30**
in the **New Frost Hall**

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

In attendance: Clerk, Cllr. G. Peck and one parishioner

Apologies: C. Ferris

064. Declaration of Interests: None.

065. Minutes of previous meeting, held on 27th November 2019: Acceptance of the previous minutes was proposed by L Riddett and seconded by K Hambrook. Approved.

066. Matters arising:

- **Land on Stringers Lane:** The Clerk reported that discussions with BDC are continuing over the ownership of the land. BDC have referred the matter to other colleagues who may be able to help.
Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with BDC over ownership.

067. Accounts:

67.1 INCOME (MAIN ACCOUNT)

-	None		£ 0.00
		TOTAL INCOME	£ 0.00

67.2 EXPENDITURE (MAIN ACCOUNT)

-	E.On (Street Lighting – Nov 19) – Inv H17E3280C1		£ 153.85
-	M Smith Clerk's salary (28.11.2019 to 08.01.2020) (6 wks)	£ 240.00	
	Internet & phone expenses (Dec 19)	£ 10.00	
			£ 250.00
-	Leeroy's Services (grounds maintenance contract) Payment 3 of 3		£ 1,350.00
-	Ray Lake Electrical Ltd – Inv 4011 (Installation and hire of Christmas tree lights)		£ 306.00
-	Gordon Swayze (Litter picking duties 25 weeks: 15 Jun to 30 Nov 2019) @ £7 per week		£ 175.00
-	E.On (Street Lighting – Dec 19) – Inv H17FDE3EB4		£158.97
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£ 2,393.82

Approval of the accounts was proposed by L Riddett and seconded by J Duck.

- 068. Grounds Maintenance Contract:** The Clerk reported that the grounds maintenance contract was due for renewal. It was agreed that Leeroy's Services had provided a good service over the past year. The only change to contract requirements would be an expansion of the churchyard area.
Action: Clerk to request quotation for the renewal of contract.
- 069. Bus Shelter:** G Peck confirmed that there was no sign of bus services being re-introduced to the village. The Clerk presented indicative costs for relocating the shelter and for the provision of a new shelter on Guist Road, both of which were considered prohibitive. It was agreed that the shelter should remain in situ for the time being.
- 070. Street Lights:** The Clerk reported that, following discussions with neighbouring Parish Councils and Broadland DC, quotations for street light upgrades had been sought from Westcotec, ETL and TT Jones. Only two quotations had been received, Westcotec being the cheaper. It was agreed that the street lights should be refurbished/upgraded in a phased manner, beginning with those in worst condition, mounted on wooden poles. L Riddett questioned if there are any restrictions on the type of lantern, given that many are within a conservation area.
Action: Clerk to check conservation area rules with BDC.
Action: Clerk to instruct Westcotec to undertake upgrades, using warm white LEDs.
- 071. Comments from the public:** The reasons for the withdrawal of bus services from the village were questioned. G Peck confirmed that, since the deregulation of bus services, there was no obligation for any company to provide a bus service. The decision on where to run bus services was purely commercial and figures from the previous provider showed the service through the village to be financially unviable.
- 072. Any other business:**
- G Peck reported on NCC's County Farms scheme. The scheme, which provides 17,000 acres of farm land, encourages young people into farming who might otherwise be unable to afford to.
 - G Peck also reported that NCC was committed to become carbon neutral by 2030. This includes a commitment to plant 1 million new trees throughout the county.
 - K Hambrook reported that the drain at the junction of Station Road/High Street and Claypit Road is blocked once again. The Clerk confirmed that this had been reported already on a number of occasions.
Action: Clerk to check with Highways.
 - L Riddett questioned why the warning signs were still present on Claypit Road, given that the drainage has been cleared.
Action: Clerk to check with Highways.
 - S Stilgoe asked which housing association(s) owned property on Foundry Close. G Peck advised that BDC should be able to answer this.

Meeting closed at 20:15

The next meeting is on Wednesday 19th February at 19:30 in the New Frost Hall
