

Minutes of the Group Parish Council Meeting for Flixton, St Cross and St Margaret South Elmham, Tuesday, 7th of November, 2023, 7.30 pm at Flixton Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: Phillip Kidner (Chair), Ken Warne (minutes), Ian Noakes, David Mann, Justin Skinner, Rodney Mulhearn, Libby french-Mullen and Daniel Johnson.

In attendance: County Councillor Judy Cloke, District Councillor Anthony Specca.

Meeting opening time: 7.33 pm.

Apologies: Cllrs John Sanderson and Julie Hinsley.

Declarations of interest: None.

Police report: None.

District and County Councillors reports: Both had been emailed to the Parish Councillors prior to the meeting.

D Cllr Specca asked if there were any questions that arose from the reports.

There were none.

Cllr Kidner asked why there was such a prolonged delay in installing the Flixton Pedestrians Crossing and Speed Camera signs by Highways.

This was enlarged upon by Cllr Warne who disputed the validity of the 15% increase added to the quote and suggested that the GPC should get interest on the money that had been in the possession of Highways for eleven months.

C Cllr Cloke said she would look into the matter if she was given the details.

Cllr Warne added that there was now a new installation date of the 27th of November.

Minutes of the last meeting: Cllr Skinner proposed that the minutes were correct, seconded by Cllr Mulhearn.

Matters arising from the minutes: Cllr Warne thanked Cllr Mann for negotiating the sum of £1175 + VAT from the 2SFG to pay for the Flixton VAS repair. Unfortunately an extra cost followed when the battery charger had to be replaced. The VAS was now working again.

Cllr Mann added that 2SFG were now doing regular litter picks in Grange Road.

All agreed that Highways although responding to reports dismissed the need for work on drains and culverts even if sent photographs of flooded roads.

Cllr Warne asked C Cllr Cloke if she could do anything financially to support getting the sign on the B1062 at the Flixton junction repaired.

C Cllr Cloke said that she could, not only from her own budget but from a recent additional sum of £3K that had been allocated for sign repairs and that she would organise for the repair to be done.

It was suggested that a thank you be given to Mr Mark Hadingham for cutting the B1062 bank between Flixton village sign and the Buck after repeated requests to the Council produced no response.

Planning: 2SFG were asking Planning to replace an old gutting shed with a new one. After some discussion it was agreed that as the new shed was to cover practically the same area in the same place as the old one and was not conspicuous to the road that there should be no objection.

Cllr Warne was asked to contact Nicole Sanderson asking her to convey this decision to planning.

Finance: Payments to be agreed: Community Action web site £60
Pad for St Cross defibrillator £80.34
Flixton replacement VAS charger £84.60
GPC Flixton Village Hall fee £11

Cllr Mann stated that the sum in the bank was £5659.95 similar to last year with known expenditure of £350 including £49 for a second mirror for St Felix Rise which would be attached to the bus shelter. Yearly running costs were approximately £600.

The precept was then discussed. Cllr Skinner suggested that the new precept should be calculated with 6% inflation. This was agreed resulting in a sum of £1920.

The acceptance on the payments and the agreement on the precept calculation were proposed by Cllr Skinner and seconded by Cllr Noakes.

Cllr D Mann then informed the Cllrs that he had had to change the insurance from Zurich, who would no longer do it, to the ANFVAR insurance company and had had to make several decisions on his own to push it through. The resulting cost was £216.18.

Cllr Man was thanked for his efforts.

Reports from Councillors:

Planning for Buckland excavation: Cllr Warne thanked C Cllr Cloke who represented the Flixton residents and the Parish Council at a site visit, which he also attended, and two meetings the last of which was at Ipswich on Tuesday the 31st of October when the excavation was voted to go ahead by 4 votes to 2.

It was decided that the processing plant at the Flixton Park site could not be moved to the Buckland site as the cost would make the project non viable.

One important request was that out going lorries from the Flixton Park site should be directed out to Homersfield via the B1062 onto the A143 unless going in the Beccles or Halesworth direction to mitigate the extra lorries passing through Flixton from the Buckland site to the Flixton Park site for processing.

Shaun Denny the Breeden Planning Manager stated that he had been negotiating with Mr Roma regarding access by residents to the lake path on the Flixton Park site without success. Upon restoration of the Buckland site there will be a small parking area and a hide provided.

C Cllr Cloke said that even though the decision had been made that she would press the Environment Agency to ensure that they had done a thorough survey.

Any other business: Cllr Kidner said that he would produce a minutes rota again for the new year if the Cllrs approved. All agreed to continue.

Cllrs Nokes and French Mullen requested funding for speed limiting signs at either end of the Lane at St Cross. Suggested wording Slow Horses.

It was suggested that they find out the cost of installation.

C Cllr Cloke agreed a site visit to St Cross to assess flooding risks before going to Highways.

C Cloke also stated that Garry Mortishire of ESCC Housing was asking for the dimensions of the Ecomesh required for St Felix Rise.

It was suggested that it was the responsibility of ESCC to calculate it and not to forget the posts to prevent vehicles driving over the grass rather than keeping on the drive ways.

C Cllr Cloke said that she would follow it up.

Next meeting: Monday January the 8th, 7.30 pm at St Margaret South Elmham V H.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

