



DRAFT/UNADOPTED
FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 16th AUGUST 2016 AT 6.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE
MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors: M Wheeler (Chair), C Fleury, Brenda Hobbs, C Bray (from item 5), A Bamford, A Harris (from item 7), T Nicholson (from item 7), B Hinton MBE, G Kennett MBE (to item 10), G Cameron and V Lowthion.

Members of the public: 0

Clerk: M J Mills

1. APOLOGIES. Cllrs D Eccles and J Medland.

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

None.

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

None present.

4. FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL FUNDING BID TEAM (CLLR WHEELER).

The Chairman said that it had become clear through work Library Plus were doing that dedicated and experienced people were required for funding bids.

Cllr Fleury said that it was difficult to obtain funding without input from a dedicated member of staff who had the requisite knowledge and enthusiasm.

Cllr Bamford pointed out that there was a commitment for the person involved for the period of the bid.

Cllr Hinton said the role was a specialty. Steve Blamire had done work for Dimbola and was very competent.

Cllr Kennett said that Yarmouth had focused on the pier. The Friends of Freshwater Library should consider exactly what they wanted. She had worked with Virgil Philpott for Carisbrooke Castle and they had felt lucky to have him. Sue Hawley had been involved for Yarmouth. Also Richard Smout had the necessary expertise.

Feelers would be put out with a view to getting someone on board by October.

5. UPDATE FROM THE CLERK RE THE PARISH OFFICE AND LEASE.

The Clerk ran through the Heads of Terms which had been discussed with the Memorial Hall Arts and Leisure Company Committee. It was resolved to remove the provision re exterior repairs. The Clerk would now take steps to move the entrance to the office to the side entrance. The Clerk had looked at board tables for the Tennyson Suite. Cllrs felt that small tables would give greater flexibility.

There was discussion on whether decoration was required and carpeting and also an electronic white board for meetings.

It was resolved to leave this to the Clerk to take forward.

6. FRESHWATER AND TOTLAND ARCHIVE GROUP ACCOMMODATION.

The Archive Group were seeking accommodation and needed something in the region of 10 foot by 12 foot. In return they might be willing to deal with Freshwater Parish Council's archive needs. Agreed that an offer of accommodation should be made.

7. ISLE OF WIGHT DAY.

Cllr Nicholson spoke about the event which the Memorial Hall had decided to put on. He said that the idea was a drop in event during the day which would be free for the community and an evening event by invitation only. The idea was to introduce people to the hall or re-introduce them now the hall had been decorated and it was hoped that this might generate business. Freshwater, Totland and Yarmouth Councils would be invited to participate and contribute and the total was in the region of £1500 in total.

Cllr Fleury said that the approach should have been made at an earlier point. It was now a fait accompli and the Council was put in a difficult situation. However there was £10000 in the events budget.

Cllr Harris stressed that the Council and MALCO needed to be seen as separate bodies and conflicts of interests needed to be avoided. He suggested that match funding could be considered in future.

Agreed to provide £1000 and the program would be provided to the Parish Council.

8. FUNDING SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT. THE CLERK TO ADVISE ON THE PARISH COUNCIL ROLE.

The Clerk pointed out that transport was a County function. However it was possible to incur expenditure under s137 of the Local Government Act 1972 if needed (subject to conditions) but total expenditure under this provision was limited.

Cllr Harris said that the FYTBus was moving towards being self funding. £20000 lottery grant was being lost next year. The age for the bus pass was now 67. It was sustainable but there was a possibility that FYTBus might be seeking funding.

Cllr Hobbs said that she felt the cycle way between Newport and Freshwater should be supported. Cllr Hinton said that West Wight Landscape had had a lot of money but had been unable to take this forward.

Cllr Kennett said that biosecurity was a worry but another option for the route was the other side of the hedge on Forest Road.

Cllr Cameron said that there was a sustainable transport committee and it was agreed to contact them to find out as much information as possible.

The Chairman said that he understood that so far as the Newport to Freshwater cycleway was concerned the old track bed had gone and it was felt that construction costs were prohibitive. He felt we should find out more and see if there was potential to invest.

Cllr Harris mentioned that the footpath by Thorley Manor was blocked.

9. FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL/COMMUNITY BUILDER ROLE (CLLR KENNETT)

Cllr Kennett's written report had been circulated. The issue was whether or not the Parish Council would cover on-costs for the post. It was agreed in principle subject to figures being provided.

10. WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH TOTLAND PC

The Chairman said that there were many things which Freshwater and Totland Parish Councils had in common and they should consider working more closely together. It was felt that the joint meeting had been useful and there should be another perhaps in October. Items to be discussed included strategic plan, sustainable transport, archives and Christmas lights.

11. FRESHWATER EVENT 2017

Freshwater Live had not been well attended although Rhythm Tree had been successful. The Chairman had been approached by the organizer of the latter event with a view to holding an event similar to last year or a village fete, next year. This was agreed in principle.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE.

The Chairman would be away on 6th September but it was agreed to keep the meeting date as it was.

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm.