

Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on Monday 3rd April 2023

Present: Councillor, T Threlfall (Chair)

Councillors, T Fiddler, Mrs L Willis, Mrs N Griffiths, Mrs P Mulholland, Mrs N Whalley, Mrs C Thomas, Mrs F Craig-Wilson and K McKay.

Apologies:

Councillors, St J Greenhough & J Graham – Other Business.
It was resolved to accept the reasons for absence.

1) Chairman's Annual Report 2023

Thanks to the retiring Parish Councillors for their contribution to Freckleton and its residents. St. John Greenhough is a retiring Parish Councillor who for over 25 years put his heart and soul into this Village. I was privileged to be his Vice Chairman when he was Chairman for the 2 years in the very difficult times of the Covid period. On behalf of the Council and its residents I extend my thanks and gratitude to St. John.

I would like to thank LCC and County Councillor Paul Rigby, the United Utilities, FBC and the Environment Agency for the assistance I was given in tackling the flood problems in Bush Lane, Lower Lane, Lodge Close and Lytham Road and I hope the residents cannot live in fear of flooding.

Thanks to Pat Knight, Susan Hankinson and all the other Volunteers that made the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration such a success. Also, the Club Day committee for their continued fantastic amount of work in providing our Club Day weekend.

I share the profound concerns expressed by the Villagers in the Boundary Commission's decision to split the Village into 2 parts for the forthcoming local elections. This will mean that the residents north of the bye-pass will not have a say in who represents them in Freckleton at Fylde Borough.

Congratulations to the Village for winning the gold medal in the North West In-Bloom competition last year. Many thanks to the In Bloom committee, all the Contractors and Volunteers that made our Village so colourful. I extend a special thanks to Lorenzo's for the buffet they provided us one evening.

I would like to thank the Parish Council for its support in agreeing to organise an event for the King's Coronation in the Memorial Park & Coach & Horses car park on 07/05/23.

A Blue Plaque is to be installed to mark the first Police house in the Village, on Kirkham Road. Other sites are being considered.

Dog fouling throughout the Village continues to be a major concern to residents. Fylde Borough Council are being encouraged to improve enforcement. To minimise this issue, I also extend my thanks to the residents who have helped in this matter

The celebrations on Christmas Eve, including the Fireworks displayed was enjoyed by many of the villagers. My thanks go to Peter Walton, for organising the display and to Carol Thomas for arranging the event.

Freckleton Cricket and Football teams are going from strength to strength. We have 6 teams from juniors to senior football and cricket in Freckleton is now a much-improved status. I would like to thank all the Management staff that make this possible.

At Christmas last year we hosted a fantastic Xmas tree which all the Village commented on how majestic it stood through the Xmas period. I extend my thanks to those who made it happen. David Kirby, Thomas Garlick and Dean Wilson.

I conclude by thanking the Council for their support and to Carol Thomas, the Vice Chairman, for her support and encouragement. A special thanks goes to Ken Armistead, our Clerk, for the professional way he conducts Council business.

Cllr. Thomas Threlfall,
Chairman of the Parish Council

2) Chairman of Finance's report 2023

- Thank you to Mr. Ken Armistead, our Clerk, and Liz Willis for all the help and guidance this past year which has been much appreciated.
- **Precept account (including Open Spaces).**

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- The Council's expenditure for 2022/23 was over spent by £16k due to the increase in energy & fuel costs and repairs to the Open Spaces areas & machinery. This will be paid for from the Council's Reserves.
- The Precept for 2023/24 has been set with no increase. Any overspend will be paid for from Council's Reserves.
- Thanks go to all the Councillors for keeping a tight control on the budgets and ensuring it receives best value for the money being spent.
- This is the 9th year in succession that the Council has been able to set a budget with no additional cost to the Parishioners.

- **Community Development Account**

- Interest rates remain low on the Council's savings Accounts.

- **Capital expenditure**

- The following capital expenditure has been completed in 2022/23

New Doors and Facias for Band room	£4,483
Mugs for Queen's Jubilee Celebrations	£994
New gang Mower	£12,000
New Noticeboard for Bush Lane Allotments	£840
Additional CCTV cameras for memorial park	£2,882
Trim Trees on Balderstone	£640
Flooring for Bowling Pavilion	£1,000
New Skirt for John Deere tractor	£200

- **Income**

Interest on the Council's Savings accounts	£375
Rent from Hire of land	£755
FBC - Donation Queen's Jubilee	£1,209
George Blackburn Trust – Donation towards Queen's Jubilee	£1,000
Donation towards Queen's Jubilee	£491
LCC grass cutting contract	£2,998
Police Crime Com – Donation towards CCTV cameras	£1,100
Donation for Bench	£700

- **Proposed Capital Expenditure for 2023/24 (The amount of expenditure to be agreed)**

Repairs to Rawstone Centre Changing rooms & Roof	£10,000
King's Coronation Celebrations	£ 2,500

COUNCIL FINANCIAL RECORDS ARE KEPT STRICTLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND ARE AUDITED REGULARLY BY COUNCILLORS AND ANNUALLY BY AN INDEPENDENT AUDITORS.
ACCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING FROM THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL.

3) Financial Statement -Unaudited

It was resolved to approve the unaudited Accounts – see Appendix A

4) Public Participation

No public were in attendance.

Appendix A

Freckleton Parish Council				
Summary of Income and Expenditure for the year ended		31 March 2023		
		2022-23		2021-22
Income				
Precept		£106,714		105602
Open Spaces		£0		£0
Allotments		£2,120		£2,195
Community Dev.		£9,387		£7,900
Total income		£118,221		£115,697
Expenditure				
Precept		£122,889		£106,522
Including:				
Section 137 of the LGA Act 1972	£750		£480	
Open Spaces	£84,788		£62,727	
Allotments		£1,425		£696
Community Dev.		£24,366		£25,412
Total Expenditure		£148,679		£132,630
Excess of Expenditure over Income		-£30,458		-£16,932
Balance sheet as at 31st March 2023				
Fund Balance at 1st April 2022		£124,755		£141,687
Minus Excess of Expenditure over income		-£30,458		-£16,932
Total assets		£94,297		£124,755
Represented by:				
Total Bank Balances		£92,712		£123,864
Prepayments		£1,585		£891
Fund balance at 31st March 2023		£94,297		£124,755
The above represents fairly the financial position of the Authority at 31st March 2023 and reflects its income and Expenditure				
Chairman			Financial Officer.	

Signed.....T Fiddler, Vice Chairman.....

Date.....18/05/23.....

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Initialed