



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 7th JUNE 2016 AT 7.10 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE
MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors: M Wheeler (Chair), G Cameron, Brenda Hobbs, C Bray, A Bamford, A Harris, J Medland, D Eccles and T Nicholson.

Members of the public: 0

Clerk: M J Mills

1. APOLOGIES: Cllrs C Fleury, G Kennett MBE, and B Hinton MBE.

2. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3RD MAY 2016.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3rd May 2016 having been circulated were agreed (GC/CB). The Chairman mentioned that he and the vice-chairman had looked at office accommodation with the staff and the agreed changes would be implemented after the July meeting.

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

None.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman congratulated FYT Bus and Cllr Harris on FYT Bus receiving the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services. Cllr Harris said that there would be an invitation to the Parish Council for the presentation on 9th July 3.30pm to 6pm when there would be an afternoon tea.

The Chairman also congratulated Freshwater Early Years Centre on being rated outstanding by OFSTED in all areas. This was the second outstanding rating in a row for the Centre.

The Chairman would be writing to both organisations.

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

None present.

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. Discussions were ongoing re bus route 12. He had looked into contributing to costs but these were unaffordable. There was an important issue re

the health centre and this should be put on the agenda for the July meeting. Planners had now agreed to the windows at the Royal Standard.

Cllr Eccles said that Bay Trees had been called in and he was seeking to call in the Meadows application (20 dwellings).

7. CLERKS REPORT – TO BE CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLOR

Toilets

Report of an incident at Moa Place toilets at the end of May when blood was found. Police attended but foul play was ruled out. Additional cleaning was provided for the Walk the Wight at Gate Lane (at no extra cost).

Co-op

Co-operative has been asked to cut grass around the old Co-op site. The manager has confirmed this is in hand.

Display boards

The Parish Council display boards were loaned for the recent 1970 Festival Exhibition at the Memorial Hall. Mr Foulkes asked that his thanks be passed on the Parish Council

Banners

Consent given for a banner at Black Hut Green for All Saints Church flower festival from 20th to 27th June. The festival is raising money for church maintenance and also for the Island based charity Ability Dogs 4 Young People. Consent also given to the Scouts 17th June to 26th June. Consent also obtained from Isle of Wight Council for a banner at Freshwater Bay for Isle of Wight Arts Open Studios 2016.

Bank accounts

Progress has been slow getting the bank account changed to Barclays. Cllr Cameron is now able to access online banking and Cllr Kennett should be able to shortly. There was a problem with the mandate which is being investigated.

Avenues sale

The Clerk has been notified that the prospective purchaser has now decided not to proceed. Another prospective purchaser is in discussion with the agents.

Staff salaries

The National Joint Council for Local Government Services has reached agreement on national pay-scale for 2016-17 and 2017-18. This year's is backdated to 1st April 2016.

Neighbourhood Plan Administrator

John Holsburt left on 13th May and has offered to assist if required on a voluntary basis.

Pound Green

A request has been made for a sign prohibiting ball games. Cllrs felt that there would need to be evidence of nuisance or risk before this could be considered.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

8. TO AGREE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – LIST CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION.

The following payments were approved.

<u>Payments April / May / June 2016 - by internet banking</u>		£	Paid
IB	April Salaries	April Salaries	3,067.20 29/4
IB	SMC Bookkeeping Services Inv 241	Bookkeeping April	486.23 13/5
IB	Island Cleaning Solutions Inv 3-16-17	Toilet Cleaning April	638.00 13/5
IB	May Salaries	May Salaries	3,055.41 6/6
IB	IW Council	The Avenues Business Rates June	169.00 6/6
IB	IW Council	Moa Place Toilets Rates June	223.00 6/6

INTERNET BANKING TOTAL **7,638.84**

<u>Debit Card payments April / May / June 2016</u>		£	
D/Card	Vistaprint	FNP; Printing	144.83 26/4
D/Card	Photobox	FPC Councillors	46.28 26/4
D/Card	Nest	Pension Contributions April	25.31 29/4
D/Card	Post Office	Stamps	59.50 6/5
D/Card	National Express FFHMAE24	Auction Travel	20.20 9/5
D/Card	National Express FFHMAD16	Auction Travel	18.20 9/5
D/Card	Wightlink 7209677	Auction Travel	33.80 9/5
D/Card	Moneysoft	Payroll Software Annual Licence	72.00 13/5
D/Card	Morrisons	Leavers Gift	9.00 13/5
D/Card	NEST	Pension Contributions May	25.02 3/6

Cheques drawn for approval 7 June 2016 Issued

C 400799	Hillbans Pest Control Inv P22690	Pest Control April - Brookside Rd	63.40 3/5
B 100001	Gareth Hughes Inv 9/2016	Internal Audit 2015/16	236.00 3/5
B 100002	Lambert Smith Hampton	VOID: no purchase made	0.00
B 100003	W Hurst & Son Inv F3421922	Skatepark; Refuse Sacks	5.37 10/5
B 100004	Business Supplies Group Inv 00103574	Stationery	81.78 10/5
B 100005	Isle of Wight County Press Inv 628515	FNP; Official Notice	124.20 10/5
B 100006	Brightstone Landscaping Ltd Inv 19061	Grounds maintenance	1,199.50 10/5
B 100007	Pepper Creative Ltd Inv 04161	Our Place; Logo	420.00 10/5
B 100008	SSE Inv 0009	Avenues; Electricity 27/1-31/3/16	18.49 10/5
B 100009	Island Cleaning Solutions Inv 3-16-17	VOID: see IB payment 13/5/16	0.00
B 100010	IW Sports & Recreation Council	Affiliation 2016	6.00 7/6
B 100011	Brightstone Landscaping Ltd Inv 18700	Grounds Maintenance Extra 21/1/16	906.00 7/6
B 100011	Brightstone Landscaping Ltd Inv 18806	Grounds Maintenance Selwood Road	100.99 7/6
B 100012	ERMC Inv 05600	Toilets; Surveys	180.00 7/6
B 100013	Ventnor Town Council Inv VTC984	Toilets; 4 x Wallgate Units	600.00 7/6
B 100014	West Wight Community Partnership	Community Grant	200.00 7/6
B 100015	Wright Estate Agency Inv FW0060/16	Assessment & Valuation Fees	90.00 7/6
B 100016	WWSC	Annual Payment	30,000.00 7/6
B 100017	Southern Water	Avenues; Water 5/3-16/5/16	19.46 7/6
B 100018	Hillbans Pest Control Inv P22769	Pest Control May	63.16 7/6
Sub total			34,768.49

Petty Cash for approval June 2016 Paid

232a	Co-Op	Meeting Refreshments	3.20 13/4
233	IW Council	Parking	1.30 5/4
234	Sugar Loaf	Meeting Refreshments	20.00 14/4
235	Elliotts	Scrap Books	11.40 12/5
Sub total			35.90

9. TO NOTE THE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT AND TO CONSIDER ANY CHANGES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED.

Agreed that the amount of precept and grant would be separately recorded in minutes in future.

10. TO NOTE THE SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL 2015 – 2016 AND ASSOCIATED PAPERWORK AND IF APPROPRIATE TO AGREE THAT THE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK SIGN THE ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2016

The summary was noted and it was **resolved** that the Chairman and the Clerk sign the annual return.

11. ENHANCEMENT OF STROUD PLAYING FIELDS. REPORT FROM STEERING GROUP.

Cllr Bray said that she had ideas for various things including play equipment, additional trees and a toilet which could be the subject of match funding. She felt that there needed to be some agreement in principle before further work was undertaken. She also suggested use of the section 106 monies for Stroud Playing Fields this summer.

It was felt that there needed to be some detail. Cllr Bray said that she would welcome advice on layout and project management. Cllr Eccles confirmed that he was happy to help with the preparation of a plan.

Cllr Bray said that an application had been made for 30 saplings from the Woodland Trust.

12. ASSET MANAGER. FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE NEED FOR AN ASSET MANAGER.

Cllr Hobbs suggested that this would be suitable for a retired builder. Cllr Bray said that trees were inspected on an annual basis.

It was agreed that Cllrs Wheeler and Eccles would inspect the assets with a view to preparing a Report and a job description for the September meeting.

13. STROUD COPPICE. UPDATE AND TO FIX A SITE MEETING FOR ALL COUNCILLORS TO VISIT THIS AREA.

Cllr Bray suggested that Will Cross be asked to look at it and advise on how things needed to be done and what it would cost. Cllr Bray to fix a date for the meeting which would be instead of the parish walk.

Cllr Bray pointed out that there had been money in the budget for the last 4 years which had not been spent.

14. AVENUE ROAD – REPORT ON PROPOSED ENHANCEMENT WORKS WITH DATES AND COSTINGS.

Cllr Wheeler presented his written report.

A budget of £26000 was approved for 2015-16. This remains unspent. A sum of £23000 has been agreed as FPC contribution to works valued at approximately £29k by IR. An additional sum of £3000 for planters etc. to be set aside. Isle of Wight Council was contributing up to £8500 towards the footway widening elements. Surfacing was due 2nd week of September and that would mean preparation work would have to be carried out in the 3rd week of August but this is yet to be confirmed.

Cllr Medland congratulated Cllr Wheeler.

15. PROPOSAL TO WRITE TO BUSINESSES IN AVENUE ROAD REQUESTING AN ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO UPKEEP.

Cllr Wheeler presented his written report along with a draft letter proposed to be sent to the businesses in Avenue Road. It is proposed that an Avenue Rd. Business Community (ABC) be formed with an annual levy. The money raised would cover things such as planters, hanging baskets and flower beds and would not preclude sponsorship. Cllr Cameron suggested a board listing the businesses which had contributed. Cllr Nicholson said people would not continue to come to Freshwater unless it was improved.

The scheme was agreed.

Cllr Bray said that pressure should be put on Island Roads to clean more.

Cllr Harris referred to empty shops and Cllr Cameron will try to find out details of ownership.

Cllrs Wheeler, Cameron and Medland will deliver the letters.

16. HOOKE FESTIVAL PLAQUE UNVEILING - 24TH JULY 2016 – TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR LUNCH FOR THE LORD LIEUTENANT.

This would be considered at the next meeting on 5th July when more information would be available.

Cllr Bray asked that Howard Evans be invited.

17. LIBRARY – PROPOSAL FOR SHORT TERM AND LONG TERM ALTERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS AND REPORT FROM LIBRARY PLUS.

Cllr Wheeler presented his written report.

In answer to a question from Cllr Bray, Cllr Wheeler said that disabled parking was on the long term plan and that this would be to the rear, off Dall Square.

Cllr Medland said that Steve Blamire (Totland Parish Cllr) had experience with heritage lottery funding. Cllr Hobbs said that the initial phase would not attract heritage funding.

Cllr Harris said that the first phase was to bring the library up to standard and this was in line with the council's policy of looking after its assets.

From the spend profile the cost of this phase was anticipated to be iro £61000. This would include a contribution from IWC.

Cllr Bray was reluctant to commit to this expenditure in the absence of the chair of the finance committee. It was clarified that the decision did not rest with the Chair of Finance.

It was proposed and agreed that the initial work, subject to approval from FPC, should be progressed with a budget of £60000 and that initially a sum of £5000 be allocated for fees etc in order that preparatory work could be undertaken and that spending decisions regarding the latter sum be delegated to the Library Plus Committee which would be advised by the RFO.

18. NALC STAR COUNCIL AWARDS – TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS INCLUDING NOMINATION OF COUNCIL OF THE YEAR.

Agreed to put forward the name of Freshwater Parish Council. Cllr Harris to deal with this.

19. ISLE OF WIGHT PARKING STRATEGY 2016-2021 – RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION (ENDS 5TH JULY 2016).

Cllr Wheeler had spoken with Alex Minns (Isle of Wight Council) and Cllr Wheeler will make representations.

20. FRESHWATER BAY – PROPOSAL FOR LONG TERM LEASE OF OPEN SPACE AND BOAT PARK (TO BE MAINTAINED BY THE FRESHWATER INDEPENDENT LIFEBOAT).

Cllr Wheeler presented his written report.

Cllr Harris said that the Freshwater Independent Lifeboat had long wanted to do this. He said that currently the surface was unusable as a boat park.

This was approved in principle.

Cllr Wheeler pointed out that it was quite a large area (180 m²) so would not be cheap.

Cllr Harris mentioned that people were driving along the public slipway to launch boats (which they were allowed to do). If there was a better facility they might prefer to use that. It could therefore be an asset to the community.

Cllr Wheeler said that Isle of Wight Council officers had conceded that the current arrangement was inappropriate. The current turf needed replacing within the 'green' area. The area needed regrading, new top soil added and seeding with salt resistant grass.

Agreed that Cllrs Nicholson and Medland would take this forward.

21. PROPOSAL FOR TAKING ADDITIONAL STORAGE SPACE AT THE MEMORIAL HALL AT AN ANNUAL RENT OF £1000.

This was no longer required in view of recent developments. An item would be put on the July meeting agenda to discuss whether or not the parish council needed storage space at the Old Ambulance station.

22. TO APPROVE QUOTATION FROM BRIGHSTONE LANDSCAPING FOR GRASS CUTTING AT THE LIBRARY OF £60 PER CUT AND TO ADD THIS TO THE MAIN GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT.

Cllr Bray said that money was available in the existing budget. 20 cuts amounted to £1200. This was approved.

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

None.

24. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

Signage at Stroud Playing Fields (CB)

Boundary signs (MW)

The meeting closed at 9.11 pm.