

MORNINGTHORPE AND FRITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Friars Farm Barn, Morningthorpe
at 6.30pm on Tuesday 14 January 2025

Present: Cllrs W Sargent (Chair), P Rodger, C McDonnell, G Floyd

In attendance: G Roderick-Jones (Clerk), County Cllr A Thomas, District Cllr M Hooton

1 Public Discussion:

2 Apologies for absence: Cllr N Cullum

3 Declarations of interest: Cllr Sargent, Cllr Rodger and Cllr Macdonnell declared a financial interest in item 9 (to discuss the council's response to the public consultation on the East Pye Solar proposals)

4 Report from County & District Councillors:

Local government devolution: County Cllr Alison Thomas informed the meeting that Norfolk and Suffolk have decided to opt in to the government's Priority Programme which will enable them to obtain government support if they decide to back devolution. This will involve cancelling scheduled elections. Further detail is needed before decisions can be made.

District Cllr Hooton discussed the District Council's efforts to combat food waste. They have purchased eight hydrogen powered trucks and plan to expand the Ketteringham site. Households will receive food waste bins in April 2026 and collection will be phased in over a number of months. Side waste (extra waste in bags or bins alongside the official bins) will no longer be allowed.

5 Minutes of the last meeting held on 12 November 2024 were approved and signed; it was agreed after discussion that details of issues can best be disseminated via social media, probably an existing community Facebook page.

6 Finances

a NOTED: Current bank balances as at 7 January 2025

current account	£4,874.76
savings account	£2,086.00
savings 2	£1,089.25
balance	£8,050.01

b NOTED: £220.00 from South Norfolk Litterpick now received;
bank interest of £4.06 and £7.77 received on 2 December 2024

c DECIDED: precept demand for 2025-26 – the council have opted for a 5% increase in the parish portion of the Council Tax for 2025-26, which leads to a total precept of £3,413 per annum, and a Band D charge of £29.68 – an increase of £0.66 per household, per year.(proposed Cllr Sargent, seconded Cllr Macdonnell)

d AUTHORISED payments:

G Roderick-Jones	annual salary	£1,657.34
HMRC	PAYE	£424.34

(proposed Cllr Sargent, seconded Cllr Macdonnell and all agreed)

- 7 Election of new councillor:** Following an uncontested election, Glenn Floyd was welcomed to the parish council. Cllr Floyd completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and has already submitted his Register of Interests documentation.
- 8 Planning issues circulated to councillors since last meeting:**
- a 2024/3704 European Trade Centre – regularized intensification of car sales
- OBJECT (proposed Cllr Sargent, seconded Cllr Rodger)
 - b 2024/3599 European Trade Centre – conversion of office space to office-cum-accommodation – OBJECT (proposed Cllr Sargent, seconded Cllr Rodger)
 - c late applications if any (none)
- NOTE:** District Cllr Hooton will speak to the Head of Planning to attempt to have the different applications for this address put under a single case officer.
- 9 Highways/Road Safety:** NCC Highways have not yet responded to recent emails on this topic, nor have they given information on what types of electronic signs are acceptable – clerk to follow up. Clerk to report damage all along Brick Kiln Lane apparently caused by extra traffic diverted from Long Stratton Bypass construction; also Give Way sign on Fritton Common at end of Steppings Lane which has been knocked down.
- 10 To discuss the PC's response to the public consultation on the East Pye Solar proposals:**
District Cllr Hooton has been actively following developments and has been in discussion with the Planning Inspectorate dealing with this National Significant Infrastructure Project. The non-statutory consultation is now over and the results are being analysed. There will be a further consultation in Q3 of 2025, and results will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in Q4 of 2025.
- 11 Correspondence:** as above and as circulated to councillors
- 12 AOB/ items for the next agenda:** as above, and: use of social media, Spring Litterpick, clerk's salary review
- 13 Next meeting:** Tuesday 11 March 2025 at 6.30pm at Friars Farm Barn