



**PUBLIC (DRAFT/UNAPPROVED)**  
**FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Clerk's office 01983 752000**

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 AT 7.15 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: C Fleury (Chair), C Bray, A Harris, B Hobbs, C Lillywhite, A Bamford, B Hinton MBE, G Cameron, K Lloyd and D Eccles.

Isle of Wight Cllr J Medland

Members of the public: 9

Clerk: M J Mills

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**1. APOLOGIES:** M Wheeler, G Kennett MBE, P England.

**2. TO INVITE COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.**

None.

**3. TO AGREE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD 21<sup>st</sup> JANUARY AND 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2015.**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meetings held on 21<sup>st</sup> January and 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015, having been circulated, be approved.

**4. GUEST SPEAKER MR PAUL SAVILL**

Mr Savill gave an informative and useful presentation on "My Life a Full Life".

**5. QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (UP TO 15 MINUTES).**

Mr Noyce on item 12. Mr Tyrell asked if a report had been presented for United Charities Trust at the last Annual Parish meeting. Cllr Hobbs confirmed that it had. It would be included for the agenda for the meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March.

**6. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNTY CLLRS/QUESTION AND UPDATE SESSION (UP TO 15 MINUTES FROM BOTH CLLRS).**

Cllr Eccles said that IWC had now passed a balanced budget. Savings of £14.5 million were made. Council tax increase would be 1.99%.

IWC had agreed to undertake a parking strategy.

Cllr Medland's written report was noted. The chairman asked about the future of IWC. Cllr Medland said that his statement was based on information from the managing director and that when rising costs and falling income were looked at the organisation could only last for 3 years unless there was a change after the forthcoming election.

Cllr Hobbs asked about the library service and Cllr Medland said that we needed to find out what was being proposed. The chairman said that the Parish Council could not keep finding money without having notice that it was required. Cllr Hinton said that he had been assured by Cllr Shirley Smart that the library was safe. Cllr Bamford said that the library service was safe but the question was now about the library building. There was also a proposal to rely on volunteers.

Cllr Harris said that this demonstrated the incompetence of IWC. There seemed to be no strategic plan.

Cllr Medland said that the figures were enormous. 100's of staff had been lost and IWC was having to redesign the way things were done. The budget figures were being worked on right up to the time of the budget meeting. It was unsurprising that some detail was overlooked.

Cllr Bamford said that the library savings had been done on footfall. Freshwater had the least but it was also the cheapest.

## **7. CLERKS REPORT.**

### Jubilee Field

Nothing further heard since the site meeting on 29th January. However see below. We have been warned that the IWC legal department may slow up after the end of March if this is not completed by then. Councillors may be interested to note the history of this matter. First agreed in December 2012 for the grant of a lease (then 10 years). Tenancy at Will concluded in April 2013 reciting that IWC wished to grant a lease "as soon as it was able".

Cllr Medland said this was in case another school was required which he thought was very unlikely. He understood that break clauses would be unacceptable to the Parish Council. He said that some progress was being made on the issue of the fence for the Children's Centre.

### Seats

Cllr Bamford and her husband Michael accompanied the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk for a walk to check parish council seats on 17th February. Cllr Bamford has arranged photographs of most seats in the parish and work is being done on updating records and policies.

### SLCC meeting

Clerk attended SLCC AGM on 18th February. Guest speaker was Cllr David Stewart chair of IWC Scrutiny Committee.

### Ventnor Town Council

The clerk met with David Bartlett from Ventnor TC on 13th February to discuss car parking and discretionary services.

### Moa Place lease

At the public consultation meeting on 21st January it was suggested that Cowes TC had been successful in reducing the length of a lease. The Clerk has contacted Cowes TC but they have no knowledge of the matter.

## Spinfish

Phase 2 has now been completed. The goat willow which required cutting back (Open Spaces Committee 21st October) was dealt with at the same time. See Open Spaces Report.

## Discretionary services

Advertisement has been placed for tenders and a draft contract has been prepared. See also below.

## Meeting with Isle of Wight Council

The Clerk met with Lee Matthews and Alex Minns on Thursday 26th February and discussed the following

MUGA, Moa Place and Skate Park

Jubilee Field – apparently now waiting on the education department to decide what education needs there may be in future on the site

Stroud recreation ground

Play areas

Discretionary services – the current contractors could be asked to extend the contract until 8th May to tie in with the current contract for Jubilee Field. IWC will check our contract to see if anything has been omitted.

So far as the MUGA was concerned IWC had quotes for repair work which they thought was in the region of £5000. IWC thought that money might be available.

## Common Land

The Clerk has inspected the register at County Hall of common land for the Freshwater area.

## Planning course

The Clerk and the Assistant Clerk attended an IWALC planning course on 26th February along with Cllrs Kennett, Fleury, Bamford and England.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE AND TABLED DOCUMENTS.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

9<sup>th</sup> February Isle of Wight Council re Tree Preservation Order Jasmine House

10<sup>th</sup> February e mail Pauline Tyrell

10<sup>th</sup> February IWALC re hustings

16<sup>th</sup> February NALC newsletter

16<sup>th</sup> February e mail David and Esme Ballard

17<sup>th</sup> February Isle of Wight Council re trees in Norton Green

19<sup>th</sup> February e mail Isle of Wight Council re street trading notification

19<sup>th</sup> February e mail re Hampshire and IOW Village of the Year Competition

26<sup>th</sup> February letter Island Roads

2<sup>nd</sup> March e mail re IW Volunteer Centre

Letter John Howells

### **TABLE**

West Wight Sports Centre living with long term conditions cafe

Community Insight

2<sup>nd</sup> March NALC newsletter

## 9. TO AGREE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

**Resolved** that the following payments be approved

### Payments February 2015 - by internet banking

<b>TOTAL SALARIES</b>	£	<b>1657.85</b>
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### Cheques drawn for payment 3rd March 2015

			£	
Debit Cd	BT Inv SD44324534M019AG	2nd line rental Feb + fees	27.60	paid 12/02
Debit Cd	Norton Order NP233034702	1 yr Online backup subscription	39.99	paid 18/02
Debit Cd	LCN Inv LCN1435653	Domain renewal 2yrs	7.20	paid 26/02
400623	Is/wide Grounds Maintenance Ltd Inv 3677	Spinfish clearance work	1680.00	
400624	Parish Online Inv POL-2014-00mw008	Setup & Annual fee	124.80	
400625	Ricoh Inv 100069124; Cr 100112173;Inv 10113808	Rent 01/01/15 - 31/03/15	134.94	
400626	Island Signs Inv 3402	Allotment gate sign	60.00	
400627	MALCO Inv 1165;1158	Hire -T Room precept W Party & N Plan; S Hall Fin Meeting; Main Hall Parish Consultation; Office electricity	278.00	
400628	W Hurst Inv F3356640	Skatepark black bags	3.58	
400630	Ricoh Inv 100133085	Useage 01/10 - 31/12	49.56	
400631	C Press Inv 602990	Official Notice Tender Discretionary Services	80.64	
400632	The Forge (IW) Ltd Inv 10762	Skatepark fit plates (75% invoice paid)	342.00	
400633	Hillbans Pest Control Inv P21622	Pest Control for Feb 2015	61.80	
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>2890.11</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£4,547.96</b>	

The Chairman explained that the Forge invoice was 75% because of concerns with the standard of the work.

**10. POUND GREEN.** Report on the meeting held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February and future plans.

Members of the public asked about the positioning of the posts and what provision would be made for workmen to turn.

Cllr Hobbs said that she did not think the sign was in the right place.

Cllr Bray said that the posts needed replacing. They would be the same height and type as had been used in Coronation Lane.

It was agreed that a plan would be sent to local residents for consultation.

Cllr Cameron said that a turning place was needed.

## **11. NALC/IWALC AFFILIATION FEES.**

It was agreed that NALC/IWALC affiliation fees of £938.73 be paid for 2015/2016 subscription (BH/CL).

## **12. SECTION 106 CONTRIBUTION DUE FROM THE WEST WIGHT MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLICATION**

It was noted that in the sum of £14,500 has been received by Isle of Wight Council as the section 106 contribution in respect of planning permission P/01332/11 – former West Wight Middle School. The Chairman said that it would be desirable to have a vision for the Jubilee Field/Stroud Recreation area.

Cllr Harris suggested using the money for the MUGA. Cllr Hobbs said a pavilion was needed. Cllr Eccles said that certainly changing facilities were needed.

Cllr Lloyd felt that the issue should be discussed with the West Wight Sports and Community Centre since they were providing toilet facilities. Cllr Eccles said that he would be happy to liaise with the WWS&CC.

## **13. CAR PARKING.**

Cllr Eccles mentioned the forthcoming IWC parking strategy. He said that all sides would be involved.

Cllr Hinton mentioned Mrs Middleton's shop. They wanted a voucher scheme. It was urgent to do something with the new Co-operative opening. The public consultation confirmed that this had support and it should be actively pursued.

The Chairman mentioned looking also at using the taxi rank and one of the disabled spaces by the library.

Cllr Hobbs said that Avenue Road must remain as a car park as it was important to Avenue Road shopping.

Cllr Medland said that he agreed the odd spaces mentioned. Also there was free parking in Tennyson Road but this was being abused. He suggested looking at the IWC strategy.

Cllr Harris said the 1500 who had signed the petition should be told what is going on. He thought we should still pursue the free half hour at Moa Place.

## **14. AVENUE ROAD PUBLIC REALM PROPOSALS AND UPDATE ON MEETING WITH ISLAND ROADS.**

The Chairman and Vice-chairman had met with Island Roads. Island Roads had initially indicated that they had set plans but when pressed they did not know details and surveys had not been carried out. There is now an open door to discuss matters.

The idea is to have a gateway into the village by the Co-operative in Avenue Road. This would slow down traffic which currently is too fast and would be better for pedestrians. Also it was hoped to make a crossing on a level surface.

Cllr Eccles said that details needed to be provided and the job priced fairly quickly. Island Roads did want to co-operate. Bembridge had carried out a scheme successfully.

Cllr Harris said that roads were being resurfaced where people lived and Island Roads did not consider this.

Cllr Eccles gave some details of the contract. He said that the contract management team was very limited. A new plant had recently opened.

Cllr Hinton pointed out that road works would affect business if they took too long.

## **15. UPDATE ON MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE CO-OPERATIVE.**

The Chairman confirmed that he, the vice-chairman, Cllr Bray, Cllr Cameron and the Clerk had met with Richard Stileman estates manager of Southern Co-op. The store was now expected to open mid-May. Co-op had no plans to repair the highway.

## **16. MUGA UPDATE.**

The Chairman said that Isle of Wight Council had also mentioned cleaning the surface.

Junior football have offered to manage the facility ie payment but Cllr Lloyd said that it was impractical to expect anyone to pay.

#### **17. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING UPDATE.**

There were no agenda items so far other than raised tonight.

The Chairman commented that he was worried about the number of requests for volunteers. Cllr Lloyd said that the volunteer fair was attracting 25 organisations and many locals. There were 1500 community and voluntary groups on the Isle of Wight.

#### **18. WEST WIGHT TIMEBANK.**

Cllr Cameron had gone to the presentation. This was a good thing. They should be invited to apply for a community grant.

**19. NORTON GREEN** – to agree that Cllr Wheeler should arrange for drainage works previously approved by the Parish Council to be carried out at a cost not exceeding £1400 (subject to £500 contribution).

Cllr Eccles said that he was worried about setting a precedent. He could think of 4 other places that could ask for the same. He recorded his strong objection. Cllr Lloyd pointed out that the Parish Council had already agreed to it.

The Clerk pointed out that this was common land and ownership was unknown.

**Resolved** that estimates and costings be obtained.

#### **20. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE.**

Cllr Bamford said that the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop had been very successful. It was coming to a conclusion of the 4 groups. The recent planning course had confirmed the benefit of a neighbourhood plan.

Cllr Eccles mentioned that some planning functions could be devolved to the parish.

#### **21. SOUTHERN ELECTRIC POWER DISTRIBUTION RESILIENT COMMUNITIES FUND.**

The Clerk summarised the matter. Cllr Hobbs suggested walky talkies.

#### **22. RISK ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE AS PROPOSED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

It was **resolved** to adopt the risk assessment schedule as proposed by the Finance Committee.

#### **23. LETTER FROM A LOCAL RESIDENT REGARDING ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

A letter had been received from a local resident expressing concerns about the school.

The chairman said that numbers at the school had dropped. Currently there were 91 pupils. At one time, but not recently, there had been in the region of 200.

There were concerns about children moving to other schools.

Cllr Bray said that the school was ticking all the boxes and the staff were working very hard to make improvements.

#### **24. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SUB-GROUPS, COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES.**

Written report from Cllr Bray Open Spaces Committee.

Cllr Lloyd said that she had been tasked with looking at social media. She wanted the Parish Council to press ahead with a new website which would probably take one month to complete.

We should be preparing newsletters and doing press releases twice per month.

Cllr Lloyd will set up Facebook and Twitter accounts and links with website. The office would need some new hardware - 2 PC's and 1 laptop. Software would also be needed such as Publisher and or Coral. Cllrs Lloyd and Bamford to get costings.

**25. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.**

IT equipment for the office (KL)

Library (BAH)

Avenue Road map and costings (DE)

**26. That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.**

Staff pay and leave were considered.

The meeting closed at 9.17pm