



FRIDAYTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

fridaythorpecouncil@gmail.com

PROPOSAL FOR THE FUTURE OF FRIDAYTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

15TH FEBRUARY 2016

CLLR D. Scullane

Since May 2015 it has become clear that Fridaythorpe Parish Council is and was, to varying extents, an inadequate council. Steps have been taken to improve the council since this time and the position of the council in February 2016 is slightly better than that of May 2015.

In order to rapidly improve and sustain this improvement, it is proposed that the council applies to take part in the Local Council Award Scheme, run by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).

There are three awards available:

- Foundation
- Quality
- Quality Gold

The criteria is attached in the appendix to this document. The criteria for Foundation status is achievable and has been the model from which the Chairman has worked since September 2015.

The Quality & Quality Gold status are reliant on the council becoming more and more involved with the electorate, including having at least two-thirds of councillors standing for election. Currently this is entirely unachievable as we have only 1 of 7 councillors who formally stood for election.

To achieve Foundation status is not the point at this stage, though future planning should strongly consider the benefit of acquiring the Quality Gold status. The point of the process in 2016 is to take part in a formal externally assessed process of understanding how to make Fridaythorpe Parish Council a more effective and compliant organisation for the benefit of the village.



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APPENDIX A – Foundation status criteria

The council confirms by resolution at a full council meeting that it publishes online:

GOVERNANCE	COMMUNITY	DEVELOPMENT
Criteria demonstrating good governance in managing the business and finances of a council	Criteria representing a council's role in the community and how it engages with the community	Criteria representing council improvement through the management and development of staff and councillors
Its standing orders and financial regulations	Council contact details and councillor information in line with the Transparency Code	
Its Code of Conduct and a link to councillors' registers of interests	Its action plan for the current year	
Its publication scheme	Evidence of consulting the community	
Its last annual return	Publicity advertising council activities	
Transparent information about council payments	Evidence of participating in town and country planning	
A calendar of all meetings including the annual meeting of electors		
Minutes for at least one year of full council meetings and (if relevant) all committee and sub-committee meetings		
Current agendas		
The budget and precept information for the current or next financial year		
Its complaints procedure		



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APPENDIX A – continued

The council also confirms by resolution at a full council meeting that it has:

GOVERNANCE	COMMUNITY	DEVELOPMENT
Criteria demonstrating good governance in managing the business and finances of a council	Criteria representing a council's role in the community and how it engages with the community	Criteria representing council improvement through the management and development of staff and councillors
A risk management policy		Disciplinary and grievance procedures
A register of assets		A policy for training new staff and councillors
Contracts for all members of staff		A record of all training undertaken by staff and councillors in the last year
Up-to-date insurance policies that mitigate risks to public money		A clerk who has achieved 12 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points in the last year

This evidence is not posted online, the panel may ask to see the evidence if it is considered necessary.

The council notifies the accreditation panel co-ordinator when the resolution has been agreed and provides a completed application form, including webpage addresses to where the information can be found online.