

Minutes (draft unless signed) of **Foulsham Parish Council** Meeting
held on **Wednesday 13th September 2023** at **19:30**
in the **New Frost Hall**

CLLrs Present: G. Fearn (chair) C. Ferris J. Duck M. Payne
C. Taylor

In attendance: Parish Clerk Cllr. G. Peck Cllr D. Thomas 3 local residents

Apologies: L. Riddett

25/23 Declaration of Interests: None.

26/23 Minutes of previous meeting, held on 2nd August 2023: Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by Cllr Payne and seconded by Cllr Taylor.

27/23 Matters Arising
None

28/23 Accounts

EXPENDITURE

- URM – glass recycling		£ 26.88
- David Bracey – Playground equipment inspection		£ 180.00
- Margaret Payne – Flowerbed maintenance – Aug 2023		£ 50.00
- M Smith Clerk's salary (03.08.2023 to 13.09.2023) (6 weeks)	£ 360.00	£ 370.00
Internet & phone expenses (Aug)	£ 10.00	
- E.On – Electricity for pavilion		£20.57
- Npower – Electricity for street lights (Jul 2023)		£ 195.82
- Npower – Electricity for street lights (Aug 2023)		£ 193.64
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£ 1,036.91

Approval of the accounts was proposed by Cllr Ferris and seconded by Cllr Duck.

29/23 Bank account delegate user

The Clerk reported that it was becoming increasingly difficult to make payments by cheque and that some suppliers no longer accept them at all (eg Royal British Legion). An application has been submitted to Lloyds Bank for the Clerk to become a delegate user. The application form requires 2 signatories, but only one was present at the meeting.

Action: Clerk to obtain 2 signatures and submit application form.

30/23 Parish Partnership Scheme (speed reduction measures)

It was reported that, at a recent site visit by Richard Pearson (Highways), Cllr. Greg Peck, PC Colin Bailey and a several Parish Councillors on 25th August, a number of speed reduction measures for Station Road were considered. An additional location for the SAM2 speed monitor was identified, utilising a vacant post to the north of the bridge on Station Road.

Action: Clerk to confirm with Highways that location is formally approved and ensure that tree has been trimmed.

Action: Cllr Fearn to locate tool for fixing bracket to lamp post.

31/23 School Parking

It was reported that, during the same site visit, the access route via Stringers Lane to the proposed school car park/drop-off area was reviewed. It was confirmed that the road was of a sufficient standard to accommodate the small amount of anticipated traffic. It was noted that a small strip of land at the end of Stringers Lane belonged to Lovells. PC Bailey has agreed to liaise with the school and explore the possibility of funding from local businesses.

32/23 Playground equipment inspection report

The Clerk reported that the playground inspection had identified a number of issues, but that none have a risk score of greater than 10 (medium risk). It was noted that the zip wire seat is too low and rubber stoppers are still missing from the gates to children's play area.

Action: Clerk to contact NGF to tighten the zip wire.

Action: Cllr Fearn to source rubber stoppers.

33/23 Comments from the Public

Concerns were raised again about the willow tree near the bridge on Claypit Road. It was noted that Highways had recently cleared the drain, including the removal of tree roots, but the tree still poses a significant risk due to its size and condition. It was agreed to have the tree felled.

Action: Clerk to obtain 3 quotations for the removal of the tree and stump and enquire about the disposal of the timber.

It was noted that the street light on Claypit Road to the north of the New Frost Hall land was not working.

Action: Clerk to report to Westcotec.

34/23 Any other business

A number of concerns have been received regarding the large campervan which appears to have been abandoned on the High Street, opposite the Queen's Head pub. It is obscuring visibility along the High Street and Station Road and is parked within 10m of a junction.

Action: Clerk to report to PC Colin Bailey.

It was noted that a number of the white painted "H" markings have not been reinstated since the recent re-dressing of the road surface. This includes one opposite Hazeldown.

Action: Clerk to report to Highways.

It was noted that a number of the newly planted shrubs on the marketplace had been deliberately trampled by school children.

It was noted that a complaint had been received about the condition of the gravel around the marketplace.

Action: Clerk to arrange for gravel area to be weeded.

It was noted that the water leak from the site opposite the New Frost Hall had been reported to the land owner.

It was noted that the Parish Council was prepared to hold grant funds to the value of £495 on behalf of Themelthorpe Parish for purchase of a noticeboard.

Cllr Thomas reported on a community grant scheme offering between £1k and £15k. The deadline for applications is the 3rd November. Details available at <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/community-grant-scheme>
Contact details are communities@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk or 01603 431133

Cllr Thomas reported that Sanders coaches have produced laminated timetables which should reinforce their commitment to continuing the bus service. Also, their bus stop signs will be gradually upgraded.

Cllr Thomas reported that the next GNLP consultation will most likely be end of October / early November and this should include the retrospective application for the Oaks.

It was agreed that quotes should be obtained for next year's grounds maintenance contract.

Action: Clerk to obtain quotes

Meeting closed at 20:05

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 25th October 2023 at 19:30