



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office 01983 752000

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 1st MARCH 2016 AT 6.45 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE MEMORIAL HALL

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

Members of the public: 4

Clerk: M J Mills

1. **APOLOGIES:** None (all present).
2. **TO INVITE COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.**
Cllr Cameron chair of Early Years (community grant applications).
3. **TO AGREE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 2nd FEBRUARY 2016.**
The minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd February 2016 having been circulated were agreed.
Cllr Wheeler said that he had spoken to the contractors re Mentone. They had said that roof water was going into the drainage system.
Cllr Cameron referred to the problem of establishing ownership and that the owners of Mentone were prepared to take the land on.
A member of the public said that he understood that it was former manorial land and he would bring some papers into the Parish Office.
4. **QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (UP TO 15 MINUTES).**
None.
5. **PRESENTATION RE FRACKING ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT – SYLVIA MAY (10 MINUTES).**
Mrs May gave an illuminating presentation on how fracking might affect the Isle of Wight.
Cllr Medland said that he was concerned that the Environment Agency were the body responsible for policing. They had limited resources and not much experience of mining. The government had already decided they were in favour of fracking.
6. **TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNTY CLLRS/QUESTION AND UPDATE SESSION (UP TO 15 MINUTES FROM BOTH CLLRS).**
Cllr Medland expressed concern re the Royal Mail situation and it was agreed that this needed further investigation.

7. CLERKS REPORT – TO BE CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS.

Estates strategy workshop

The Clerk attended a follow up meeting re estates strategy workshop (My Life a full Life) at St Marys on 11th February.

Tree by the Old Ambulance Station

This work now completed by Scottish and Southern Electric (cutting back branches in the willow tree interfering with the nearby power cable).

Pensions

New pension scheme with NEST took effect for salaries paid in February.

Website

The Clerk and Cllr Bamford had some additional training on the website with the website developer.

Parish Noticeboard

The noticeboard will need to be moved and it is suggested that it should be on the wall of the Memorial Hall in the car park nearest to the main road. This would be an opportunity to consider a new board if councillors felt that was appropriate.
This to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

8. CORRESPONDENCE.

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

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved.

Freshwater Parish Council
Accounts for Payment

<u>Payments January / February 2016 - by internet banking</u>	£
INTERNET BANKING SALARIES TOTAL	2,886.72

Cheques drawn for approval 1st March 2016

400766	Groundsell Inv GCINV16-028	Drainage Works	1,672.80	iss 2/2
400767	Hillbans Pest Control Inv P22500	Pest Control January 2016 - Brookside Road	61.80	iss 2/2
400768	Brighstone Landscaping Inv 18716	Extras; Selwood Road	100.99	iss 23/2
400768	Brighstone Landscaping Inv 18735	Jubilee Field	690.00	iss 23/2
400769	MALCO Inv 1352	Parish Office Electric September 2015	70.00	iss 23/2
400769	MALCO Inv 1446	Parish Office Electric January 2016	70.00	iss 23/2
400769	MALCO Inv 1449	Hall Hire January	279.50	iss 23/2
400770	Robert A Allen Inv 27/1	Memorial Hall; site visits and report	85.00	iss 23/2
400771	SLCC Inv 15	Training	10.00	iss 23/2
400772	SSE Inv 0008	Avenues; Electricity 23/10-26/1	19.08	iss 23/2
400773	W Hurst Inv F3409315	Bin bags	5.38	iss 23/2
400774	WWSC Inv 4703	Electrical Work	462.00	iss 23/2

	Sub Total	3,526.55	
<u>Petty Cash for approval 1st March 2016</u>			
217 SugarLoaf Docket	Our Place; Refreshments	20.00	iss 8/1
218 M Wheeler Expenses Docket	Our Place; Travel Expenses	30.80	iss 13/1
	Sub Total	50.80	
	TOTAL	6,464.07	

10. THE AVENUES. TO DECIDE ON FUTURE USE FOR THE BUILDING AND IF THE BUILDING IS NOT REQUIRED TO CONSIDER SALE OF IT.

It was agreed that this would be considered with item 15.

Cllr Hinton felt that the Avenues should now be sold and the Parish Office should be at the Sports Centre or the Library.

Cllrs Cameron and Harris agreed that the Avenues should be sold.

Cllr Eccles was reluctant to lose the site and said that the restrictions on it were minor. He wondered about the site being used for Men in Sheds.

Cllr Allen said that the entire top floor at the Memorial Hall could be made available. A proposal was being prepared with costings.

Cllr Fleury said that consideration needed to be given to the items stored at the Avenues including expensive skate park equipment. The Sports Centre could be considered. The office needed to be more accessible than it was now.

Cllr Kennett said that the staff were in unworkable conditions. There was no confidentiality. Totland had a lot of interaction with the public. The Clerk needed to be downstairs. A lot of work was coming for the Parish Office.

Cllr Medland agreed that the office needed to be accessible and open.

Cllr Bray said she thought that the meeting room should also be accessible.

Cllr Wheeler asked about the Sports Centre and Cllr Kennett said that the position there had not changed.

Cllr Hinton thought the office at Totland was ideal.

Resolved that the Avenues site be sold and the Parish Office should be considered at the next meeting.

11. TOILETS. TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR MOA PLACE AND GATE LANE TOILETS FROM ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL TO FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL WITH EFFECT FROM 1ST APRIL 2016 (POWER TO PROVIDE PUBLIC CONVENIENCES IS CONTAINED IN S87 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936). TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CLEANING THE TOILETS.

Cllr Wheeler gave an update and said that a contribution to costs had been requested for Gate Lane and the rates position for Moa Place was being investigated. There had been discussions with IW Cllr Paul Fuller and freehold interests were being sought. Cllr Fleury pointed out that the Stroud had belonged to the Parish and it was right that it be returned.

It was agreed that for toilet cleaning the cheapest would be accepted subject to references/specification and insurance. Resolved to take over the toilets with effect from 1st April 2016.

12. FRESHWATER LIBRARY. TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF THE FRESHWATER LIBRARY BUILDING FROM ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL TO FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL AND TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF OUTGOINGS ON THE BUILDING FROM 1ST APRIL 2016.

A member of the public said that the library had opened in 1939. He was pleased that the Parish were intending to take it over. He said that local people loved the library.

Cllr Wheeler gave an update.

It was agreed that the Parish would proceed with the acquisition of the building and land on the basis that the Isle of Wight Council would contribute a minimum of £5000 towards repairs.

13. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE.

Cllr Fleury said that a sustainability appraisal and basic condition statement were required and the consultation period would be extended. It was agreed that John Holsburt would be employed for a further 8 weeks.

Cllr Eccles queried whether a housing needs survey was required.

Cllr Wheeler wondered if the referendum date on 23rd June could be used for the neighbourhood plan referendum.

14. OUR PLACE UPDATE.

Cllr Kennett said that the operational plan had been submitted at the right time. It was now a question of making it real on the ground. "Isle Help" had gone live. This was good for people who were computer literate. Public health were seeing the Parish Council as being ahead of others and were considering a new post of community builder. It was also being suggested that Freshwater should be a learning site which others could learn from. An IT teacher had agreed to do 2 sessions. Consideration should also be given to a second portal. It was now important to find a location for the "Hub". A donation was agreed for the Methodist Hall in the sum of £100.

15. TO CONSIDER ADOPTING A VEXATIOUS POLICY (REVISED SINCE FEBRUARY MEETING).

Resolved to consider this at the next meeting.

16. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL MEMBERS FOR THE SKATE PARK, FINANCE AND ALLOTMENT COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE PPG GROUP AND AFTON MARSH COMMITTEE.

Cllr Fleury said that Krissy Lloyd was willing to join the skate park committee and it was agreed that she be co-opted as youth service representative.

The following appointments were agreed

Cllr's Medland and Hobbs to join PPG.

Cllr's Bray and Hinton to join Afton Marsh committee.

Cllr Allen to join Allotments Committee.

Cllr's Eccles and Hobbs to join Finance Committee.

17. PARISH OFFICE. TO CONSIDER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PARISH OFFICE AND WHETHER OR NOT IT SHOULD REMAIN AT THE MEMORIAL HALL. COUNCILLORS ARE ASKED TO CONSIDER IN PARTICULAR THE ISSUE OF ACCESSIBILITY AND WHETHER OR NOT THE OFFICE SHOULD BE ON GROUND LEVEL.

Dealt with at 10 above.

18. WALKING AND CYCLING FESTIVALS. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH THESE EVENTS.

It was felt that these were very worthwhile. However by a majority it was resolved that financial support would not be offered.

19. SEATS – TO CONSIDER WHETHER THIS SHOULD BE DELEGATED TO THE PARISH OFFICE OR DEALT WITH THROUGH COMMITTEE AND IF THE LATTER WHICH COMMITTEE.

Resolved that maintenance of seats would come under Parish Land Management and new seats under Public Realm. Seats would be discussed at the end of the Allotments Committee.

20. COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS – FRESHWATER EARLY YEARS CENTRE AND 1ST FRESHWATER/TOTLAND CUBS

Resolved that the following grants be made

Freshwater/Totland Cubs £50

Freshwater and Totland Archives £200

All Saints school £350

Early Years Centre £400

West Wight youth football £800

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

None.

22. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

Keep Freshwater Fresh Campaign and The Gouldings

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.