Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

Clerk: Mike Mortimer, Lime Tree Farmhouse, Common Road, Shelfanger, Norfolk IP22 2DR
Tel: 01379 642763 email:bressingham.pc@tiscali.co.uk

Annual Parish Meeting 2012
Tuesday 24th April 2012
Village Hall at 7.30pm

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Approval of the Minutes of 2011 Annual Parish Meeting

3 Matters arising from the minutes

4 To receive the Annual report of the Council

5 To receive a Statement of the Parish Council's Accounts for the year to 31st March 2012

6 To receive the reports of the Charities: Town Lands, Elizabeth Barker, Clay Allotments, Fuel Allotments, Ellingham

7 To receive a report from the School Governor on behalf of the Parish Council

8 Reports from organizations within the parish: Bressingham PCC and Fersfield PCC, The Toddler Group, Drama Group, Ladies Group, Village hall and Recreation Association and The Website.

9 Report from Norfolk County Council

10 Report from South Norfolk District Council

11 Any Other Business

Mike Mortimer
Parish Clerk

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

Clerk: Mike Mortimer, Lime Tree Farmhouse, Common Road, Shelfanger, Norfolk IP22 2DR
Tel: 01379 642763 email:bressingham.pc@tiscali.co.uk

82

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on the 24th of April 2012

Chairman, Mr Rodger Aves opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed members of the public

Present:
Councillors, Mrs E Handy, Mr I Cattermole, Mrs J Delasalle, Ms P Dowling, Mr R Hewitt, District Councillor, Mr K Weeks, County Councillor, Mr B Spratt, a number of representatives from village groups, Mrs J Harvey and the Clerk Mr M Mortimer.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from The Rev Mellowship, Ms J Porter, Ms Sue Willats and Ms K Neeve

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 19th of April 2011

Copies had been made available at the meeting and the minutes were approved and signed

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising

4. Annual Report of the Parish Council

The Chairman reported that following the May elections four new Councillors were required to be co-opted. He welcomed Mrs J Delasalle, Ms J Porter, Ms P Dowling and the returning Mr I Cattermole. Two others, Mr and Mrs Craggs, along with Mr G Harvey, the Footpath Warden, had resigned and the Chairman thanked them for all their work. Mr Aves congratulated Mrs Craggs and her fellow Parish Plan committee members on the excellent document they had produced. He expressed mixed views on the allotments which some holders were making good use of whilst others had largely abandoned them creating weed problems for the other allotment holders. On the subject of Highways Mr Aves reported that he was hopeful that a meeting between some Parish Councillors and the Highways department would bear fruit. Indeed, he pointed out, some repairs had taken place within days. On financial matters he announced that some of the Parish Council's reserves could be made available to Parish groups

5. Statement of Accounts for the year to 31st March 2012

The Parish Clerk presented a statement of the Parish Council's Accounts for the year to 31st March 2012. A copy of the statement is included in the minute book.

6. Reports from Charities

Town Lands Charity - Mr Byrne reported that there was £7314.13 in the community account and £11,241.88 in the deposit account. An account is in the year book.

Clay Allotments Charity – Mr R Aves reported that the trustees of the charity were in negotiation with the Charity Commission to combine three of the Parish's charities into one and simplify the new charity's aims. Mrs Handy informed the meeting that the Charity Commission seemed favourable and that the new charity should work to the "advantage of all Parishioners in Bressingham and Fersfield".

Elizabeth Barker Charity – Mrs Burroughes gave a report stating that its combined assets were just over £2000 but that the precise breakdown of them was unclear. A copy of the report is in the minute book.

Fuel Allotments Charity – Councillor Aves pointed out that consideration was still being given to the sale of the land to produce a higher financial return and that a proper valuation was underway. Councillor Cattermole said he felt it would be a sad day if the land was sold.

The Ellingham Charity - Mrs Sumpter reported that donations were only to the Church and that details were not available largely because of the illness of the Reverend Mellowship. Best wishes for his recovery were offered.

County Councillor Spratt congratulated the Parish on the work it does with its charities.

7. To receive a report from the Chair of the School Governors.

Ms J Porter provided a report which was read by the Clerk. It stated that the new Head , Mr Gavin King, had already implemented a number of changes intended to improve learning and increase security. Ms Porter asked for local support of school fundraising and fun events. The report is in the minute book.

8. Reports from Parish Organizations:

Reports were given by:

Fersfield PCC
Mrs Sumpter reported that the Parish Plan and the Parish Council had used the Church for their activities and expressed a hope that more use could be made in the future. She thanked those who looked after the grounds and provided the flowers. A copy of the report is in the minute book.

Bressingham PCC
Mrs Burroughes gave a report stating that the PCC had managed to pay the Parish Share and thanked those people whose generosity had made it possible. On a negative note she had to report more theft of lead from the building. The possibility of using an alternative to lead was being explored. The full report is in the minute book.

Bressingham Village Drama Group
Mrs Webb reported that the annual panto – Treasure Island this year - had made £1400 profit for the Village Hall. She thanked all the contributors who had given so much. The group was now rehearsing a comedy – Small Talk – which was expected to be ready in the middle of September.

Bressingham and Fersfield Village Hall and Recreation Association
Mr Byrne, as Chairman, gave a report. It pointed out that a number of groups and organisations used the Village Hall and that the Association organised a number of events of its own. It had received a request that the bi-annual flower show be made an annual event. He reported that the 2011 Summer Event held at Blooms had been remarkably successful and had raised over £4500. The tennis court had been renovated and a request from the Football Club to build a pavilion had been received. Mr Byrne explained that he had made it clear that if it was agreed the cost would have to be met by the club and that the land would remain the Village Hall's. A report for the minute book is to follow.

Bressingham & Fersfield Parent & Toddler Group (Bumbles)
Ms Kneeve provided a report that was read by the clerk. It stated that numbers had increased and that it will stay open over the summer holidays. Fundraising events such as car boot and garage sales were being planned. The report is in the minute book..

The Allotment Association,
The Chair of the Association, Michelle Lanchester, thanked the Parish Council for the improvement to the roadway but expressed concern at the lack of interest in the Allotment Association activities by most holders. She felt that the Association's role and powers were unclear. Mr Aves agreed that the Allotment sub-committee should meet Ms Lanchester.

Bressingham & District Ladies' Club
Sue Willats provided a report which the Clerk read. A number of events were described including a talk by Laurence Flatman on his long career at Blooms and a demonstration on how to make a Christmas topiary tree. The next chair of the club with its 31 members and one honorary member is to be Christina Peachey. A full report is in the minute book.

The Village Website
Mrs Handy explained that the success of the new site was down to Margaret Harris who was unable to attend the meeting. It had received 387 hits in one month and had many new areas such as the sale and wanted as well as lots of photos and Parish news.

9. Report from Norfolk County Council
Councillor Spratt reported that the County still had a difficult time ahead with 44 million pounds of cuts still needed. .

10. Report from South Norfolk District Council
District Councillor Weeks reported that the details of the site specific policies would be available imminently and that Bressingham would have only infill development. On the subject of the new Place Making Guide he explained that 21 specific areas of different architecture had been identified and that in future developers in South Norfolk would have to refer to the guide. The Community Infrastructure Levy which is a payment by developers to help meet the cost of new roads and so on would begin in 2013 he stated.

11. Any Other Business
There was none.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.