

**FLAX BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, FLAX BOURTON
TUESDAY 12th JULY 2011**

Meeting Commenced: 8.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 9.30pm

Prior to the start of the meeting the Council and the Clerk held a minutes silence in memory of District Councillor Mr Tom Collinson who passed away suddenly on 29th June 2011. The Council expressed their deepest sympathies to Tom's family and shall remember him fondly as a hard working and committed Councillor who was very active in his community who shall be sadly missed.

PRESENT: Councillors: Windo (Chairman), Lillington, & Mrs Moss

IN ATTENDANCE: None.

20) Apologies for absence. Councillor Higgins, Parish Liaison Officer Mr Peter Rooney.

21) Declarations of Interest. None

22) To approve and sign the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th May 2011.

It was noted that the meeting due to take place in June 2011 had been cancelled due the Council being inquorate.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Councillor Mrs Moss, seconded by Councillor Lillington and agreed the minutes be approved. A vote was taken. All in favour.

23) Financial Reports
To approve the monthly expenditure
To approve the Bank Reconciliation.
To approve the Budgetary Control Report

RESOLVED: That the three reports regular monthly reports be taken en bloc and it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Moss, seconded by Councillor Lillington and agreed that the reports be approved. A vote was taken. All in favour.

The Clerk was asked to check the date that the next valuation of the Village Hall was due. Noted.

24) To approve the Annual Return of the external audit.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Councillor Lillington, seconded by Councillor Windo and agreed that the annual return for the financial year ending 31st March 2011 be approved. A vote was taken. All in favour.

The Council gave a note of thanks to the Clerk for her work on preparing the year-end accounts. Noted.

25) Planning & Development –To agree on any comments / objections on the following planning applications:

North Somerset Council had recently changed the way that Parish Council's were advised of planning applications in their parishes. The format appeared to change week on week and it was therefore assumed that as the Clerk had not been able to find any applications on the list, that there were no applications for the Council to comment on. It was agreed that the Clerk should advise the Parish Liaison Officer, Mr Peter Rooney of the problems arising from the new system to see if there was anyway thing could be improved. Noted.

26) To receive any further updates or information on Planning and Development within North Somerset. Councillor Higgins was not in attendance and it was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting. Noted.

27) North Somerset Showground – To receive any updates from NSAS / North Somerset Council since the withdrawal of the most recent planning application. To discuss any further issues re enforcement and licensing for future events following discussions with planning and licensing officers in order to decide on what action needs to be taken if and when necessary. The Clerk had been off sick for many weeks and had not managed to contact the Agricultural Society to ask about the problems caused closing Station Rd on show day. The Clerk would make this her priority. The Clerk was also asked to write to Chris Nolan of North Somerset Council to get an update on enforcement following a breach in planning with the electricity sub station. Noted.

28) Resident Issues – It was noted that the footpath at Church Lane End and Parsons Mead that was overgrown had now been cut back however the footpath running along the A370 was in desperate need of work as pedestrians had been struggling to use the path due to overgrowth. The Clerk was asked to chase North Somerset. Some complaints had been received about a bush near the play area being overgrown and affecting visibility for drivers. The Clerk agreed she would arrange for this to be cut back. Noted.

29) Flax Bourton Primary School - School crossing safety.

Councillor Mrs Moss confirmed that the North Somerset Council had agreed to install some flashing 20mph signs near the school and that the work was due to take place during the school summer holiday. The Clerk was asked to contact Kate Cochrane and request a copy of the schedule of works. It was also noted the contractor Alvis Bros had agreed to cut the hedge near the youth club so that it much lower and improve visibility. This work is also due to take place in August. Noted.

30) Hinkley Point Pylons

Councillor Lillington advised members that MP Tessa Munt had introduced a private members bill on looking at the use of pylons verses the alternatives, which had its 1st reading on 5th July 2011. The second reading is due to be held on 25th November 2011. Noted.

31) Village Hall CIC – Solar Panels

Councillor Mrs Moss had met with members of the CIC to discuss a proposal from the CIC to install solar panels on the village hall roof with a view to receiving an income from selling back power to the electricity supplier.

It was noted at the meeting that neither the Council nor the CIC had sufficient funds to spend on such a project in this current financial year, however the Council was asked whether it would agree in principle to having panels on the village hall roof. The matter was discussed at length and it was decided to defer the item until the next meeting when Councillor Higgins could share his views. Noted

32) Farleigh Green Toddler Swing:

The CIC was keen to offer a grant to the Council in order to provide a much needed toddler swing at the Farleigh Green Area. It was agreed that the Clerk should pass on the quote obtained recently for a swing and surfacing that was the Council's preferred option and to thank the CIC for their kind donation. Noted.

33) Meeting with Wraxall Estate Trustees

Councillor Mrs Moss advised member that the recent meeting to discuss restoring footpaths around Station Rd and Farleigh Green plus cutting back the hedges in order to improve visibility near the school had gone well and that the trustees were very responsive. The trustees would need to look into legalities as there were 19 beneficiaries to consider and it was agreed that the Council would wait to hear from them. The Clerk advised the Council that she had received a letter from Wraxall & Failand Parish Council who supported of the proposal of the permissive paths. Noted.

34) Dead Tree - Opposite Rosemount Rd

The Clerk advised the Council that North Somerset Council had been in touch to advise that there was a dead tree opposite Rosemount Rd that was on Parish Council land and therefore needed to be replaced. The tree had already been removed and it was therefore agreed that the Clerk would organise a replacement tree to be planted. Noted.

35) Feedback on new Parish Notice boards

Three new notice boards had recently been installed in order to provide a separate board for Parish Council notices and one for the use for resident notices and adverts. No feedback had been received however it was agreed that the notices in the Parish Council boards needed to be tidied up and updated and that it would be a good place to advertise the new website. Noted.

36) Review of new website

The new improved website had gone live. No specific feedback had been received but the Council were happy with the new look and content. Noted.

37) Open Forum - An opportunity to propose any items for the next agenda, including any relevant issues raised by the public

- Councillor Mrs Moss advised members of the CIC's offer to donate a PA system & hearing loop system in the Village Hall. It was agreed that this was a very generous offer and would be extremely useful and the Council would be more than happy to accept the donation.
- The Clerk was asked to chase up the insurance claim on the damaged barrier in the Village Hall car park.
- To include CCTV at the Village Hall as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 9th August 2011

There, being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed.....

Dated.....