



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 7th JULY 2015 AT 8.15 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER**

PRESENT: Councillors: M Wheeler, (Chair), C Fleury, C Bray, A Bamford, A Harris, B Hobbs, K Lloyd, D Eccles, B Hinton and Sandra Allen.

Members of the public: 0

Clerk: M J Mills

- 1. APOLOGIES:** G Kennett MBE, G Cameron, C Lillywhite.
- 2. TO INVITE COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.**
None.
- 3. TO AGREE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON 2ND AND 16TH JUNE 2015.**
It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meetings held on 2nd and 16th June, having been circulated, be approved (BAH/CF).
- 4. TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FROM MRS SANDRA ALLEN TO BE A CO-OPTED MEMBER OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.**
It was unanimously agreed that Mrs Allen be co-opted member of Freshwater Parish Council. Her declaration of office was signed.
- 5. QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (UP TO 15 MINUTES).**
None
- 6. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNTY CLLRS/QUESTION AND UPDATE SESSION (UP TO 15 MINUTES FROM BOTH CLLRS).**
Cllr Medland presented his written report.
Cllr Medland mentioned the situation with Carisbrooke High School. The school had appeared safe in the original consultation. It now appeared that Medina High School was to get the money. Cllr Medland had had a lot of complaints about this. The vote was tomorrow.
Cllr Lloyd said that she had been at a public meeting. There was clearly a lot of strong feeling about this.
Cllr Bray mentioned that All Saints were now to receive money for refurbishment.
Cllr Fleury asked about the section 106 money. He said it was for young people but that was not what Cllr Medland had said in the FYT Magazine.

Cllr Hobbs asked about Jubilee Field. She thought that there should be 2 separate leases since Jubilee Field and Stroud Recreation ground were very different things.

Cllr Bray asked about bins since these were not getting emptied and street cleaning in Moa Place and also weeds now growing on the pavements.

Cllr Eccles said that his view was that Carisbrooke should be retained. The waste contract had been agreed and this was to produce savings and better recycling. It may help the problems with foxes getting into black bags (140 litre black bins to be used). It would be for 25 years from November but details were confidential.

Cllr Harris queried how savings could be £9 million a year on a cost of £1 million. Cllr Eccles thought that the savings were £1 million per annum.

Cllr Allen said that rubbish should be picked up if dropped by the collectors.

Cllr Bamford queried whether the amenity site in Freshwater would be kept and Cllr Eccles confirmed that it would.

Cllr Bray asked if the traffic lights in Afton Road were still needed. Cllr Eccles thought that 10th July was meant to be the finish date. The Clerk to write to Island Roads regarding this. ACTION – CLERK.

7. CLERKS REPORT.

Section 106 money

The Clerk requested Isle of Wight Council to transfer the £14500 s 106 money for the West Wight middle school site to the Parish Council. This has now been safely received.

Jubilee Field

Clerk is meeting Cllr Medland and Jason Doughty on Wednesday 8th July.

Clerks meeting

The Clerk attended the SLCC meeting on 30th June. This included a presentation by the Ventnor Town Clerk on Our Place and car parks.

Our Place

The Clerk attended an Our Place induction in London on 22nd June.

Discretionary services

Two reports of full litter bin on Stroud recreation ground in the last month. We are continuing to empty bins at MUGA and Skatepark although we were told that Island Roads do this 3 times per week.

Skate Park

The Clerk reported an incident to the police. A fire had been lit but no damage has been caused.

Ward councillor liaison

The Clerk met with Cllr Medland on 24th June for general update session.

Island Roads

The Clerk met with Derek Bean from Island Roads on 29th June. There has been a report of low branches on Parish Council land in Queens Road. The contractor will be asked to look into this. Island Roads have confirmed that they will replace the two seats by the Co-operative Supermarket. The Clerk has requested that the replacement seats be sited one opposite and the other at Freshwater Bay.

MALCO

The Clerk has been involved in discussions along with the Totland Parish Clerk. Agenda item.

Solent Swim

The Clerk completed the Solent Swim on 28th June.

8. REGISTER OF INTERESTS – REMINDER BY THE CLERK TO UPDATE REGISTERS OF INTEREST.

The Clerk reminded councillors of the need to keep registers of interests up to date. Forms can be obtained from the Parish Office. ACTION ALL (if appropriate).

9. CORRESPONDENCE.

10. TO AGREE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – LIST TO BE CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION.

Payments June 2015 - by internet banking

		£	
JUNE SALARIES TOTAL		1,627.50	29/06
SMC Bookkeeping Services Inv 157	Bookkeeping - May	159.50	08/06
INTERNET BANKING TOTAL		1,787.00	

Cheques drawn for payment 7th July 2015

		£		
400668	George Cameron Expenses	Hants Assoc Local Councils conference	65.60	16/05
400669	Groundsell Contracting Inv NS132	2014 Invoice - Stem Inject Japanese Knotweed	43.20	16/05
400670	Rhythm Tree Promotions Inv 0001	Freshwater Live Event	150.00	16/05
400671	Brighstone Landscaping Inv 17743	Grounds Maintenance + Spinfish + new areas	1,886.26	
400671	Brighstone Landscaping Inv 17751	Extras Selwood Road	100.99	
400672	MALCO Inv 1268	Parish Office Electric May 2015	70.00	
400673	SLCC Inv 009	New Audit Regulations Training	10.00	
400674	VOID; Terry Noyce, see 400675			
400675	Terry Noyce Inv 297	Poster of FPC members	30.00	
400675	Terry Noyce Inv 297a	JCB Printing Expenses	2.50	
400676	Michael Mills Expenses	Our Place: Travel expenses 22/6	32.78	
400677	Hillbans Pest Control Inv P21889	Pest Control June 2015 - Brookside Road	61.80	
DebitCd	Post Office	Stamps; 50x1st and 50x2nd	58.50	09/06
DebitCd	IW Council	The Avenues Business Rates June	168.00	11/06
DebitCd	BT Inv MO24 W1	2nd Line 753329 June Rental + May Charges	27.60	11/06
DebitCd	BT Inv QO32 RM	Rental 1 May-31 Aug + Charges 18 Mar-16 Jun	248.52	01/07
Sub Total			2,955.75	
TOTAL			£4,742.75	

11. MEMORIAL HALL. PRESENTATION FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL ARTS AND LEISURE COMPANY (COUNCILLOR BAMFORD).

Cllr Allen referred to the report which had been circulated. She said modest targets had been set but it might prove difficult to increase usage. A marketing plan was still to come. A lot of work was going in to that. It would be based on the training which had been undertaken.

Cllr Hinton said that promoters had told him that they were frustrated about the lack of enthusiasm at the Memorial Hall for live music events. Cllr Hinton said that the venue was ideal for live rock music. He would be happy to get involved again. Cllr Bamford said that they were starting to get some bookings.

The Chairman thanked the Hall for the presentation and suggested a further report to the December meeting of the Parish Council. ACTION MALCO.

12. FRESHWATER LIVE – UPDATE (COUNCILLORS WHEELER AND LLOYD).

Cllr Lloyd said that there were things arranged for the skate park and 5 bands were booked for the field. Cllr Cameron was organising the bar and a TENS licence would be applied for. It was envisaged that there would be fairground attractions and stalls. Music would be from 12.30 pm. West Wight swimming club were having a car boot sale 1pm to 5pm and a barbecue. Patsy's pantry would be bringing their vehicle (catering) and there would be a tea party and live music in the café for the older set with a 1950's theme. The archives group would be invited. There would be children's races and a tug of war organised by the WWS&CC and the youth club would be open. Cllr Hinton would like bands for Dimbola. It is for venues to make their own arrangements but Dimbola had been involved in discussions.

Cllr Bamford said that the Memorial Hall would be looking at a table top sale and acts for the evening.

13. AVENUE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC REALM – UPDATE (COUNCILLOR WHEELER).

Cllr Wheeler had met with Island Roads and there was a further meeting next week. Proposals involved improvements to add character, traffic calming and increasing on street parking (possibly 8 spaces). The footway may be widened and trees or planters provided.

14. JUBILEE FIELD AND STROUD RECREATION GROUND. TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE HEADS OF TERMS RE THE PROPOSED LEASE.

There is a meeting on Wednesday 8th July. The Chairman and the Clerk were tasked with agreeing any outstanding matters. ACTION CHAIRMAN AND CLERK.

15. MULTI USE GAMES, SKATEPARK, STROUD RECREATION GROUND AND JUBILEE FIELD – REPORT FROM WORKING PARTY (ITEM 17 OF JUNE MINUTES REFERS) (COUNCILLORS FLEURY, BRAY AND LLOYD).

Councillors Fleury, Bray and Lloyd had met and put forward the following suggestions
Jubilee Field

- a) to ask WWS&CC to remove the compost heap from the field
- b) to fill in and level the old long jump area and to reseed it
- c) to ask Spectrum to put yellow hatchings down on the access to Jubilee Field (emergency entrance for WWS&CC)
- d) to obtain costings for an all weather track from the gates at Windmill Lane to protect the grass from vehicles using the field and thus allowing parking for users of the field
- e) reseed all scuffed areas in the field (goal areas).

It was noted that there is now a container on the field for the football club.

Skate Park and Multi use games area (MUGA)

It was suggested that consideration be given to enlarging the skate park by using some of the existing MUGA and building a new MUGA behind the existing MUGA on Jubilee Field.

Alternatively it was suggested that half of the MUGA could be used for the skate park and a new MUGA built on the part that is left and the area behind which would involve taking less of Jubilee Field.

The MUGA can be extended by taking away the back fence as previously discussed.

Stroud Recreation Ground

New play equipment to be considered on old school land Black Hut Green side of the existing play area.

Cllr Bray suggested that this be referred to Finance Committee to be taken forward. It would need to be costed.

Cllr Hobbs said that she would oppose any reduction in Jubilee Field.

16. MULTI USE GAMES AREA – TO CONSIDER WHETHER OR NOT TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE COSTS OF REPAIR AND REINSTATEMENT (COUNCILLOR LLOYD).

It was agreed to provide an amount not exceeding £3500 towards the costs of refurbishment.

17. COMMUNICATION – UPDATE ON WEBSITE (COUNCILLOR BAMFORD).

Cllrs Bamford and Lloyd gave a presentation of the new website.

18. JULIA MARGARET CAMERON BANKNOTE (COUNCILLOR HINTON).

Cllr Hinton said that this had started with Cllr Julie Jones-Evans. It was agreed to support this and a ballot box will be placed in the Parish Office.

19. TO CONSIDER ARRANGEMENTS FOR RENEWAL OF THE PARISH COUNCIL'S INSURANCE (RENEWAL DATE 14TH AUGUST).

A quote from Came and Co had just been received and it was agreed that this should be postponed to another meeting.

20. THE OLD FIRE STATION. TO CONSIDER THE POSITION WITH REPAIRS/REPOINTING AND THE FUTURE USE OF THE BUILDING (COUNCILLOR BRAY).

Cllr Bray said that there needed to be an internal inspection. The Council needed to decide whether to spend or not and whether the building was needed for the Parish Council or not. It would be suitable for archives. It was agreed that there should be a condition survey and valuation. The details of the current licence needed to be checked. ACTION CLERK.

21. THE AVENUES SITE. TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE SITE.

It was agreed to commission a valuation. ACTION CLERK.

22. TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE REGARDING CHANGES TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS.

It was agreed to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding changes to Financial Regulations. The new draft regulations were therefore adopted.

23. PARISH COUNCIL PROJECTS. COUNCILLORS' PROPOSALS ARE INVITED.

Written lists are to be submitted to the Parish Office. ACTION ALL.

24. TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY FOR THE WEST WIGHT. TO CONSIDER SETTING UP A WORKING PARTY TO CONSIDER VIABILITY (COUNCILLOR WHEELER).

IWC are currently doing their strategy and this is an opportunity to put in the Parish Council's views. The IWC councillors are Phil Jordan (PFI) Louisa Hillard and Shirley Smart. Cllr Hobbs felt that the cycle track to Newport should be included.

25. OUR PLACE. UPDATE BY THE CLERK REGARDING FUNDS AVAILABLE, PURPOSE AND TIMESCALE.

The Clerk confirmed that in principle a grant of £7500 had been approved. This was for preparation of an operational model for a community project which had been initially identified as an information hub.

26. SEPTEMBER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING. TO CONSIDER MOVING THIS TO THE 15th SEPTEMBER 2015.

It was agreed that the meeting be moved from 1st September to 15th September.

27. TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE CLERK'S SUBSCRIPTION TO THE SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS AT A COST OF £149.

It was resolved to pay the clerk's subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks at a cost of £149.

28. LOCAL AREA COORDINATION INTERVIEWS 15th JULY AT MEMORIAL HALL. TO CONSIDER WHICH PARISH COUNCILLORS ARE ABLE TO ATTEND (2 SUGGESTED).

Cllrs Wheelers and Lloyd volunteered to attend the interviews. ACTION CLLRS WHEELER AND LLOYD.

29. WRITTEN REPORT FROM FRESHWATER BAY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Quarterly report – June 2015

The FBRA try to instigate and pay for at least one improvement project a year. Most of those completed over the last 10 years have proved very successful – the Boat Park, the area of landscaping adjacent to the Rotary Club wishing well, the two information boards on the rear wall of the promenade shelter, and installation of new benches etc.

This has been helped by our having developed a very close working relationship with the IW Council, to the extent that we are now in a fortunate position to be granted approval by them (and indeed more recently by Island Roads) for any project and works that we put forward.

Amongst the more recent projects are:

RETAINING WALL

The wall was last given a very minor overhaul about 12 years ago, and since then has unsurprisingly suffered the effects of winter storms. Being the first thing that any visitor sees on arrival at the bay, its recent hardly made a good impression on visitors, which is why the FBRA put pressure on IR to repair the rendering and repaint the wall.

Finally, after several months of negotiation, they agreed to carry out the work and the wall was given a complete revamp last month. We hope the FPC will agree it was well worth the wait.

MAIN CAR-PARK

We campaigned for several years before IR agreed that, after several years of severe storms and bad flooding, the Bay's car-park needed resurfacing and lining. This was done last year and the overall effect has been to increase the number of cars parking on the site.

We have also planted tamarisks round the front grass perimeter of the car-park, which we obviously maintain. In the past the grass itself was cut by the IWC, but that have now decided that this is also our responsibility, which we are happy to take on.

GATE LANE TROUGH

In its present site adjacent to the bus-stop at the bottom of Gate Lane, where it is virtually invisible to anyone driving past hidden by the bus-stop itself and the surrounding hedgerow, the trough has long been a difficult job to plant out by two of our members. As a result we decided last year that a new and safer site should be found and we eventually chose to relocate it further up Gate Lane on the grass area opposite the junction with Bay Road.

We now have approval from the IWC and IR to construct a new hard-standing and to move the trough. The entire project will be paid for by the FBRA, and will hopefully be completed and the trough re-planted before the end of this summer.

AFTON ROAD

As a way of somehow alleviating the increasing parking problem along Afton Road, last year we asked IR to look into the possibility of either inserting double-yellow lines along both sides of Afton Road for about 800m from the junction with Gate Lane or to install bollards for the same distance. We were advised by IR that they didn't have sufficient funds to install bollards, but double-yellow lines were certainly a possibility. I was later informed that these would be painted before Easter this year, but no sign of them as yet!!

20mph SPEED LIMIT

Many of the roads/lanes in the Bay area are used as short-cuts to other routes, and for this reason the FBRA have applied for certain roads to be designated with a 20mph speed limit. We have been advised that we would be more likely to succeed if we opted for an area rather than individual roads, so we have chosen a (sort of) triangle to include Blackbridge Rd, Guyers Rd, Easton Lane & Bedbury Lane.

None of these roads have pavements and all suffer severely from on-street parking, making walking extremely hazardous. Because of this, we understand that we fit the criteria for a speed limit but that there are a plethora of other such applications already being considered, so unfortunately we are in a queue even though we believe our request is of vital importance.

BULB PLANTING

This is something that the FBRA do in a different area around the Bay every year, and last autumn we planted narcissi along the first 300m of Afton Road. The resulting display this spring was highly rewarding.

TOTTS PLOT

For those of you who are not aware of this plot of land, it is the grass area on the corner of Afton Rise and Southdown Road. For many years, the NT have allowed it to fall into decline to the extent that until last year it was an overgrown wilderness. After light pressure from the FBRA (we suggested the plot could make a beautiful viewing point to the Bay) the NT agreed to mow the grass and clear the scrub on the roadsides. In way of thanks, the FBRA donated a new bench for the plot.

PROMENADE SHELTER

About five years ago, the IWC basically passed over the general maintenance of the shelter to the FBRA. This gave us not only the chance to install the two information panels on the rear wall, but to also hire the services of the Hampshire Probation team to redecorate the interior of the shelter on a bi-annual basis.

With the approval of the NT, the same team last year also cut out all the scrub and 'old-man's-beard' from the hedge running along the bottom of Easton Field.

30. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SUB-GROUPS, COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES.

None.

31. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

Electricity sub station at Freshwater Bay (CB)

Freshwater Neighbourhood Plan (AB)

Communications (KL/AB)

32. OTHER MATTERS.

Cllr Hobbs raised the issue of the library. The public consultation started on Monday and is for 6 weeks. It is on the website and there are printed forms in the library. It is possible that one staff member may be retained.

Cllr Bray reminded councillors of the date of the Parish Walk namely 16th July at 6pm meeting at the fire station.

Cllr Wheeler mentioned that he had had a request for support re a plaque for the Hooke Stone. This will be treated as a grant application.

**33. 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.
STAFFING LEVELS.**

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.