



# FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office 01983 752000

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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE OF FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2015 AT 7.25 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE MEMORIAL HALL

**PRESENT:** Councillors: C Bray (Chair), M Wheeler, A Bamford, G Cameron, C Fleury, A Harris, B Hobbs, and J Medland.

**ABSENT:** B Hinton MBE,

Members of the public: none

Clerk: M J Mills

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**1. APOLOGIES:** Councillors G Kennett MBE, Sandra Allen, D Eccles and K Lloyd

**2. TO AGREE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2015.**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2015, having been circulated, be approved.

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

None present.

**4. REPORT ON MEETING RE STROUD COPPICE**

Cllrs Bray and Fleury along with the Clerk had met with Laurie Calloway and Alister and Sue Rankin the arboricultural consultants at Stroud Coppice on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October.

During the visit it had been noticed that chicken wire and thatching material had been dumped in the Coppice as had garden waste. The Clerk will write to the person concerned.

The management plan had been circulated and Southern Households had agreed to pay for the first stage of the work. The Committee approved the plan. Work will probably commence early in the New Year. The Chairman said that the matter would be reconsidered in the New Year.

Cllr Fleury pointed out that Southern Households were aware that there was to be no encouragement for occupiers for the new properties in Hooke Close to make entrances into the copse or to dump their rubbish there. A clause in the deeds had been suggested to address this.

**5. TREES UPDATE**

Cllr Bray had met with the tree consultant that day and she gave details of work that had been carried out. A number of trees had been taken down. The work had been carried out very tidily and brushwood would be removed. No chipping had been done. The trees involved included a willow behind the toilets, 2 elm trees in Brookside Road (I had been left because it had a bird's nest), a sycamore which was in the power lines near Spinfish, the thinning work at Spinfish, a horse chestnut at Sheepwash and a goat willow at

Spinfish. The trees were on the list apart from the goat willow and it was agreed that this work be ratified as it was sensible to have it done whilst the tree surgeon was there. For the thinning work at Spinfish failing trees had been chosen along with some small trees and small elms.

Advice was sought on a wild plum tree at School Green Road. This has branches growing out of other branches. It will need pruning after it flowers.

There is a tree overhanging the skate park. It has a tree preservation order on it. A branch has split. It will be necessary to speak to the Isle of Wight Council tree officer about this. The Chairman suggested putting in more trees (native varieties) at the top end of Spinfish. This was agreed. These should be on the right hand side going to Sheepwash. Beech would be preferred. It was felt that the usual contractor should be approached for this.

## **6. WORKS UPDATE**

Work is pending at Spinfish. A shrub opposite the Conservative Club needs to be removed. Granny's Meade has been cut and a wasps' nest treated. Ditches are to be done. Everything is well within budget. Bulb planting with the Cubs had gone very well. The office had prepared a certificate by way of thanks.

## **7. CONTRACT FOR TENDER FOR GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

The Chairman had met with the Clerk and Cllr Wheeler to discuss this. It was suggested that there be 2 contracts, one for Jubilee Field and Stroud Recreation ground and the other for all remaining land. It would be a 3 year contract. Ideally both contracts would be with the same contractor. A summary sheet of costings would be prepared. Tenders could be considered at the December meeting.

Cllr Fleury pointed out that there were plans for Stroud such as a wild meadow and children's play equipment. Cllr Fleury also asked about the long jump pit at Jubilee Field. Cllr Wheeler will get an estimate for this work.

## **8. SEATS UPDATE**

It was suggested that consideration be given to a seat in memory of Peter Plucknett at the Freshwater Bay end of Granny's Meade. Prices to be obtained and the matter to be considered at the Parish Council meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

The Chairman said that things needed to be moved forward. Cllr Bamford pointed out that she had spent a great deal of time on this and that details of what needed to be done were available in the Parish Office.

The committee felt that seats should be maintained and noted that the £500 budget was available. This to be considered at the Parish Council meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.