

FOXEARTH & LISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 26th. March 2015 at Foxearth Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Waite (Chairman), Cox, Busby, Edwards, St John Howe and Clayton
Kevin Money (Clerk to the Council). There were also 13 members of the public in attendance

15/23: The Chairman opened the meeting and asked if the public were going to record this meeting. There was no person recording this meeting

15/24: Apologies of Absence:

Apologies were received from Cllr Swift. Cllr Finch may be along later in the meeting

15/25: Declaration of Interests:

Cllr Cox declared an interest in the Church and Street Cleansing

Cllr Clayton declared an interest in item 15/35 – Speed reduction in Liston

15/27: Approval and signature of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 4th.

February 2015

These minutes were agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record

15/26: Chairman's Remarks and Clerk's report

The Chairman informed the meeting he had nothing to report.

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had not received any correspondence and had circulated all emails to Councillors

The Clerk handed over to Cllr Clayton regarding an update on the Broadband service.

Cllr Clayton informed the meeting that he had an email from County Broadband stating that they were currently just going through the planning of which areas will be upgraded to Super-fast NGA service later this year. Whilst F&L area is included in these plans they do not have any exact dates to give out but will keep the Council fully up-to-date.

15/28: To add to Foxearth & Liston Standing Orders – section 26 “Recording and use of Social Media at Council Meetings”

The Clerk had circulated a “Recording and use of Social Media at Council meetings” to Councillors before the meeting and distributed a copy to all residents in attendance.

Cllr Cox proposed and Cllr St. Howe seconded that this document be added to the Foxearth & Liston Standing Orders under section 26. **This was carried unanimously**

15/29: Formal adoption of the revised “Code of Conduct” for Foxearth & Liston Council to include paragraph 10.3

The clerk had circulated this revised “Code of Conduct” paragraph 10.3 to Councillors before the meeting.

Cllr Cox proposed and Cllr St. Howe seconded that this additional paragraph be included in the Foxearth & Liston “Code of Conduct”. **This was carried unanimously**

15/30: Dissolution of the Foxearth and Liston Grouping Order 1976

The Clerk read out an email he had received from Ian Hunt BDC which said that the first round of consultation had concluded. There were 23 responses. BDC will be undertaking a further consultation with elected representatives post-election to catch any potential change which may come around.

15/31: Public Question Time

A resident asked the Council if there were any dog bags. Cllr Waite informed the meeting that there were 2000 bags in the village hall.

15/32: District Councillor's report

In the absence of Cllr Swift there was no report given

15/33: County Councillor's report

The Clerk informed the meeting that Cllr Finch had supplied a Parish update for March

15/34: Financial Matters

Cllr Cox informed the meeting that due to the Election, possible separation of Foxearth with Liston, Clerks training, Village Hall grant, Clerks additional hours and wage increase this had to be represented in the precept which increased by 29.4%

The Clerk supplied the Councillors with the March spend to date and the subsequent cheque request.

Chq No. 751 Kevin Money Salary £319.87p

Chq No. 752 Kevin Money expenses £199.59p

Chq No. 753 HMRC £75.40p

F&L Bank balance as at 28th. February 2015 (before the cheques) £3,224.37p

Cllr Busby proposed and Cllr Edwards seconded that the above cheques be approved.

This was carried unanimously

15/35: Update on speed reduction in Liston – This update was given by Cllr Clayton who informed the meeting that he had applied on behalf of F&L Parish Council to have a “quiet road scheme” in Liston between Liston Lane from the boundary with Suffolk and up to the Liston Church. This is the second application but this application needs Parish Council approval. Cllr Clayton then proposed and Cllr Cox seconded that this application to the LHP be accepted and presented to LHP. **This was carried unanimously** and Cllr Clayton could then send in the application.

15/36: Motion put forward by Cllr St. Howe that:-

1. No complaint shall be made to the BDC Monitoring Officer by any member of the Parish Council about another member of the Parish Council without giving notice to the Council of the would be complainants intention so to do
2. A complaints procedure needs to be established to allow disputes or disagreements to be considered by the Council before public discussion of the matter in question
3. Members of the Council shall not use the Parish Council G. Mail site for the furtherance of personal attacks where the personal attack appears as the primary motive for the posting of the item

Cllr St. Howe had asked the Clerk to make these 3 separate motions and the Council agreed to take them individually.

The Chairman then asked the Clerk for the legal standing on the motions.

The Clerk then stated that Item 15/36

1. Clerk Response: Every Councillor and resident has the right to Speak / complain to BDC Monitoring officer without notifying the alleged Councillor. There is nothing legal that a Parish Council can do to restrict a Councillor complaining to the Monitoring officer. This motion is not enforceable and there can be no sanctions attached as such. Every Councillor has the right to complain – It is called Free speak. The better solution is for the Councillors involved to resolve it locally and sensibly.
2. Clerk response: See F&L Standing order paragraph 14 Code of conduct complaints
3. Clerk response: No Councillor has access to the Clerk email, Parish Council email, Administrator for F&L and the Document Depository email systems. The only 2 persons who have complete access and control are myself and Hannah Griffiths.

Cllr St. Howe then asked the Clerk when this information was received. The Clerk informed him that it was late on Wednesday afternoon.

Motion 1. Cllr St. Howe informed the meeting that Cllr Cox had tried to get Cllr Waite and himself together but to no avail. Cllr Waite did not agree with the statement made.

Cllr St. Howe proposed and Cllr Clayton seconded that this motion be adopted **F3 Ag 3**

The Chairman did not use his casting vote.

Motion 2. Cllr Cox asked the Councillors to revise the wording of the motion to remove the word established and replace it with “Reviewed”. With this amendment Cllr St. Howe proposed and Cllr Clayton seconded that this motion be adopted. **F4 Ag 1 Ab 1 The motion is carried**

Motion 3. Cllr St. Howe proposed and Cllr Clayton seconded that this motion be adopted

F3 Ag 2 Ab 1 The motion is carried

15/37: Planning Applications.

There have been NO planning applications received

The Clerk informed the meeting that if such an application should come in before the next Full Council meeting on Thursday 21st. May 2015 then any application can be discussed and acted upon. The legal advice he had received is that during the "Purdah" period a Council continues to discharge normal Council business (including determining planning applications, even if they are controversial). The Chairman then informed the meeting that if an application was received then a meeting will be called and the only item on the agenda would be the planning application.

15/38: Highways matters

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had correspondence from the Highways Authority regarding the primary flooding outside the village north towards Cavendish. At Foxearth Hall there had been flooding but unfortunately ECC said there was nothing wrong. The potholes in The Street had been reported but there was no activity to rectify these. Most of the other potholes had been reported to ECC by residents.

Cllr Cox was asked to inform the police regarding an abandoned car on the verge.

15/39: Public Rights of Way

There was nothing to report

The next full Parish Council meeting is Thursday 21st. May 2015 at 7.30pm in the Foxearth Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm

Signed.....Chairman : Date 27th. June 2015