



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd MAY 2016 AT 7.00 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, T Nicholson.

Members of the public: 0

Clerk: M J Mills

1. APOLOGIES: None (all present).

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 100th anniversary of the fall of Kut (6th May) was noted.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Nicholson to the Parish Council.

3. TO INVITE COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.

Cllr Medland re item 22.

4. QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (UP TO 15 MINUTES).

None.

5. POLICING

Sergeant Mark Lyth reported on policing issues. There had been an online survey re priorities and 250 people had responded. The areas identified were antisocial behavior, vehicle use, burglaries and knife crime. There had been some rural burglaries over Christmas. 5 people had been arrested and were likely to be charged. All had previous convictions. The system of updating clerks had been changed as it was felt to be too costly. PC Peter Baggott had been transferred to Ryde but would still be involved with "Our Place". PS Lyth was due to be redeployed to custody and he thanked the Parish Council for their support over the years. The chairman and a number of councilors thanked PS Lyth and expressed their disappointment that he was leaving the area. Cllr Fleury asked about drones and sergeant Lyth said that there were a lot of regulations and the police were happy to assist where problems were identified.

6. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNTY CLLRS/QUESTION AND UPDATE SESSION (UP TO 15 MINUTES FROM BOTH CLLRS).

Cllr Eccles said that the parking strategy was due out on 9th May. It was some 70 pages. Moa Place was mentioned on 3 occasions and it would now go to public consultation.

Cllr Medland said that he understood from the Post Office that parcels could still be collected as before but there had already been a loss of expertise as postmen without local knowledge were now being used.

Cllr Hinton said that he had received lots of complaints about rubbish collection. Cllr Medland would refer problems on. Councillors felt that the new arrangements at the tip were an improvement.

7. CLERKS REPORT – TO BE CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS.

Toilets

No problems reported. First invoice just received for cleaning. Ventnor have been negotiating a rate for the Wallgate units which is £125 per annum per unit. This covers 2 service visits and interim breakdown cover. Wallgate quote £204 per unit for contracts of less than 7 so clearly clustering is a sensible approach. There are 4 units at Moa Place so yearly cost will be £500 (no Wallgate units at Gate Lane). One parish council is known to be considering replacing these units with conventional sinks given the maintenance costs of Wallgate.

Land management

There have been enquiries from “owners” of memorial trees at Stroud Playing Fields. One has asked for a replacement tree and quote has been requested from Brighstone Landscaping.

Memorial Hall

A quote has been obtained for the window in the Tennyson Suite. It needs to be resolved whether this is payable by MHALCO or by the Parish Councils.

Skate Park

RoSPA have been instructed to carry out the annual inspection.

Internal audit

This has now been carried out.

Banner at Black Hut Green

A request has been received from Teddy’s sweet shop for a banner promoting the official opening of the new shop on Saturday 28th May. It is proposed that the banner be displayed from 9th May until immediately after the opening. This was approved.

Beach cleaning

The Clerk has received some information on this today. The IWC is contracting with Brighstone Landscaping to litter pick the beach at Freshwater on a weekly basis from 1st May until 30th September. There is a new framework agreement which allows Town and Parish Councils to procure the beach cleaning services direct with the contractor. Pricing of this will be requested.

8. CORRESPONDENCE.

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

The following payments were approved.

<u>Payments April / May 2016 - by internet banking</u>			£	
IB	IW Council	The Avenues Business Rates April	168.80	Pd 8/4
IB	IW Council	Moa Place Toilets Business Rates April	219.40	Pd 8/4
IB	SMC Bookkeeping Services Inv 234	Bookkeeping March	348.00	Pd 22/4
IB	IW Council	The Avenues Business Rates May	169.00	To Pay 3/5
IB	IW Council	Moa Place Toilets Business Rates May	223.00	To Pay 3/5
INTERNET BANKING TOTAL			1,128.20	

Direct debit payments during April 2016

DD			0.00	
DIRECT DEBIT TOTAL			0.00	

Debit Card payments during March / April 2016

			£	
Debit Card	Southern Water Inv 702001651099	Avenues 14/11/15-04/03/16	27.54	Pd 30/3
Debit Card	Southern Water 1265 8725 00015	Allotments	180.06	Pd 30/3
Debit Card	Amazon	Our Place; Laptop Case	24.16	Pd 31/3
Debit Card	Amazon Squire International Inv 16503	Our Place; Printer	669.99	Pd 31/3
Debit Card	John Lewis	Our Place; Equipment	2,107.68	Pd 31/3
Debit Card	PC World	Our Place; Software	154.98	Pd 31/3
Debit Card	W Hurst	Skatepark; Padlocks	14.99	Pd 6/4
Debit Card	HM Land Registry	Register & Title Plan View	6.00	Pd 8/4
Debit Card	Staples	Colour Copier	34.24	Pd 11/4
Debit Card	Preservation Equipment	Archives; tape	11.76	Pd 21/4
DEBIT CARD TOTAL			3,231.40	

Cheques drawn for approval 3 May 2016

			£	
400785	Mark One Maintenance Inv 28/3	Old Ambulance Station Repairs	3,250.00	iss 23/3
400787	Hillbans Pest Control Ltd Inv P22614	Pest Control, Brookside Road	63.40	iss 5/4
400788	Mark One Maintenance Inv 30/3	Seat Installation	185.00	iss 5/4
400789	Robert Allen Inv 25/3	Memorial Hall site visits	45.00	iss 5/4
400790	IW Council Inv 9378306/5	MUGA contribution	1,700.00	iss 5/4
400791	Zurich Inv 21640967	Public Toilets; Insurance	62.31	
400792	MALCO Inv 1498	Parish Office Electric March	70.00	
400792	MALCO Inv 1497	N'Hood Plan; Hire of Small Hall 9th and 11th March	26.00	
400793	Brighstone Landscaping Inv 18924	Selwood Road	100.99	
400793	Brighstone Landscaping Inv 18973	Jubilee Field	690.00	
400794	Brighstone Landscaping Inv 19010	Extra Works	636.00	

400795	West Wight Community Centre Inv 4757	Our Place; Swish Portal and Volunteer Training	1,500.00	iss 22/4
400796	Dusty Bin Waste Inv 2571	Allotment rubbish clearance	380.00	
400797	John Brownscombe Inv FNP-01	Neighbourhood Plan Appraisal	2,300.00	
400798	Ricoh UK Inv 100497871	Photocopier	292.73	
CHEQUE TOTAL			11,301.43	

Petty Cash for approval 3 May 2016

				£
226	Co-Op	Our Place; Refreshments	4.00	Pd 7/3
227	Freshwater Bakery	Our Place; Refreshments	20.00	Pd 9/3
228	St Mary's Hospital	Strategy Meeting; Parking	2.60	Pd 9/3
229	Co-Op	Our Place; Refreshments	5.50	Pd 9/3
230	Artframes	Re-glaze Picture	34.61	Pd 21/3
231	Parking	FNP Meeting Parking	1.00	Pd 11/3
232	W Hurst	Skatepark; Bin Liners	1.79	Pd 24/3
PETTY CASH TOTAL			69.50	

TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR APPROVAL

£15,730.53

10. THE ROYAL MAIL SERVICE IN FRESHWATER AND THE FUTURE OF THE SORTING OFFICE.

Agreed that the Parish Council would write to express its disappointment.

11. ACQUISITIONS UPDATE

A) TOILETS. TO NOTE THE CONCLUSION OF THE TENANCY AT WILL.

B) LIBRARY.

C) STROUD PLAYING FIELDS AND JUBILEE FIELD.

D) OTHER.

The Clerk reported that Isle of Wight Council had offered acceptable Heads of Terms re the library and Jubilee Field and the Stroud and these were approved.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE.

Cllr Bamford gave a brief update. Cllr Fleury confirmed that a grant for £716 had been offered for advertising costs. It was noted that the administrator would be leaving in the middle of May.

13. OUR PLACE. CONSIDERATION OF FURTHER STEPS FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF THE LAST STAGE.

Cllr Kennett said that other councils were asking for details of the Freshwater model. It was hoped that there would be some funding from public health. The youth club office at West Wight Sports and Community Centre was being used but the room used for polling would be used in the long term. Candidates had come forward for the role of co-ordinator. Sue Allen is happy to continue to be involved. The plan will move to being operational as soon as possible. Training was being given on the SWISH portal.

14. ASSET MANAGER. TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS AND PROPOSED JOB SPECIFICATION.

Cllr Hobbs suggested seeing how things went. Cllr Eccles suggested working with other councils. Cllr Medland suggested 1 day every 2 months. Cllr Harris said it would suit a retired builder. Cllr Hinton agreed with the concept. He felt it should be a “hands on” role.

15. SHINGLE ON THE PROMENADE AT FRESHWATER BAY. TO CONSIDER WHAT ACTION THE PARISH COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE, IF ANY.

Cllr Bray gave some details of the problem. There was concern because of Walk the Wight on 10th May and because a member of the public had already fallen. The Clerk had an update from which it seemed that Isle of Wight Council were about to resolve the issue.

Cllr Nicholson said that the grass was not growing because of the shingle. The FBRA would rake off some of this.

A meeting on site was taking place with Cllrs Wheeler and Nicholson and officers from Isle of Wight Council.

16. STROUD COPPICE. UPDATE AND TO FIX A SITE MEETING FOR ALL COUNCILLORS TO VISIT THIS AREA.

Cllr Bray said that decisions needed to be made. A contractor had inspected and said that clearing work needed to be done before any felling. Will Cross had been recommended to do the work. It was easier to inspect on the ground.

This to be reconsidered at the June meeting.

17. THE COMMUNITY PUB BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME. TO CONSIDER WHETHER OR NOT TO INVESTIGATE MAKING AN APPLICATION UNDER THIS SCHEME.

Resolved to keep this in mind for the future.

18. PARISH OFFICE. TO CONSIDER ACTIONS REQUIRED IN THE LIGHT OF DECISIONS MADE AT THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 26TH APRIL

The Chairman said that the choices were between the Memorial Hall and the former Nat West bank building (Cllr Kennett confirmed that WWS&CC did not have room). Nat West needed some refurbishment.

Cllr Bray said that she thought the Nat West was very suitable. It would be an asset.

Cllr Kennett said that she thought it could be an asset but she thought that in view of all the things which the Parish Council were taking on the Parish Council should support what it has. Access did need to be improved.

Cllr Fleury suggested a wooden structure at the Memorial Hall which would have a 30 to 40 year life.

Cllr Eccles thought the Nat West building would do very well. It might cost £40,000 to renovate.

Cllr Medland felt that the Parish Council should put in a bid for the Nat West.

Cllr Allen said that there was not much requirement for office space in Freshwater but the Tennyson suite could be let out. However she felt that there was insufficient information about Nat West and there was no survey. Ongoing costs were unknown. There was no consultation.

Cllr Nicholson thought Nat West would help to raise the profile of the Parish Council. A survey should be commissioned.

Cllr Hinton suggested seeing if it sold at auction and if not putting in a bid.

Cllr Allen pointed out that the existing lease had 1 year left to run. It was possible to maintain the status quo.

Cllr Cameron said that a bid was a good option.

Cllr Bamford thought that the Parish Council should wait and not rush the decision.

Cllr Harris said that the public would not support a purpose built building.

Cllr Wheeler said that his long term agenda was to have the parish office with the library. Nat West did tick many boxes but it was not his vision.

Cllr Harris said that the residential letting market was being squeezed and commercial property was attractive.

Cllr Hobbs opposed the purchase of the bank. She felt it could not be justified in the current climate and there should be consultation.

It was resolved to bid for the bank by a majority of 7 for and 4 against (Cllrs Allen, Bamford, Hobbs and Kennett).

The Clerk had received some professional advice on value and it was resolved to set a maximum bid of £70,000.

Cllr Harris and the Clerk to attend the auction.

19. HOOKE FESTIVAL PLAQUE UNVEILING - 24TH JULY 2016 – TO DISCUSS PARISH COUNCIL INVOLVEMENT.

It is proposed to go to the library on the Sunday but we are awaiting confirmation from the Lord Lieutenant.

20. ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCIL'S PROPOSAL FOR SUPPORT TO PLANNING ENFORCEMENT. TO CONSIDER WHETHER OR NOT TO TAKE PART IN THIS (COST CURRENTLY INDICATED TO BE £1553 PER ANNUM).

Cllr Hobbs supported this. Cllr Harris queried how it would work. Cllr Kennett said that a robust service level was being sought. It would focus on section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act. **Agreed** unanimously to support this.

21. PROPOSAL FOR THE RENAMING OF THE MEMORIAL HALL TO THE CAMERON MEMORIAL HALL.

Mrs G Middleton attended the meeting and gave some details of her research which included a reference in 1899 to the Hall being erected for Mrs Cameron and a reference in Toogood's book to the "Cameron Memorial Hall".

Cllr Hinton said that Mrs Cameron had started a fund for the Irish famine and the drill hall had been her idea.

Cllr Bamford pointed out that the hall was jointly owned with Totland PC and Mrs Middleton will speak with them.

Cllr Hobbs said that the hall had been known as the drill hall before it was named Memorial Hall. Cllr Harris suggested changing the name every 5 years.

Cllr Wheeler suggested that more evidence was needed.

22. TIMEBANK. CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING (COMMUNITY GRANT) TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TOY LIBRARY AT THE WEST WIGHT SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE.

This item to be considered at the next meeting.

23. TO CONSIDER WORKS AT SPINFISH BEING THE INSTALLATION OF GABION BASKETS AND ANCILLARY WORKS – INITIAL QUOTE OF £1940 PLUS VAT.

This item to be considered at the next meeting.

24. TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF MONEYSOFT PAYROLL SOFTWARE (CURRENTLY £60 PER ANNUM PLUS VAT).

This item to be considered at the next meeting.

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

None

26. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

As above.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.