



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 7th MARCH 2017 AT 7.20 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE
MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors: M Wheeler (Chair), C Fleury, C Bray, A Bamford, A Harris, G Kennett MBE, G Cameron, Brenda Hobbs D Eccles and B Hinton MBE and V Lowthion.

Members of the public: 1, IW County Press

Clerk: M J Mills

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs J Medland and T Nicholson.

2. **TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 7th MARCH 2017.**
The minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th March 2017 having been circulated were agreed (CF/CB).

3. **TO INVITE COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.**
None

4. **QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (UP TO 15 MINUTES).**
None present.

5. **TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNTY CLLRS/QUESTION AND UPDATE SESSION (UP TO 15 MINUTES FROM BOTH CLLRS).**
Cllr Eccles had nothing of importance to report and Cllr Medland had given apologies.

6. **CLERKS REPORT – TO BE CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS.**

Society of Local Council Clerks

The Clerk attended the AGM of the local SLCC on 15th February.

Skate Park

Repair work completed in time for half-term.

Gate Lane toilets

Rates

It had been understood that the government had agreed to remove business rates from public conveniences. However it seems that this is not the case. There is a provision giving principal

authorities a power to give discretionary relief from April 2018 but it is not yet known whether IWC would be willing to use this.

Transfer

The Clerk raised the issue of the buy back provisions suggested by IWC at the SLCC AGM. There was broad support for councils working together to oppose this (agenda item).

Toilets - cleaning

Tenders have been invited for a 3 year contract.

Planning framework course

The Clerk attended a planning workshop run by Hampshire Association of Local Councils on 2nd March together with Cllrs Cameron and Bamford.

The Avenues

Work completed to block up holes in the fabric.

My Life a Full Life

The Clerk and the Vice-chairman met with Newport Parish Council and Cowes Town Council on 9th February. The issue was also raised at the West Wight town and parish councils group on 16th February. The Clerk will be attending the Locality Management Group on 7th March. There is a meeting of the stakeholder reference group on 10th March. Meetings are being arranged with Northwood and Gurnard Parish Councils.

Defibrillators

The grant application referred to in last month's report was successful.

Just Ask

Domain www.justask.uk.com renewed for 1 year at a cost of £24.95.

Freshwater Library

Report received of disturbance to the Badger sett located in the Library grounds.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

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

Payments February 2017 - by internet banking

		£	Paid
IB	Island Cleaning Solutions Inv 38-16-17	Toilet Cleaning January	638.00 1/2
IB	Grounsell Contracting Inv GCINV16-878	Grounds Maintenance	288.00 13/2
IB	Island Signs (IW) Ltd Inv 3544	Signage	43.20 24/2
IB	February Salaries	February Salaries & Expenses	3,133.61 24/2
INTERNET BANKING TOTAL			4,102.81
<u>Direct debit payments during February / March 2017</u>			
D/Debit	IW Council	Library Business Rates February	440.00 1/2
D/Debit	Southern Electric Inv 0012	Avenues; Electricity 26/10/16-25/1/17	20.50 12/2
D/Debit	IW Council	Library Business Rates March	440.00 1/3
D/Debit	Southern Water	Allotments	66.30 15/3
DIRECT DEBIT SUB TOTAL			966.80

<u>Debit Card payments during February 2017</u>			£	
D/Card	nPower Inv LGU2GZTC	Library; Electricity 1/10-30/11/16	362.97	3/2
D/Card	Dropbox	IT. Monthly Subscription	7.99	5/2
D/Card	Post Office 2-89166	Stamps	27.50	10/2
D/Card	LCN.com Inv LCN1789968	Website Domain & Hosting 2 years	112.68	21/2
D/Card	NEST	Pension Contributions February	46.36	24/2
DEBIT CARD SUB TOTAL			557.50	
<u>Cheques drawn for approval 7 March 2017</u>				Issued
100103	Mike Wheeler	Chairman's Honorarium 2016/17	500.00	7/2
100104	MALCO Inv	Parish Office Suite Rent February	847.08	7/2
100105	PC Consultants Inv 26695	Technical Support	78.00	7/2
100106	SMC Bookkeeping Services Inv 303	Bookkeeping January	248.00	7/2
100107	W Hurst & Sons Inv F3462868	Skatepark; Refuse Sacks	5.37	7/2
100108	Brighstone Landscaping Ltd Inv 20154	Grounds Maintenance	1,199.50	7/3
100109	Mark Adams Inv 10030	Consultation; Display Boards	15.00	7/3
100109	Mark Adams Inv 10032	The Avenues; Repairs	25.00	7/3
100110	The Sign Company Ltd Inv 14722	Just Ask; Roller Banners	55.80	7/3
100111	Island Magazines Inv 3724	March feature	45.00	7/3
100112	The Business Supplies Group SINV00112986	Stationery	128.18	7/3
100113	Corona Energy Inv 11856289	Library; Gas Oct 16 - Nov 16	78.87	7/3
100113	Corona Energy Inv 11856300	Library; Gas Nov 16 - Dec 16	138.58	7/3
100113	Corona Energy Inv 11856316	Library; Gas Dec 16 - Jan 17	152.89	7/3
100113	Corona Energy Inv 11856348	Library; Gas Jan 16 - Feb 17	193.78	7/3
CHEQUES SUB TOTAL			3,711.05	
<u>Petty Cash payments during February 2017</u>				
PC 265	IWC Parking	FNP Meeting	1.00	2/2
PC 266	Co-Operative	Meeting Refreshments	1.00	7/2
PETTY CASH SUB TOTAL			2.00	
TOTAL			£9,340.16	

9. SWINGS FOR STROUD PLAYING FIELDS.

Cllr Fleury confirmed that 3 quotes had been obtained. It was resolved to proceed with Wicksteed's quote in the sum of £2068 plus VAT.

10. PLAY EQUIPMENT PROJECT AT STROUD PLAYING FIELDS. TO CONSIDER THE INSTALLATION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT INCLUDING CABLEWAY, VIKING SWING, AND ROUNDABOUT. TOTAL COST £21718.52 LESS ANY AVAILABLE GRANTS.

Cllr Fleury said that the working group had met with Pete Johnstone from PJ Elements who had been asked to prepare a report.

A member of the public suggested a concrete table tennis table.

Quotes had been obtained for play equipment including a cableway, swing and roundabout.

Wicksteed was the cheapest quote at £21718.52 plus VAT. In view of the nature of the project, it

was resolved to suspend standing orders (which required the matter be put out to tender) and to agree the Wicksteed quotation.

The working group will try to obtain grant(s) towards the cost of the project.

11. THE MEMORIAL HALL. TO CONSIDER THE CLERK'S REPORT REGARDING EXTERNAL REPAIR/MAINTENANCE AND PRECEPT.

Cllr Hinton said that he felt that it was the duty of the Parish Councils to maintain the structure of the building.

Cllr Hobbs felt that structural repairs should be the responsibility of the Councils but she opposed any reduction to the precept.

Cllr Bamford pointed out that there were new staff and wage costs had increased.

Cllr Harris agreed that the Parish Councils should maintain the exterior.

The Chairman stressed that MHALCO would continue to receive support from Freshwater Parish Council.

Agreed in principle that the Parish Council would aim to take over the external repair. A draft lease would now be prepared by MHALCO's solicitors.

Agreed that the Parish Council would offer to pay 2/3rd of the survey costs.

12. ALLOTMENTS. TO NOTE COMPLETION OF THE INSTALLATION OF THE FENCE AND TO APPROVE THE REVISED COST FIGURE. TO CONSIDER THE NEXT STEPS TO INCLUDE THE PATH, WATER SUPPLY AND FENCING.

Cllr Hinton proposed payment of the revised sum. This was agreed.

There were now suggestions of a new path, water main and a boundary fence. The path could be crushed rubble which would need to be rolled every year.

There was a question what to do with the land which had now been left to the badgers.

Cllr Kennett congratulated Cllr Bamford and the Assistant Clerk for their work

The feeling was that the job should be done "properly".

Cllr Eccles volunteered to be involved and in due course proposals would be made to the Parish Council (with budget figures).

13. THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF THE MULTI USE GAMES AREA (CF).

Agreed that Totland Parish Council be approached with a view to this coming under the skate park committee.

14. SEATS. TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF CLLR BAMFORD.

The report was duly noted.

15. SEAT AT THE CAUSEWAY/CYCLEWAY (FRESHWATER END) – TO NOTE THE DECISION OF THE LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF 21ST FEBRUARY AND TO AGREE EXACT LOCATION, STYLE AND OTHER DETAILS.

A site had been identified and it would now be necessary to liaise with Island Roads.

Cllr Kennett said that the process here had demonstrated a good way to engage with the community. The Just Ask officer should be invited to come to a meeting to discuss this.

Cllr Bray suggested a plaque to the people of Freshwater for the seat. This was agreed.

16. HORSE CHESTNUT TREE IN QUEENS ROAD.

This would be postponed to the next meeting.

Cllr Lowthion mentioned a tree by London House Cottages. The tree consultant would be asked to look at this.

17. THE TELEPHONE BOX AT MOA PLACE (JM).

Cllr Medland had given his apologies. It was thought that the telephone box may already be listed.

18. GATE LANE PUBLIC CONVENIENCES. TO CONSIDER THE POSITION RE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP.

The Clerk's report was considered and the Council agreed that issue should continue to be taken on the proposed buy back clause.

Cllr Kennett confirmed that IWALC were still corresponding on the issue.

It was noted that Cllr Hutchinson was now the responsible member of the Executive.

19. METAL DETECTING ON PARISH LAND. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM KEITH GOSDEN.

Agreed that a licence would be given. Noted that a letter of authority would be needed.

20. ASSET MANAGER. TO CONSIDER APPOINTING ROBERT ALLEN AS THE ASSET MANAGER (SELF-EMPLOYED). BUDGET SUGGESTED £2900 PER ANNUM (ADDITIONAL WORK TO BE ALLOCATED TO APPROPRIATE BUDGET HEADING).

This was agreed. It was suggested that the asset manager might also be involved with the allotments.

21. DOG FOULING (JM)

Cllr Medland had given his apologies.

22. AFTON ROAD (JM)

Cllr Medland had given his apologies. Cllr Bray pointed out that she had recently seen 4 vehicles parked on the footpath.

23. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SUB-GROUPS, COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES (TO INCLUDE REPORT OF RURAL COMMUNITIES MATTER CONFERENCE 15 FEBRUARY 2017 (CF) AND WEST WIGHT LOCAL COUNCILS GROUP MEETING OF 16TH FEBRUARY (MW & GK).

The reports were duly noted. Cllr Fleury said the figure in his report should read £350M not £800M.

Regarding the Gouldings there was now an issue regarding replacement of the bus.

IW Councillors would be invited a meeting of the West Wight local councils group but probably the meeting after next.

Cllr Kennett had met with the MP in her IWALC capacity.

24. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

Cllr Bray – litter and in particular Sunset Close

Cllr Fleury – meeting with Spectrum and staff appraisals

25. TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF J S CARPENTRY'S INVOICE IN THE SUM OF £242 FOR REPAIRS TO THE SKATE PARK.

This was approved.

26. 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.

THE LIBRARY. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PHASE 1.

Arrangements were approved.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm