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| Parish Clerk: Stephen Williamson 01493 296036 E-Mail: freethorpe.pc@gmail.com | <h1 style="margin: 0;">FREETHORPE</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Parish Council</h2> <p style="margin: 0;"><i>Chair: Nick Spencer</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;"><i>Vice-Chair: David Lake</i></p> | 46 Moorhen Way Kingfisher Park Burgh Castle Norfolk NR31 9FJ |
| PARISH COUNCIL YEAR 2017 - 2018 | | |
| MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MONDAY 15th MAY 2017 | | |
| PRESENT AT THE MEETING | | |
| Councillors: N. Spencer (Chair), D. Lake (Vice-Chair). P. Bacon, J. Church, G.P. Lamb, G. Thompson, L. Turner. NCC Councillor: B. Iles Broadland District Councillor: G. Nurden 20 Members of the public | | |

The Meeting commenced at 7.45 p.m.

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| 1: | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE |
| Apologies prior received from First Responders, Almshouses Trust, Freethorpe & Wickhampton Churches | |
| 2: | MINUTES |
| The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on May 16 th 2016 had been prior circulated, no further amendments were deemed necessary. The Minutes were accepted as being a true & accurate record and duly signed. | |
| 3: | TREE WARDEN |
| Mr John Fleetwood presented his report which highlighted the core of the success continued to be the Junior Tree Warden scheme, the only one in the country. Mr. Fleetwood emphasised that they worked hard and were good time keepers, they had planted trees and cleared ground and helped obtain a Preservation Order for four oak trees. Visits had been arranged for the junior wardens during the summer to Raveningham, Wrong's Covert and Oakhill Wood in Brundall. Special mention was made of four particular junior wardens, one of whom received the Junior Tree Warden award – <i>names withheld from these Minutes and the full report as the juniors involved are under age 16</i> . Mr. Fleetwood gave thanks to the Conservation Team at Broadland and also the continued support of the school. He concluded by saying that during the summer the whole Parish would be surveyed in order to evaluate liability resulting from ash dieback disease. A COPY OF THIS FULL REPORT (minus children's names) IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE OR BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK. | |
| 4: | FREETHORPE PARISH COUNCIL |
| The Chairman, Mr. Spencer, had no formal report but thanked the Councillors and Clerk for help and support during the year. The Parish Clerk thanked the Councillors as well as those representing NCC & Broadland as well as the Tree Warden and Lynda Boyle the auditor. He went on to mention the newly created Parish tab on the Freethorpe Village Hall website, thanking Stephen Smith for his hard work to organise this, he stated that for the first time all meeting Minutes (going back to 2012) were available for viewing and this year all the Annual Reports would be placed. Financially in his role as RFO the Clerk stated that the closing balance on the Council's main bank account at 31 st March was £9,910.99 – since added to by the first half of the 2017-18 Precept. The Reserve account stood at £10,059.61 also since added to by annual interest. A COPY OF THIS FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE OR BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK | |

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| 5: | NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL |
| <p>Mr. Brian Isles, newly re-elected NCC Councillor stated that the economic impacts of the Northern Distributor Road gave great hope for the future of the county, just as the dualling of the final part of the A11 had brought growth to the area. Although still some way off he hoped that the upgrading of the 'Acle straight' and third river crossing in Great Yarmouth would assist in job and business creation, as would the projected 90 minute train journey time from Norwich to London. During May the Council had changed from the 'Rainbow Alliance' to Conservative overall control. As for Freethorpe there had been issues over Permissive paths affecting dog walkers, and the County were trying to obtain grants to assist with this problem. Speeding on the main road through the village (as well as Reedham and Moulton) continued to be a problem and he was glad to see the introduction of a speed warning sensor. The County monitors flooding on an ongoing basis. Lastly he informed that the Caister NCC Highways depot had now closed and the local man (incumbent for many years – John Cotton) now worked from Aylsham.</p> <p>A COPY OF THIS FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE OR BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK</p> | |

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| 6: | BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL |
| <p>For Broadland District Council, Mr. Grant Nurdin stated that devolution had somewhat dominated the past year, he felt that missing out may turn out to be regrettable in future years. Broadland continued to deliver the best services possible but monetary constraints were a continual problem. The Council's Broadland Growth company had built and sold new homes at Carrowbreck to the highest environmental standards, two further projects were in the pipeline. Staying fit & healthy was the prime reason for the wellbeing programme and whilst the new recycling service had experienced teething problems but now was the best in Norfolk at 50%. The Council had recently made the decision to hand over management of footway lighting to the Parish Councils, Freethorpe was one affected, a consultation meeting was scheduled for the end of May. Broadland was a safe place to live and partnerships existed with Safer Neighbourhood Action Panels. Key projects for older & more vulnerable people. The Early Hub & Tots to Teens programmes help to develop young people.</p> <p>A COPY OF THIS FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE OR BY REQUEST TO THE PARISH CLERK</p> | |

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| 7: | COMMUNITY REPORTS |
| <p>Freethorpe F.C: Report presented by Stephen Smith – for 2016-2017 the club was running eight teams – three adult including a Ladies Team and five youth teams. With 11-a-side adult football in something of a decline Freethorpe FC continued to shoot above its weight with two teams in the Anglian Combination and the Ladies team in the Norfolk League. Visiting teams always praised the facilities on offer. The club had passed its FA Charter Standard 'health check'. The main concern was the sustainability of the MUGA which had been in operation 24/7 since opening in 2006. The life-span was projected at 10-15 years, hence the cost of a replacement surface (some £30,000) and a community plan needed to be formulated to prevent the demise of the facility. The club seeks to 'provide football for all, for life at an affordable and safe venue.</p> <p>Walpole Almshouses: Report prior provided. The accounts were currently being audited. The Rev. Dr. Lorna Allies & Michael Blake had been welcomed as Trustees, the former being Chairperson. The Almshouses are fully occupied with improvements due to take place, although the general order was good.</p> <p>All Saints Church Freethorpe: Report prior provided. A service was held every Sunday at 11.00 a.m. Members of the team were part of the Open Book Team which dramatized a Biblical story and members took part in the Reedham Passion Play at Easter 2017. Two weddings were due at the church later in the year, the garden party in Autumn 2016 raised over £900, two coffee mornings had raised a further £250. A new alter rail kneeler is near completion and is due to be blessed by the Bishop of Thetford at the Carol Service in December. Financial assistance towards the churchyard maintenance from Parish Council much appreciated.</p> <p>St. Andrews Church Wickhampton: Report prior provided. The church was disappointed in being unsuccessful in obtaining a Lottery Heritage Grant to repair the church tower, other avenues being explored. Another grant was being used to maintain medieval wall paintings. An art exhibition takes place in the church between 1st and 8th July. One wedding is planned for August 2017.</p> | |

Freethorpe First Responders: There were currently nine volunteers with eight currently able to respond. Usually over 1,000 hours a month were available when someone was able to respond. More volunteers were shortly to be sought owing to current Responders ageing. From March 2016 to February 2017 the Responders attended 144 calls of which 34 were in Freethorpe and Wickhampton. Criteria laid down for attending was mentioned, along with the fact that the majority of callouts were for shortness of breath and/or breathing difficulties. The group continued to check the four defibrillators at Cantley, Freethorpe, Reedham and Moulton. Consumables were provided from funds. It was mentioned that the Responders would be unable to continue without the support received from the public as well as donations and bequests. Junior first aid training was carried out for Year 6 children with the best young first aider receiving a shield dedicated to Liam Smith who died at a young age whilst a pupil at Reedham School.

Freethorpe Primary School: Presented by Maureen Burns – Interim Executive Head. **TO FOLLOW**

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| 8: | PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS |
| There were no further questions raised | |

The Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

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| <i>Signed after agreed amendment and approval by Council as being a true and accurate record by the Chair of the meeting or authorised deputy</i> | | Dated: |
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