



**DRAFT/UNADOPTED**  
**FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Parish Office 01983 752000**

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JULY 2016 AT 7.10 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE  
MEMORIAL HALL**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: M Wheeler (Chair), C Fleury, Brenda Hobbs, C Bray, A Bamford, A Harris, J Medland, T Nicholson, B Hinton MBE, G Kennett MBE and V Lowthion (from item 3).

Members of the public: 1

Clerk: M J Mills

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1. **APOLOGIES.** Cllrs G Cameron and D Eccles.
2. **TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7TH JUNE 2016 AND THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 10TH MAY 2016**  
The minutes of the previous meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016 having been circulated were agreed subject to item 17 of the minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> June being amended by Cllrs Wheeler and Harris and the Clerk.
3. **CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CO-OPTION OF VIX LOWTHIAN AS A FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCILLOR.**  
It was agreed that Vix Lowthion be co-opted as a member of Freshwater Parish Council. Cllr Lowthion signed a declaration of office. Cllr Fleury pointed out that Freshwater Parish Council was a non-political organization.
4. **TO INVITE COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.**  
None
5. **QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (UP TO 15 MINUTES)**  
A member of Rotary was present re item 15.
6. **TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNTY CLLRS/QUESTION AND UPDATE SESSION (UP TO 15 MINUTES FROM BOTH CLLRS).**  
Cllr Medland submitted his written report.  
It was agreed that a letter be sent to Southern Vectis and those parish councils affected.

## **7. CLERKS REPORT – TO BE CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS.**

### **Training**

The Clerk attended IWALC training along with Cllr Nicholson on 20th June “Councillor briefing and awareness session”. The session included property law and devolution presented by SALC’s solicitor.

### **SLCC**

The Clerk attended SLCC meeting on 17th June which included a presentation by the national president. The Clerk has offered to host the next meeting on 28th September. Councillors may wish to note that a new body ALCC has been set up as a trades union for clerks thereby removing any trades union function from SLCC.

### **Toilets - rates**

A response has now been received from the Valuation Office Agency which states that the Moa Place toilet “is outside of the park on the other side of the river fronting the main road”. The Clerk has responded. The Valuation Office Agency has written to say that Gate Lane toilets have been added to the rating list. A bill of £1840.53 has been received for the period 19th April 2016 to 31 March 2017. Other Clerks have reported receiving rates bills for toilets which were not previously separately rated.

### **Moa Place toilets**

A complaint has been received regarding the Wallgate units not working.

### **Flooding**

Reports of flooding were received on 23rd June affecting Avenue Road businesses and a property at Norton Green (the latter said to be run off from Golden Hill). Cllr Wheeler expanded on the problems with run off from Golden Hill. Cllr Fleury asked about problems at the Co-op and Cllr Medland said that Southern Water had had 3 schemes rejected by the Environment Agency and they were intending now to close this sewer.

### **ABC**

Positive responses have been sent to the Clerk’s office from Eldridges, Kemkay (Chemist), Wights and JCB. Cllr Wheeler expanded on this and produced a draft letter now being sent out to businesses.

### **Office accommodation**

Increased workspace is now assisting the staff and particularly storage space is being used to tidy up the office. Currently awaiting quote on new intercom system.

### **The Avenues**

Interest is being shown in the property but nothing definite yet to report.

### Environment Officer

Discussions currently taking place on the basis that this will be an arrangement for 200 hours per annum (3 to 4 hours per week) at a cost of £2000. The Clerk has questioned the need for a delegated power.

### Audit

Paperwork is now with the external auditor and notice has been given of public rights to inspect the accounts.

### Insurance

Awaiting renewal papers. This will be dealt with under the long term agreement with Zurich (renewal quote now received).

### Other

Clr Fleury asked about letters for the Early Years and West Wight Sports and Community Centre. He suggested such items be included in correspondence in future.

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

## 9. TO AGREE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – LIST CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION.

**Resolved** that the following payments be approved

<u>Payments June / July 2016 - by internet banking</u>		£	Paid
IB	SMC Bookkeeping Services Inv 248	Bookkeeping May	308.00 7/6
IB	Island Cleaning Solutions Inv 6-16-17	Toilet Cleaning May	638.00 10/6
IB	Salaries	June Salary	1,958.25 30/6
IB	IW Council	The Avenues Business Rates July	169.00 1/7
IB	IW Council	Moa Place Toilets Business Rates July	223.00 1/7
IB	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE & NIC Apr-Jun 16	1,286.00 15/7
<b>INTERNET BANKING TOTAL</b>			<b>4,582.25</b>
<u>Direct debit payments during July 2016</u>			
D/Debit	BT Inv QO36 6R	Charges + Usage	237.60 5/7
<u>Debit Card payments during June 2016</u>			
D/Card	SSE Inv 0001	Moa Place Toilets; Electricity 31/3-1/6/16	50.10 24/6
D/Card	NEST	Pension Contributions June	22.82 24/6
<u>Cheques drawn for approval 5th July 2016</u>			<b>Issued</b>
B100019	VOID; Island Cleaning Sol Inv 6-16-17, see IB 10/6	Toilet Cleaning May	0.00
B100020	MALCO Inv 1514	FNP; Room Hire 11 & 18 April	26.00 7/6
B100020	MALCO Inv 1522	Parish Office Electric April	70.00 7/6
B100020	MALCO Inv 1523	Precept (First Half 2016/17)	4,797.50 7/6
B100020	MALCO Inv 1524	Parish Office Rent (First Half 2016/17)	594.00 7/6

B100020	MALCO Inv 1525	Parish Office Cleaning (First Half 2016/17)	200.00	7/6
B100020	MALCO Inv 1526	Rent of Tennyson Room (First Half 16/17)	200.00	7/6
B100020	MALCO Inv 1527	Rent of Archive Room (First Half 2016/17)	182.50	7/6
B100021	SSE Inv 0001	Gate Lane Toilets; Electricity 31/3-24/5/16	23.60	7/6
B100022	VOID; SSE Inv 0001, see D/Card 24/6		0.00	
B100023	Brighstone Landscaping Ltd Inv 19185	Grounds maintenance	1,271.50	5/7
B100024	PC Consultants Inv 25280	IT Support	27.60	5/7
B100025	Playsafety Ltd Inv 023073	Skatepark & MUGA Annual Inspection	159.60	5/7
	Sub total		7,862.82	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>12,445.07</b>	

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

The Friends of Freshwater Library have offered to serve the lunch. Agreed that the Parish Council would arrange the catering. White chairs from the Memorial Hall could be made available for outside.

### **11. NEWCOMERS LUNCH – PROPOSAL THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HOST THIS EVENT (CLLR MEDLAND).**

Cllr Medland said that this was under the West Wight Community Partnership. Heather White was the organizer. There was some discussion as to whether this included Yarmouth and Totland. The basis of this would need to be clarified. Agreed that this would be referred to the Finance Committee meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> August.

### **12. STROUD PLAYING FIELDS. TO CONSIDER ALLOCATION OF A BUDGET OF £2000 FOR PRELIMINARY WORK, RESEARCH AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Cllr Bray said that there had been a very positive meeting. Items discussed included toilets, bandstand, play equipment, planting of trees and parking. There would need to be a consultation event. Agreed that there would be a budget of £2000. On Thursday councillors were going on a fact finding mission to look at other recreation grounds. The FYT Bus had been booked. Also it was hoped to have a Friends group involving particularly people living near to the recreation ground. Some saplings were being obtained (free of charge) from the Woodland Trust. Will Cross had offered to help cubs plant them. Cllr Wheeler said that he had spoken to Isle of Wight Council re contacts for suppliers of play equipment. Cllr Bray said that she was arranging for the spare gate to be installed.

### **13. BOUNDARY SIGNS, DISPLAYS BOARDS AND STREET FURNITURE (CLLR WHEELER).**

Cllr Wheeler submitted his written report. There were various suggestions including the names of Tennyson and Hooke. It was resolved that some examples would be obtained and discussions

would be commenced with Isle of Wight Council and Island Roads. So far as street furniture was concerned there was space by the telephone box and adjacent to the seating for a notice board.

**14. FRESHWATER FLYER ISSUE 2 – TO DISCUSS DATE AND ACTIONS FOR NEXT PUBLICATION (CLLR BAMFORD)**

Cllr Bamford said that this would be a similar style to the first issue but the row of councillors' pictures would be replaced by photographs of the articles' contributors. Articles (100 words maximum) should be sent to Cllr Bamford by 1<sup>st</sup> August for publication in September.

Cllr Medland offered to assist with distribution.

**15. THE OLD AMBULANCE STATION – TO CONSIDER FUTURE USE OF THIS BUILDING ON EXPIRATION OF THE LICENCE TO THE ROTARY CLUB ON 31ST DECEMBER 2016.**

Cllr Fleury said that he had been asked by Cllr Cameron to enquire about other premises in School Green Road having been viewed by the Chairman. The Chairman said that this was not done on behalf of the Parish Council and the premises were no longer available.

Cllr Kennett said that the needs of the Rotary Club should be taken into account.

A member of the Rotary Club was present. He summarized what the building was used for and said that it was very rarely underused if ever.

Cllr Bray asked where the contents of the Avenues would go when it was sold.

The Clerk summarized what there was. The Council felt that it might be possible to store these items in the Old Ambulance Station and the member of Rotary would take this back to the Committee.

**16. LOCAL SPEED LIMITS – CONSIDERATION OF WHETHER OR NOT THERE SHOULD BE A 20 MPH LIMIT OR LIMITS IN FRESHWATER.**

The Chairman said that he felt that there should be a West Wight transport policy which included speed limits. There were lots of anomalies at present. He felt 20 mph limit for Avenue Road was justified. A speed hump had been considered but it needed to be 6 metres across.

Cllr Kennett questioned how a speed limit would be enforced.

Cllr Wheeler pointed out that the costs would fall on the Parish Council.

Cllr Nicholson said that the Freshwater Bay Residents Association had been trying to get a 20mph limit. They fitted all the criteria but there was a long list of applicants and he expected that it would take 3 years.

Cllr Medland said that Isle of Wight Council were generally against restrictions on A roads.

**17. REMINDER FROM THE CLERK FOR COUNCILLORS TO UPDATE THEIR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

The reminder was duly noted.

**18. EASTON LANE. FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE “UNAUTHORISED” ACCESS.**

Cllr Medland said that there was no update on this. The Clerk had written to say that the Parish Council did not own the land and had no powers to take any formal steps. It seemed therefore that nothing further could be done.

**19. TRANSPARENCY. REMINDER TO COUNCILLORS THAT REPORTS AND SUPPORTING PAPERWORK FOR AGENDA ITEMS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE WHEN THE AGENDA IS PUBLISHED.**

The reminder was duly noted.

**20. NATIONAL CITIZEN SCHEME – OFFER OF VOLUNTEERS**

Cllr Kennett suggested the public consultation for Stroud Playing Fields might be appropriate. Cllr Medland volunteered to deal with this.

**21. TO CONSIDER RENEWAL OF THE CLERK’S MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS - £149 FOR THIS YEAR.**

This was agreed.

**22. TO CONSIDER PAYMENT OF UTILITY BILLS BY DIRECT DEBIT.**

In response to a question from Cllr Fleury the Clerk confirmed that this was covered by standing orders. This was agreed.

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

Cllr Fleury said that there had been 299 juniors at the Needles Half Marathon but disappointingly only 2 from the local primary school. 47 people had taken part in the Solent Swim.

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

None.

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.

**25. BROOKSIDE HEALTH CENTRE. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED NEW BUSINESS MODEL (CLLR MEDLAND).**

Resolved that the Parish Council would write a letter of support for Brookside.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm.