

**MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17th MARCH 2015 AT 7.30 PM IN THE
TENNYSON SUITE OF THE MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors: C Fleury (Chair), M Wheeler, G Kennett MBE,
G Cameron, B Hobbs, D Eccles,
A Bamford, K Lloyd, P England, C Bray,
5 Members of Public

APOLOGIES: Councillors: B Hinton MBE, A Harris, C Lillywhite.

NOTICE AND WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and signed the Convening Notice. He also welcomed the guest speaker Mr David Lewis.

1. GUEST SPEAKER MR DAVID LEWIS

David gave a presentation on the Freshwater Neighbourhood Plan. He went through the background to the plan and how it had progressed to date. He also went through the first draft of the plan.

Cllr Fleury thanked Mr Lewis for an entertaining and illuminating talk.

2. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 2014 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:

It was **resolved** the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2014, having been, circulated and agreed, be approved and signed subject to minor amendments (BAH/MW).

3. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL:

The Chairman gave the 2014 Annual Report for the year. Copy attached to Minutes.

4. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL HALL ARTS AND LEISURE COMPANY:

Cllr Brenda Hobbs, Chairman of the Memorial Hall Arts and Leisure Company gave the report for the year. Attached to the Minutes.

5. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNITED CHARITIES TRUST:

Cllr Brenda Hobbs, Chairman of the United Charities Trust gave the report for the year. Attached to the Minutes.

6. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FRIENDS OF FRESHWATER LIBRARY:

Ann Fraser, Chairman of the Friends of Freshwater Library gave a talk about the Group.

Ann said that the group had been set up about 3 years ago because of fears about the future of the library. This year was the library's 75th birthday. The aim of the group is to support, protect and preserve the library. It now has 150 members. The group holds events, maintains the garden flower beds, holds theatrical performances, children's workshops and trips to London etc.

Events are held on the 3rd Monday of every month, and most events are free although there is a donations bucket. It costs £2 to join the group.

Mrs Fraser said that Isle of Wight Council were now seeking to handover the library building to the community. FOFL were keen to step up and were hoping for the help of the Parish Council. There would only be a single person staffing the library from October.

As a community group FOFL may be able to access grants and funding. They would look to provide volunteers to man the library. FOFL would be at the forthcoming volunteers' fair on 21st March.

Mrs Fraser invited people to join FOFL and or become a volunteer. She urged people to use the library as footfall was important. People could also give a donation. FOFL could be followed on Facebook.

7. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FYT BUS:

Cllr Adrian Harris, Director and Trustee of the FYT Bus was not present but his report for the year was presented by the Chairman. Attached to the Minutes.

8. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE SUPPORTERS OF THE MEMORIAL HALL

Cllr Anne Bamford said that the group had been started in September 2014. They had sought to involve local businesses and had visited businesses in the area including Yarmouth. They had run the Christmas market which included live singing and had raised £380. The group's name had changed to Supporters of Memorial Hall Community (SOMC). Their role was to promote, support and protect the Memorial Hall. They were now looking at raising £1000 for some new tables. The group worked closely with hall users and will organise fund raising. The group would be represented at the Volunteers' Fair. The group has a place on the Memorial Hall website. The group is looking forward to an exciting future.

9. OPEN SPACES UPDATE:

Cllr Carol Bray presented her report. Attached to the Minutes.

10. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

A question had been asked by the Pet Shop about dog fouling and litter. These were felt to be important issues but difficult to resolve.

Cllr Medland said that Ventnor had employed a dog warden and the problem had diminished.

Cllr Hobbs said that she thought it was helpful to put notices on waste bins to remind people.

The Clerk to reply to Jess Marsh.

11. OTHER MATTERS

Cllr Wheeler said that an informal group of West Wight local councils was meeting on a 3 monthly basis. Items under discussion had included discretionary services being taken over from Isle of Wight Council. Cllr Wheeler said that issues from the public could be taken to that forum. He also mentioned that there had been an idea for there to be a meeting of all the ward councillors from the West Wight. Cllr Medland said that he would welcome such a meeting.

The Chairman called the meeting to a close and thanked everyone for attending the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting closed 8.49pm.