



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE OF FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON TUESDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 7.00PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE MEMORIAL HALL**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: A Bamford (Chair), C Bray, B Hobbs, C Fleury, T Nicholson

Absent Cllr M Wheeler

Members of the public 0

Assistant Clerk: Emma Carter

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**1. APOLOGIES:** Cllr G Kennett MBE

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

It was **resolved** the Minutes of the last meetings held 23rd February 2016 having been circulated and be approved and signed (CF/CB).

**3. INVITE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON ALLOTMENT MATTERS ON THE AGENDA AT THE AT THE CHAIRMANS DISCRETION.**

None Present

**4. ASSISTANT CLERK TO CONFIRM CURRENT WAITING LIST NUMBERS:**

Assistant Clerk confirmed that the waiting list currently has 11 people on it but that the top six have already been offered a plot and all have declined at least until the new year.

**5. INCOME:**

Cllr Bamford confirmed that the budget for 2016/2017 is £250 plus the income from the rent dues. It was confirmed by the Assistant Clerk that rents received thus far had totalled £1,468.25. Assistant Clerk also pointed out that this is higher than normal as plots had continued to be given up throughout the year, meaning that some plots had been rented out more than once. It was confirmed that the rent is adjusted in price according to the amount of time left in the year as had been the case in previous years

**6. EXPENDITURE:**

Cllr Bamford confirmed that so far £1,011.50 had been spent at the allotment since the start of January 2016. £380 on removal of rubbish from the allotments.

£261.44 on the wood for the new allotment plot number signs.

£164.00 on the plaques for the new allotment plot number signs.

£180.06 on water rates

£26.00 on Hall hire for the meeting in January.

Assistant Clerk confirmed that there is now £456.75 left out of the rent fees plus the £250 from the budget which totals £706.75

## 7. BEES:

All Councillors received a report from the Chairman prior to the meeting. It outlined rules and regulations that have to be followed and adhered to if keeping bees. It makes clear that areas near to schools, horses and other certain places are unsuitable for Bee keeping. So the unanimous decision was taken to put a halt on any Bees Keeping at the Allotments. It was suggested that maybe Granny's Meade could be considered.

## 8. BADGERS:

All Councillors received a brief report from the assistant clerk prior to the meeting. It outlined meetings that had taken place with a representative from the Badger's Trust at the allotments and the advice that he had given.

The Assistant Clerk confirmed that from this advice, a site meeting had been arranged with Murray from 'Protected Species Ecology Ltd' and the representative from the Badger's Trust. It was also confirmed that the final written report and recommendations, were currently being put together by Protected Species Ecology Ltd and should be sent back to the Parish shortly. It was confirmed over the telephone, that this was one of, if not, the biggest Sett that Murray had ever seen in all his years of doing his job.

The decision was taken to finish the meeting at this point (7.35pm) as this information has a knock on effect to the rest of the meeting.

**Assistant Clerk** confirmed that she would send the report out to the councillors once it had been received and a meeting would then be scheduled.

## 9. Paddock:

## 10. ANY OTHER MATTERS:.

## 11. SEATS:

A) The quote regarding seats 976 & 935 was discussed. Cllr Nicholson confirmed that seat 976 had recently been replaced by Island Roads but highlighted that the memorial had been removed and not replaced.

**Assistant Clerk** to advise the family of this and ask them if they wish to have a plaque placed on the bench instead.

Seat 935 was agreed to be replaced with an Oak Plank seat from RVN.

B) All Councillors had received the update on the works that had been carried out on the seats, prior to the meeting.

Cllrs asked if the Seats budget be pulled out of the Open Spaces budget so that it could be easily identified. **Assistant Clerk** confirmed that this would be requested.

Councillors asked that the next twelve benches that need repairing in the village be identified and actioned as soon as possible.

Two benches at the top of Moa Place Car Park on the left hand side. Confirmation of who owns these is required, as they are on IWC land.

It was mentioned that the Millennium seat at School Green Round be removed and placed elsewhere in the village. Possibly to Stroud Field.

It was also raised that the Parish Wooden Bridges need care and attention. **Assistant Clerk** confirmed that this would be added to the list of jobs needing to be done.

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING WAS CONFIMRED AS:**

The meeting closed at 8.05pm