



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk's office 01983 752000

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 4th November 2014 AT 7.15 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

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

ALSO PRESENT: Isle of Wight Cllr J Medland

Members of the public: 2

Clerk: M J Mills

There was a minute's silence in remembrance of John Ryden who had been Chairman of Freshwater Parish Council from 1984 to 1987.

1. APOLOGIES: None.

2. TO INVITE CLLRS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA:
Cllrs Fleury, Cameron, and Lloyd as members of the Skate Park Committee (item 12).

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD 7th OCTOBER 2014:

It was **resolved** the Minutes of the previous meeting held 7th October 2014, having been circulated, be approved and signed subject to correction to the name of the West Wight Sports Centre.

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

5. WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Medland said that any issues were covered by the agenda. The meeting re Moa Place still had to be arranged. He would address the car park later.

Cllr Eccles said that the main issue was the budget. He thought that discretionary services needed careful thinking about. A strategic view should be taken as otherwise the parish council might be employing more staff when there were already staff in place at Isle of Wight Council. Resources were being stretched and staff were being lost. The Isle of Wight Council were now looking at having different cycles for meetings. Patience was needed whilst this was happening. The parish council should think about things after the meeting with Isle of Wight Council on 17th November. Cllr Cameron said that tourism should be a high priority and he queried why the IWC did not simply increase the rates.

Cllr Harris said that nothing is specific. The parish council needed to fix a precept.

Cllr Eccles pointed out that there were limits on increasing council tax but there was no restriction on the precept. He said that a decision had to be made whether to do work ourselves which would involve on costs and it needed careful thought.

Cllr Bray said that she and the Clerk had met with the contractors and they had explained what was done for beach cleaning. Slipways were power jetted once per fortnight. Quotes had been requested. Cllr Medland said that he had no faith in the figures which had been supplied by Isle of Wight Council.

Cllr Wheeler said that we needed all the facts and specifications and it was important to compare like with like.

6. CLERKS REPORT:

Jubilee Field

Isle of Wight Council were meeting to discuss this on 29th October. No update from them at present despite a reminder.

The pond and land at Selwood Road

Matter completed on 22nd October. Insurance company advised and risk assessment being prepared by RFO.

Tree at Moa Place

The Clerk has been in correspondence with Island Roads regarding a tree which is encroaching on the footpath between Moa Place and the health centre. After a recent site meeting Island Roads accept that this is not the responsibility of the Parish Council and the matter has been referred to Brookside health centre on whose land the tree appears to be situate.

Cllr Bray said that the tree had now been removed.

Devolution of services

The Clerk has formally written to Isle of Wight Council confirming the Parish Council's interest and need for discussions concerning Stroud recreation ground, Jubilee Field, the library, the MUGA, Moa Place car park and public realm in Freshwater generally. The letter also records the dissatisfaction of the Parish regarding the Isle of Wight Council's handling of the Avenues site.

Youth Club Committee Donation

The Clerk has been informed that the Committee has agreed to donate £3,500 from their funds towards the cost of employing an activities officer under the new Youth Service agreement administered by the West Wight Sports and Community Centre. The Committee ask the Parish Council to formally note and approve the position.

This was duly noted and approved.

Willow tree at Camp Road

This matter was referred by Cllr Medland. There is a willow tree growing on a bank by Downsview Villas. Cllr Medland has said that it is not included in the PFI contract and that Isle of Wight Council do not have funds to deal with it. It has therefore been referred to the Parish on that basis.

Councillors felt that this was not the parish council's responsibility and therefore the parish should not be undertaking the work. If there were problems with overhead cables the utility had the right to deal with that.

Cllr Bray pointed out that there were 2 trees in the road with greater problems.

Tree at Norton Green

A contribution of £200 has been offered towards this work.

Cllrs queried whether the parish should be undertaking this work. Cllr Lloyd stressed that the decision had already been made and the council should not go back on its decision.

Training

The Clerk has now completed his CILCA training.

SLCC

The Clerk attended the branch meeting of the SLCC on 29th October. Guest speaker was Steve Lugg Chief Executive of Hampshire CALC who spoke about crowdfunding, county training partnerships and the quality scheme.

General

Cllr England suggested that the Clerk's report and any other papers for the meeting should be sent by 5pm the night before the meeting and otherwise hard copies be supplied at the meeting. Cllrs should check their e mails on that basis.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

9th October Victim Support

17th October Pauline Tyrell

3rd November Post Office

3rd November Graham Gosden

8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Accounts for Payment

Payments October 2014 - by internet banking

SALARIES TOTAL

£
1805.47

Cheques drawn for payment 4th November 2014

			£	
Debit Cd	IW Council	Avenues Rates Oct	101.00	pd 07/10
Debit Cd	BT Inv SD44324534M015VO	2nd line rental Oct + fees	26.40	pd 14/10
400572	Patch Computers Inv 407	Toshiba Laptop	65.00	
400573	MALCO Inv 1051;1038	Office electricity Sep; Hire S Hall Asst Clerk Interviews & Discretionary Services	122.90	
400574	BL Ltd Inv 16797;16842	Grounds Maintenance incl extra Spinfish no 6; Jubilee Field Jul-Sep	1961.26	
400575	Business Supplies Inv 00084163	Stationery	57.76	
400576	Rotary Club	Community Grant - Vine Xmas tree	50.00	
400577	IW Music Dance & Drama Festival	Community Grant	50.00	
400578	Mark One Maintenance	Skatepark gates repairs	25.00	

400580	MALCO Inv 1060;1061;1062;1063;1064	Second 1/2 Precept; Second 1/2 Archive; Second 1/2 Tenn Suite, Second 1/2 Office rent, Second 1/2 Office cleaning	5974.00
400581	Royal British Legion	2 wreaths + Community Grant	67.00
400582	Hillbans Pest Control Inv P21346	Pest Control for Oct 2014	61.80
400583	S Electric Inv 321580952 0003	Avenues 24/7 - 21/10	17.89
400584	Lamps & Tubes Illumina- tions Inv 66821	Artificial Xmas trees + lights + brackets	1784.40
400585	SLCC	Clerk registration fee re CiLCA training	250.00
400586	West Wight Sports Centre	Spectrum Banner fees	423.00
Sub total			11037.41
TOTAL			£12,842.88

9. BOUNDARY SIGNS AND CONSIDERATION OF AN ADDITIONAL NOTICE BOARD AT MOA PLACE AND AT FRESHWATER BAY

Cllr Wheeler presented a written report. All agreed that the parish council proceed on that basis. There should be consultation particularly on strap lines.

Cllr Medland said that the sign at Yarmouth Bridge was being reinstalled by Island Roads.

Cllr Eccles said that his group may be willing to assist.

In answer to a question from Cllr Bray Cllr Wheeler confirmed that he was referring to notice boards with glass fronted cases not information boards.

Cllr Hobbs pointed out that the boards would need to be updated simultaneously and this will be done by the Clerk.

Cllr Kennett suggested contacting Freshwater Bay residents association.

ACTION Cllr Wheeler as per report/Clerk to contact FBRA

10. UPDATE ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS.

The Clerk gave an update. It was agreed that trees should go up in the first week of December and be taken down by the 12th night. Lights should be on 4pm to 10 pm.

A Christmas tree was also required for the library (as large as possible).

Cllr England confirmed that the Memorial Hall were paying for their own tree.

11. WEST WIGHT MEETING OF TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS – UPDATE

The Clerk confirmed that he was endeavouring to arrange this for 20th November.

12. SKATE PARK UPDATE

Cllr Lloyd confirmed that the noise complaint was now considered closed. The pole jam had been removed and the grind box had been replaced. Cllr Lloyd said phase 2 would now be going in to the budget. There had been some vandalism and it was agreed that the plaque and back screen should be removed. We would get a quote and this would be funded by Freshwater PC alone.

Cllr Hobbs queried the expenditure. It was felt that there should be a full breakdown prepared at the end of the year showing the contribution from Totland PC.

13. PARISH ACCOMMODATION – UPDATE

Cllr Cameron confirmed that an application for a variation in the conditions had been submitted.

Cllr Eccles said that the consultation now needs to be completed. Nothing further needed to be done regarding parish accommodation at this time.

Cllr England said that he had not seen a budget for the new build. He said that there needed to be figures for monthly running costs and finance costs.

Cllr Eccles said that full costings had been obtained. There was for figure for maintenance but that was a minor cost.

Cllr England said that a full costing was needed.

Cllr Kennett said that we needed a comparison of the options showing what we pay now and what projected costs would be. There needed to be a benefits analysis – why we are doing it and for whom. One reason for the new build was to be more accessible to the public. Benefits for the Memorial Hall should also be given.

Cllr Eccles confirmed that this could be done. A modern property would be cheaper to light, heat and maintain. This could be compared to rental costs.

ACTION Cllr Eccles to initiate comparisons.

14. DISCRETIONARY SERVICES. TO MAKE A FINAL DECISION ON WHICH SERVICES TO TAKE OVER.

There was a general feeling that there was insufficient information.

Cllr Eccles suggested that we await the meeting on 17th November. The precept did not have to be finalised until January.

Cllr Wheeler said that he had found out about work in Avenue Road through the usual roadworks' listing. The work had been scheduled for 2017 and there had been a plan to improve the public realm at the time the work was done. This was another example of lack of co-operation.

Cllr Eccles said that it was unfortunate that improvements were not going to happen now because these works had been brought forward. Avenue Road is the centre and it should get some improvement. The parish council had been promised consultation but it had not happened.

15. PUBLIC CONSULTATION. TO DISCUSS AND DETERMINE HOW THIS WILL BE DONE AND TO RECEIVE A TIME COMMITMENT FROM COUNCILLORS TO ATTEND THIS EVENT.

Cllr Hobbs said timing for public consultation was off. She thought March would be a better time.

Cllr Lloyd said it needed to be done and we could only give people the opportunity to be involved.

Cllr Hinton said that Dimbola would be closing week days in January for building works so it would not be available as a venue.

Cllr Bray pointed out that the parish council would need to produce information.

Cllr Harris said that 60% of items were dependent of the Isle of Wight Council.

Cllr's Fleury, Wheeler and the Clerk would prepare the format. Cllr's Medland and Eccles volunteered to be involved.

ACTION Cllr's Fleury, Wheeler and the Clerk

16. BOUNDARY SIGNS – UPDATE BY CLLR WHEELER

This was dealt with under item 9.

17. WORK PLAN. TO CONSIDER A REVIEW OF THE PARISH COUNCIL'S WORK PLAN.

Cllr Kennett went through a draft document she had prepared and discussed with Cllr Fleury and the Clerk. She felt that this should be looked at every month and updated as appropriate. Also she suggested a 5 year plan or vision. All agreed.

Cllr Wheeler pointed out that admin support for this type of project was necessary.

ACTION Cllr Kennett to prepare revised work plan.

18. TO CONSIDER WRITING TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL TO REQUEST A LEASE OF STROUD RECREATION GROUND AND THE ADJOINING EDUCATION LAND.

The delay with the Jubilee Field lease might mean that this could be linked up into one lease document.

Cllr Medland said that he had spoken with Cllr Stubbings about this. Cllr Stubbings may be regarding this as a separate issue from Jubilee Field.

It was agreed that there should be a formal request.

ACTION the Clerk

19. CAR PARKING AT MOA PLACE – UPDATE BY THE CLERK.

The Clerk had written to Isle of Wight Council expressing the parish council's interest in Moa Place car. IWC had not responded to our letter other than by an acknowledgment. However the Clerk had now accessed the committee report which had been done for the Executive due to meet on 11th November 2014 which recommended implementation of the order and removal of the trolley park. The Clerk had also spoken with Ventnor Town Council who were taking over the responsibility for 4 car parks in the Ventnor area.

Cllr Eccles said that if the parish council were thinking of taking on the 3 car parks in the parish it should be aware that Freshwater Bay is expensive to run. Cllr Harris said that the PFI was for 25 years and Island Roads could continue to maintain them.

The Chairman said that it made no sense for the trolley park to be removed.

Cllr Medland said he understood that the Executive would approve the recommendation.

Cllr Wheeler said that this was a failure by IWC to understand the impact on the community. It was short sighted.

Cllr Medland said that the idea was to get rid of anomalies. There was currently no strategy.

Freshwater was however an exception with the free half hour. Newport Town Council were taking on Carisbrooke car park along with the toilets. He said that we needed to find something which would suit all parties including West Wight Sports Centre and Brookside Health Centre.

Cllr Kennett said it was not an anomaly. The free half hour was key to the people here. It was not about WWSC or BHC but the people of West Wight. This was about local need for local people.

Cllr Harris said that he had previously stated one size does not fit all. He said that we have a local solution and we were not the rest of the Isle of Wight.

Cllr Cameron said this showed a lack of leadership. Once the strategy had been completed it would change everything again.

Cllr Wheeler said that the 3 car parks in the parish were totally different. Avenue Road was underused. This went back to public realm and it could be developed if the IWC had the vision.

Cllr Medland agreed that the strategy should have been done first. He said Freshwater was part of the Isle of Wight. He felt we were stuck with the current situation. Ventnor was a separate deal.

Cllr England said it looked as though Moa Place would be cluttered with trollies.

The Clerk pointed out that the parish council could offer to vary the lease and it was agreed that we should write to the IWC to suggest this.

ACTION the Clerk.

20. TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF PARISH ONLINE. YEARLY COST IS £80 PLUS VAT IN ADDITION TO ONE OFF SET UP CHARGE OF £20 PLUS VAT.

All agreed.

ACTION the Clerk.

21. HAVE YOUR SAY MEETING ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL 17TH NOVEMBER 2014. COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS INVITED.

The Chairman queried whether the primary school would be big enough. Cllr Medland agreed that it was a strange choice but it was owned by the IWC so did not involve any cost.

Cllr Wheeler suggested that questions be formulated in advance.

ACTION all councillors.

22. OPEN SPACES AND ALLOTMENT COMMITTEES. TO FORMALLY APPROVE THE DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEES MADE ON 21ST OCTOBER 2014 AND TO APPROVE OUTSTANDING WORK FROM THE PARISH WALK.

This item was adjourned to a future meeting.

23. APPRENTICE. UPDATE BY THE CLERK.

The Clerk confirmed that he and Cllr Fleury had met with representatives of the Isle of Wight College. 30 hours minimum was required which would include a training day at the College of 7 hours. It was thought that the hours could be found through evening meetings and involvement with sub-committees. Cllr Hinton suggested involvement with archives as well. An hourly rate needed to be agreed. Cllr Wheeler thought an apprentice would be able to help with social media etc. Cllr Eccles said that Brookside health centre had taken on an apprentice. It was agreed that more information should be obtained and the Clerk should liaise with the health centre.

ACTION the Clerk.

24. TO CONSIDER HOW TO ADDRESS FILLING THE VACANCY FOR AFTON WARD.

Cllr Bamford felt that there should be a large advertisement stressing the benefits of being a councillor. Agreed that this should be done after the 17th November.

ACTION the Clerk.

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

Cllr Bamford said the Neighbourhood Plan needed expertise and she invited councillors to get involved. She would keep councillors informed about what was going on.

Cllr Harris mentioned an event marking the 3rd anniversary of FYT Bus which would be on 5th December between 12 noon and 2 pm.

It was noted that Cllr Fleury would be representing the Parish Council for the library's 75th anniversary.

26. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM CLLRS.

None suggested.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.