

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
6th MAY 2014 AT 7.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER**

PRESENT: Councillors: C Fleury (Chair), K Lloyd, C Bray (item 7 onwards), A Harris, B Hobbs, M Wheeler, G Cameron, P England, C Lillywhite, B Hinton MBE, D Eccles, G Kennett MBE, A Bamford (from item 10)

Isle of Wight Cllr Medland (to item 12).

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr Bray (first part of meeting only, present from item 7).

PS MARK LYTH OF THE WEST WIGHT SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM ATTENDING TO UPDATE THE PARISH COUNCIL ON POLICING MATTERS

The Chairman welcomed PS Lyth to the meeting.

PS Lyth started by confirming that PCSO Mick Deary had joined the team. The police station was moving during the week commencing 30th June. It was felt that they should stay in Yarmouth because of the ferry terminal and the festivals. The office would not be open to the public. However it would be business as usual for the police. The way business is done may change in the future as PS Lyth may have to cover Cowes as well as West Wight. However there would be no effect on service and there would still be 2 police officers and 2 PCSO's. In answer to a question from Cllr Eccles PS Lyth said that CCTV cameras had been installed as a crime prevention measure but they would be removed shortly. Cllr Kennett asked about parking for police vehicles and PS Lyth confirmed that vehicles were likely to be out in the day but parking was available in the bus station in addition to the office. The chairman asked if we could expect a peaceful summer. PS Lyth said that he was not expecting any more problems than usual. The police had targeted certain problems such as vandalism and a small hard core element were under close scrutiny. There was generally a rise in anti-social behaviour in the summer and the public should contact the police if they became aware of any problems. Cllr Hobbs asked about the group of people who had been drinking by the library. The police had kept an eye out but had not been aware of any problem.

The Chairman thanked PS Lyth for attending.

ANNOUNCEMENT. The Chairman thanked Cllr Harris for an excellent day at the lifeboat naming ceremony and the social event which followed. He asked Cllr Harris to pass on thanks to those concerned. The chairman also announced that he would be attending the annual civic service on 18th May and he could take a guest should any other councillor wish to join him.

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

Item 6 – Cllrs Lloyd, Kennett and Fleury

Item 12 – Cllrs England, Kennett and Hobbs

3. TO AGREE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD 1st APRIL 2014:

It was **resolved** the Minutes of the previous meeting held 1st April 2014, having been circulated, be approved and signed (CL/AH). RFO to confirm what the 2 Southern Water bills relate to as this was not clear.

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

Report received from Cllr Medland circulated to Cllrs and noted.

In answer to a question from Cllr Wheeler, Cllr Medland said that it was an opportunity now for the parish council to say what it wanted in the parking review. There were 3 weeks to get the message across. It was not necessary to put a business case. Cllr Harris pointed out that there were various petitions in different shops in the village. Cllr Hobbs said that there was no information from Isle of Wight Council on what they wanted to devolve. It was up to the Isle of Wight Council to say what they wanted to pass on to others. Cllr Kennett pointed out that there was a meeting of Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils on 23rd May when it was hoped that this information would be given. Cllr Hinton said that any more restriction on parking in Freshwater Bay would cause problems and there was already a lack of parking. The chairman asked why Freshwater Village Association were raising a question through an Isle of Wight councillor and not direct. He said that the parish consult where possible but it would not be practical to have 5000 people deciding how to spend money. The parish council would be open in how it dealt with the issue.

Cllr Eccles said he thought that the parking issue was in a muddle. The main driving force was revenue and it was thought that abolition of the free half hour at Moa Place would bring in money. Both he and Cllr Medland were concerned about the parking review. Cllr Hinton said that putting up parking charges would stop people from using local shops and lead to more parking on the street. Cllr Harris said it was short sighted and the balance of income would not change by increasing charges. Cllr Kennett asked about assisted status for Freshwater North. Cllr Eccles said that Navitus Bay would bring in a lot of money. It was a 25 year programme and families would be relocating to the area. Cllr Harris asked about Yarmouth harbour bidding and pointed out that the west side of the harbour was in Freshwater Parish. It would need a close eye kept on it. 6 berths would be needed for biggish boats.

6. West Wight Sports centre.

- i) Clare Griffin the Centre manager said that the centre was in a difficult financial position. Funding of £77,000 had been held over but from April 2015 there would be no funding at all. There was a real prospect that in 18 months' time the centre may no longer be there. The support of the community was needed. The centre was developing as opposed to cutting back and broadening the activities offered. The centre had been trying to get back the lease currently held by the Youth and Community Centre but legal services at Isle of Wight Council are disputing one issue unrelated to the lease issue and progress with this has been delayed. The initial approach was made in 2012.. The centre had the opportunity to develop the youth and community centre for the community and to possibly let part of the building to increase income. The WWSC (as landlord of the Youth and Community Centre) has been doing that more and more but it needed full control of the premises. The centre was looking at how it might get funding for youth activities in partnership with other organisations. The chairman queried whether it would help to have a letter of support from the parish and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would write to say that the Parish Council is concerned by the lack of progress with the legal documentation pointing out that the council are worried about the future of the centre. Cllr Kennett thought that noticeable support from the community would help. Cllr Harris asked whether the corporate hospitality market had been considered. The centre manager said that the centre was working closely with other organisations such as UKSA, IWYAC and others who were involved in outdoor activities. A consortium would be bidding for funding for youth activities. There were funds of £200,000 available in October and £400,000 in April 2015. Cllr Harris suggested that the centre should look at funding from other sources. Cllr Wheeler said he would be raising the matter of the Sports Centre at a

meeting for West Wight local councils. The chairman thanked everyone for the effort they were putting in and referred in particular to the success of the youth café and the water polo.

- ii) RESOLVED to give a letter of support to the “Our place programme”.

7. CLERKS REPORT:

Stroud coppice

Stroud coppice Rural Land Registry application now completed (thanks to RFO). TPO application – consent received on 28th April for felling as per our application of 14th January. Now being referred to Laurie Calloway.

West Wight meeting

West Wight meeting. We are hoping to arrange this for 15th May.

Japanese Knotweed

Japanese Knotweed has been reported on the footpath leading to the former Avenues Community Centre. This is not covered by the existing arrangements for treatment of knotweed. Cllrs thought that it was notifiable and that the Parish Council should write to the Isle of Wight Council to see if they are willing to do anything. Cllr Medland commented that it was a difficult matter and responsibilities were unclear.

Tree at Fair Winds Norton Green

Tree at Fair Winds Norton Green Freshwater. I am contacting owners of adjoining properties to see if any contribution can be obtained towards this work. However councillors should please note that the Parish Council resolved on 4th February 2014 that the tree be felled and the stump killed. I am therefore obtaining further quotations for this work.

Manorial land

Standard letters have now been sent out.

Discretionary services

The Vice-Chairman and the Clerk attended a meeting with Isle of Wight Council officers. Full report to follow.

The site of the former Avenue Community Centre (proposed parish office)

The overage provisions required that we notified Isle of Wight Council of the grant of planning permission. I have now received confirmation from Isle of Wight Council that no additional payment is due under this provision.

Good Councillors Guide 2013

This is a fairly new edition and I do not know if Councillors will have it yet. The Clerk has an electronic copy which can be circulated. Hard copies can be purchased through the County Association price £2 each plus postage and packing (£14 for 20). Cllrs asked that this be circulated.

Library

Parish Council books are badly in need of updating. The Clerk has spoken with his predecessor regarding this and she agrees that this needs to be addressed. Ideally the following should be purchased:
 Clerk's manual (inserts only) 2013 cost £32.50 (current edition 2004),
 Governance and Accountability 2010 £20 (current edition 2003),
 Local Council Administration 2013 £60 (current edition 2002).
Minute Taking 2012 £13.45 (no copy of this held).
 Total cost for the 4 books would be £149.40 including £10 delivery purchased via Society for Local Council Clerks with member's discount.
 Cllrs were in agreement with this.

Clerk's training

Clerk has had two handover sessions with previous Clerk. Clerk has also completed the Society of Local Council Clerks Introduction to Local Council Administration which was recommended by previous Clerk and by the branch mentor of Isle of Wight branch of SLCC (with whom the Clerk has a meeting this week). Training for the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA) is available in the summer at a cost of £200 plus VAT (mainland venue). Cllrs were in agreement with that.

8. CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Mr & Mrs Ashton. Re- Flooding at Norton Green. – Cllr Eccles to respond
 IWC – TPO Trees in Norton Green. Fair Winds, Norton Green
 IWC – TPO Land at Queens Road. Queens House Queens Road Freshwater.
 IWC – TPO Trees in Freshwater Bay. Mayfair House, Afton Road, Freshwater
 IWC – TPO Trees at Queens Road. The Old Mill House, Queens Road Freshwater
 IWC – TPO Trees in Church Place Freshwater. Hucklewood, Church Place Freshwater
 IWC – TPO Trees at Queens Road. Miller Croft, Queens Road, Freshwater and The Old Mill House Lime Tree Court, Queens Road Freshwater
 IWALC - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 20th March Meeting at the Riverside Centre
 NAVITUSBAY – Letter and latest copy of the Proposed Navitus Bay Wind Park of shore of the IW.

Tabled:

Isle of Wight County Training Partnership – Devolution of Services – 23rd May 12.30pm. The Broadway Centre Sandown.

- 9. The resignation of Cllr Sandra Allen was noted. **RESOLVED** to advertise the vacancy and if appropriate to co-opt a replacement member onto the Council
- 10. **Co-option of Parish Councillor to Afton Ward.** Following advertisement in Isle of Wight County Press Anne Bamford had come forward and offered to join the Parish Council. Mrs Bamford was known to some councillors and it was **RESOLVED** that Mrs Anne Bamford be co-opted as Parish Councillor to Afton Ward.
- 11. **To Agree Accounts for payment.**
RESOLVED that the following accounts be accepted

Payments April 2014 - by internet banking

SALARIES TOTAL **1910.80**

Cheques drawn for payment 6th May 2014

Debit Cd	IW Council	Avenues Rates	161.40	paid 3/4
Debit Cd	BT Inv SD44324534M00081F	2nd line rental Apr + fees	25.20	paid 8/4

400503	MALCO Inv 893	Hire T Room - interviews New Parish Clerk	86.63
400504	Hillbans Pest Control Inv P20696;P20779	Pest Control Mar & Apr	120.00
400505	Martha James	N Plan: Travel costs re Course	35.30
400506	IW C Press Inv 583647/583650	Co-option P Cllr; Tender Jub Field maintenance	184.80
400507	Sally Woods	Handover Parish Clerk	57.31
400508	LCR	Annual subscription	17.00
400509	Wight Cycle Hire Inv 66	Bicycle service F/W PCSO	35.00
400510	BL Ltd Inv 16075/16117	Jub Field - Mar 1st cut; Maintenance incl extra @ Spinfish	1487.26
400511	Carol Bray	Spinfish - Wild flower mats	54.75
Sub total			2264.65
TOTAL			4175.45

12. **Charges for Memorial Hall. RESOLVED** that the Parish Council agree to the charges for use of the council chamber (Tennyson Suite) of £400 per annum, archive office £365 per annum, parish office vacuuming and bin cleaning £400 per annum.
13. **To consider adopting a new code of conduct. RESOLVED** that the letter and attachment from Isle of Wight Council be circulated to councillors and the matter be dealt with through the Isle of Wight Association for Local Councils.
14. **Parish office accommodation.** Cllr Eccles said that another building of a similar size had been built recently and he suggested a site visit. **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the working group be circulated to councillors and that there be a site visit on Tuesday 13th May at 6.30pm (Clerk to confirm details of the visit).
15. **Neighbourhood plan.** Cllr Wheeler said that 3000 leaflets were being distributed, 8 banners had been ordered and posters and ballot boxes were being organised. On 22nd May there would be 2 stands – one at West Wight Sports Centre and the other at the Memorial Hall. They would need to be manned 9.30am to 8pm. The small hall at the Memorial Hall was being used but it was hoped that this would not cause any problem with the European elections going on and it was hoped that the weather would be good enough it enable the stands to be outside. Cllr Wheeler stressed that it was vital that everyone helped and he would co-ordinate volunteers.
16. **Jubilee Field** – there was nothing to report.
17. **Community grants.**
Freshwater & Totland Archive Group have applied but they have asked the application to be deferred pending further information being obtained on costs for production of their book (a local information book on Freshwater). **RESOLVED** that the application be deferred to the next meeting.
18. **Boundary signs.** Cllr Wheeler said that he was looking for one style of sign for the 3 main entrances to the parish, namely west of Yar Bridge, Hanover Point on the Military Road and East Afton Farm on the middle road. Costs were likely to be £550 per sign as a budget figure. Cllr Harris

suggested pictograms as the best way of advertising features of an area. Cllr Hinton suggested that there should be reference to Tennyson. Cllr Hobbs said that the parish crest should be included. **RESOLVED** that Cllr Wheeler would report back to the Parish Council in due course with styles for consideration.

19. **New bank account. RESOLVED** that a new bank account be opened with Barclays Bank PLC in order to maximise the Financial Services Compensation Scheme guarantee (£85,000 per institution)
20. **Bank mandates – RESOLVED** that Val Ottway and Sally Woods be removed due to their resignations and that Michael Mills added as the new Parish Clerk. Resolution made in accordance with Co-operative form (photocopy attached).
21. **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council take a one year subscription to the County Press Archive at a cost of £49.99 including VAT
22. **Freshwater Community Initiative.** Cllr Fleury said that this was the last project of the FCI. It was being enjoyed by groups of young children and by older children. It seemed to be reasonably vandal proof. Cllr Hobbs would liaise and send a date for an opening ceremony to councillors by e mail.
23. **To Accept Written Reports from sub-groups, committees and representatives of committees.** Cllr Bray referred to a proposal which had been received from a representative of Southern Households for the Parish Council to take over an open space at Sellwood Road Freshwater. Photographs were circulated. In principle councillors felt this was something they would support. Clerk to obtain figures and find out whether the land was registered or not. Cllr Harris referred to the V Dub festival which was taking place between 14th and 18th August. The FYT bus had been approached to provide transport and it was clear that this would be a significant event. The licence was for 4000 people but it may be difficult to regulate numbers. The licence was for 3 years. There was a meeting on 23rd May. The chairman mentioned an e mail from Councillor Medland of 23rd April regarding the multi-use games area. The chairman stressed that the Parish Council must make its own decisions.
24. **To Agree proposed future Agenda items from Cllrs.** Cllr Wheeler suggested a report from meeting of West Wight local councils which was hoped to take place on 15th May. Cllr Wheeler said that he had recently used a distribution company for the local plan. He suggested that the Parish Council consider using the company to distribute a quarterly newsletter Cllr Hobbs mentioned play equipment for Stroud field. Would the Parish Council consider being a partner in providing play equipment (for the next age group from the equipment currently in place).

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.