



**FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Parish Office 01983 752000**

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017 AT 7.20 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE  
MEMORIAL HALL**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: M Wheeler (Chair), C Fleury, D Eccles, C Bray, A Bamford, A Harris, J Medland, T Nicholson, B Hinton MBE (to item 14), G Kennett MBE, G Cameron and V Lowthion.

Members of the public: 2

Clerk: M J Mills

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**1. APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Brenda Hobbs.

**2. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016.**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016 having been circulated were agreed (GC/CB 6/12/16 and AB/TN 20/12/16).

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

None.

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

None.

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

Cllr Eccles mentioned the budget meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January. IWC needed a £7.5 million saving.

**6. CLERKS REPORT – TO BE CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS.**

**Skate Park**

Broken glass was found in the Skate Park in the weeks commencing 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016. A report to the police was made regarding this on 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

**Trees at Stroud Playing Fields**

Some newly planted trees were vandalised in the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> December. This was reported to the police.

### **Moa Place toilets**

Flowers given at Christmas to the volunteer who locks and unlocks the toilets.

### **Allotments**

Gate post at the allotments repaired at a cost of £201.15.

### **Freshwater Neighbourhood Plan**

Documentation has now been supplied to Isle of Wight Council using Dropbox. This required an upgrade to our account as the files were in excess of 2 GB's and this is currently costing £7.99 per month.

### **Litter removal at Stroud Playing Fields**

Reports received of domestic waste being left and dog mess put in litter bins. A notice has been put up as an initial measure.

### **Freshwater Library**

Lights at the Library replaced at a cost of £50 (2 tubes and starters and cleaning).

### **Footway by Brookside Medical Centre**

Report received by lady who had slipped and fallen on the pathway. Investigations established that this is not the responsibility of Island Roads and further it is not a public right of way on the definitive map.

### **Bollards**

Island Roads asked to deal with bollards which had been knocked over at Brookside Road.

### **Christmas lights**

Several small problems with Christmas lights dealt with by our contractor before Christmas.

### **Gate Lane toilets**

The Parish Council did not agree the buy back provisions suggested by IWC in the draft transfer relating to these premises. This has been taken up through the Isle of Wight Associations of Local Councils and was discussed at the last meeting between IWC and IWALC. The report of the meeting is complex but the answer seems to be that IWC will not agree to proceed without this provision.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE.**

## **8. TO AGREE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – LIST CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION.**

The following payments were approved.

### **Payments December / January 2016 - by internet banking**

		£	Paid
IB	Cross Country Services Inv CCS-16/66	Tree Work	420.00 9/12
IB	Cross Country Services Inv CCS-16/68	Tree Work	150.00 9/12
IB	Cross Country Services Inv CCS-16/72	Tree Work	420.00 9/12
IB	Helping Hands Inv 20092016	Just Ask; Computer Sessions	300.00 19/12
IB	Mark Adams Maintenance Services Inv 10013	Moa Place Toilets; Maintenance & Repairs	45.00 23/12
IB	Mark Adams Maintenance Services Inv 10014	Gate Lane Toilets; Maintenance & Repairs	96.50 23/12
IB	Mark Adams Maintenance Services Inv 10015	Labour; Village Christmas Decorations	525.00 23/12
IB	RJR Electrical Inv 3043	Electrical Work; Christmas / Events	248.00 23/12

IB	Emma Carter	December Expenses; Christmas / Events	66.88	28/12
IB	December Salaries	December Salaries	3,002.82	28/12
IB	IW Council	Library Business Rates January	880.00	6/1
IB	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE & NIC Oct-Dec 16	1,080.00	16/1
<b>INTERNET BANKING SUB TOTAL</b>			<b>7,234.20</b>	
<u>Direct debit payments during December / January 2017</u>			£	
DD	Southern Water	Gate Lane Toilets; Water (missing invoice)	692.12	1/12
DD	Southern Electric Inv 0003	Moa Place Toilets; Electricity 20/8-1/10/16	26.17	10/12
DD	Southern Electric Inv 0001	Moa Place Toilets; Electricity 1/10-18/11/16	112.36	10/12
DD	Southern Electric Inv 0003	Gate Lane Toilets; Electricity 20/8-21/11/16	42.00	10/12
DD	IW Council	The Avenues Business Rates January	169.00	1/1
DD	IW Council	Moa Place Toilets Business Rates January	223.00	1/1
DD	IW Council	Gate Lane Toilets Business Rates January	322.00	1/1
DD	Souther Water	Allotments	66.30	15/1
<b>DIRECT DEBIT SUB TOTAL</b>			<b>1,652.95</b>	
<u>Debit Card payments during November / December 2016</u>			£	
D/Card	Chant Lock Inv 39	Key Cutting	20.40	24/11
D/Card	Island Cleaning Solutions Inv 29-16-17	Toilet Cleaning November	668.00	5/12
D/Card	SMC Bookkeeping Services Inv 292	Bookkeeping November	200.00	5/12
D/Card	Vistaprint Inv 9243065886	Just Ask; Business Cards	15.58	6/12
D/Card	Wildlife Fencing Inv 12240	Tree Guards	18.95	6/12
D/Card	Engraved Tags Inv 11058	Seats; Brass Tags	59.94	7/12
D/Card	Staples Inv 070 02 4366	Stationery	12.98	10/12
D/Card	Post Office Inv 1-20180	Stamps	69.10	12/12
D/Card	Wicksteed Inv 732501	Play Equipment Pentagon Keys	41.04	14/12
D/Card	Adobe Systems Inc Inv ADD000570815UK	Software	19.33	16/12
D/Card	Staples Inv 070 02 5480	Stationery	18.78	17/12
D/Card	Post Office Inv 2-80368	Stamps	8.55	19/12
D/Card	NEST	Pension Contributions December	44.40	23/12
<b>DEBIT CARD SUB TOTAL</b>			<b>1,197.05</b>	
<u>Cheques drawn for approval 10 January 2017</u>				Issued
100081	Hillbans Pest Control Ltd Inv P23448	Pest Control November - Brookside Road	63.16	6/12
100082	Mark Adams Maintenance Services Inv 10011	Toilets; Maintenance	33.00	6/12
100082	Mark Adams Maintenance Services Inv 10012	Events; Xmas Tree Brackets	269.00	6/12
100083	Drum Omnicom Media Group Inv 545464	Skatepark: Filming 2015	4,800.00	6/12
100084	MALCO	Community Grant - Seniors Lunch approved 6/12/16	200.00	6/12
100085	Brighstone Landscaping Ltd Inv 19941	Grounds Maintenance	1,199.50	10/1
100086	Thompsons Plants Inv 10122016	Events: Christmas Trees	610.00	10/1
100087	Lamps & Tubes Illuminations Ltd Inv 67848	Events; Christmas Lighting	2,138.88	10/1
<b>CHEQUES SUB TOTAL</b>			<b>9,313.54</b>	
<u>Petty Cash for approval 10 January 2017</u>				Paid
PC 253	W Hurst & Son F3453874	Events; Fuses	0.95	1/12
PC 254	Morrisons 00355	Open Spaces; Bulb Bags	1.67	7/12
PC 255	Elliotts 01051116	Stationery	12.00	7/12
PC 256	Co-Op 000387	Meeting Refreshments	2.00	7/12
PC 257	Isle of Wight Flowers	Toilets	30.00	22/12
<b>PETTY CASH SUB TOTAL</b>			<b>46.62</b>	

**9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2017. TO CONSIDER THE NEED TO PUBLICISE THE ELECTION AND INDICATION OF WHICH EXISTING CLLRS WILL BE STANDING.**

Cllr Medland confirmed that he would be standing as a County Councillor and as a Parish Councillor.

**10. TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF £500 FOR THE CHAIRMAN'S HONORARIUM.**

**Resolved** to approve this payment.

**11. WEST WIGHT TRANSPORT STRATEGY. TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR A TRANSPORT STRATEGY (JM).**

It was agreed that Cllr Medland's draft strategy would be circulated.

There was a question about the Newchurch minibus which could only be used for school children. Cllr Harris thought that this was because of different requirements for school and community transport.

**12. PROJECTS UPDATE TO INCLUDE**

**A) MEMORIAL HALL – UPDATE ON REPAIRS (AB).**

Cllr Bamford said that there had been no agreement on what was required at the rear. This will be brought back to the Parish Councils. Dressing room 2 had been decorated but damp had returned.

Cllr Bray mentioned that a pump had been put in about 25 years ago as there was a spring.

Cllr Bamford said that the old council chamber was now dry but it was a question of waiting until there was heavy rain.

Cllr Wheeler suggested this could be something for the asset manager to look into.

**B) UPDATE ON FRESHWATER LIBRARY IMPROVEMENT WORKS AND CONSIDERATION OF NEW SIGN (MW).**

Cllr Wheeler reported that the tree report was now available. The internal works would take 2 to 3 weeks and some disruption would be inevitable. This would be further discussed at the end of the meeting.

**C) UPDATE ON AVENUE ROAD IMPROVEMENT/RESURFACING WORK (MW).**

Cllr Wheeler said that the start date which had been given was 23/1/17 but he was concerned because no design work had yet been done and nothing had been thought through.

Southern Water would be dealing with a problem with the foul sewer which surcharged at times of heavy rain.

**D) ALLOTMENTS (AB).**

Allotment holders had been told of the proposed scheme in the first week back after Christmas. Bills were not being sent out to those affected. There had been a meeting on 9<sup>th</sup>

January with allotment holders when their views had been sought. There was a real sense of

community amongst the allotment holders with some giving up plots they did not need. Reallocation was being done on the basis of who had been most productive. Additional land was being sought.

In answer to a question from the public Cllr Bamford said that the grazing field would not be used for allotments. This had been decided following advice that badgers would be likely to get into the field.

A member of the public expressed the opinion that this would not stop the badgers and that they had put in years of work to the allotments.

Cllr Wheeler pointed out that specialist advice had been taken and the Parish Council had been told that this work was necessary.

Cllr Bamford said that the report was available from the Parish Office.

### **13. POTENTIAL PROJECTS TO INCLUDE**

#### **A) STROUD PLAYING FIELDS. UPDATE ON PROJECT AND THE NEED TO REPLACE THE SWINGS (CB).**

Cllr Fleury said that Isle of Wight Council had mentioned that this could be done for £2000. If so that would be considerably less than other figures quoted.

Cllr Lowthion said that this would be an opportunity to have accessible swings.

This topic would be for public consultation on 25<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **B) GATE LANE PUBLIC CONVENIENCES. TO CONSIDER THE NEED FOR REFURBISHMENT (TN).**

This was postponed pending resolution of the transfer.

#### **C) TO CONSIDER PROVIDING A BENCH OR SCULPTURE USING TIMBER FROM FALLEN MACROCARPA TREE (GK).**

Gift to Nature were in agreement with the proposal. Cost would be £550 plus costs of moving. Cllr Fleury suggested Moa Place to replace the benches there which were in disrepair.

**Resolved** that this be agreed.

#### **D) PARISH LAND OWNERSHIP.**

##### **PROPOSAL THAT THE PARISH CONSIDER TAKING OVER**

##### **I) THE EDGE OF LAND BETWEEN DALL SQUARE AND F19 WHICH IS CURRENTLY OVERGROWN AND CAUSING A SIGNIFICANT FLOODING PROBLEM (JM).**

Cllr Medland said that John Dall had now sadly died. It seemed that the family are dealing with this and it would be best to leave it with the family for now.

Cllr Wheeler said that he thought that the drainage problem needed addressing further back near to Longhalves Lane.

##### **II) THE WOODLAND ON EACH SIDE OF LONGHALVES LANE (JM).**

**Resolved** that this would be left for now but could be reconsidered if the land was offered to the Parish Council as a gift.

##### **FURTHER TO CONSIDER THE POSITION WITH REGARD TO THE LAND OUTSIDE MENTONE BROOKSIDE ROAD (JM).**

**Resolved** not to take on responsibility for this land.

##### **E) FRESHWATER BAY PROJECT (TN).**

Cllr Nicholson said that Freshwater Independent Lifeboat had asked for more information. Another estimate was needed. This would be in next year's budget. FIL were saying that they would make a decision when they had all the figures.

For the green area it was proposed to put on new top soil and re-seed with salt resistant seed. Cost was in the region of £1000 and Freshwater Bay Residents' Association had agreed to pay this. The work could not be commenced before Spring.

Cllr Hinton congratulated those involved in this project.

**14. TO FORMALLY APPROVE THE "FREE" PARKING AT AVENUE ROAD CAR PARK AND TO AGREE THE EXPENDITURE OF £336.**

**Resolved** that this be approved. Cllr Wheeler said that he had asked about the Parish Council taking over Avenue Road car park and/or Moa Place car park. The initial response from Alex Minns had been negative. The car parking strategy was now going to the Executive on 12<sup>th</sup> January.

Cllr Kennett said that she had spoken with John Metcalfe and had pointed out that Ventnor had taken over some of their car parks.

Cllr Lowthion suggested some community use at Avenue Road car park if this was taken over.

**15. THE BUDGET. FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT BUDGET (PRECEPT TO BE SET AT FEBRUARY MEETING).**

This would be the subject of consultation at the 25<sup>th</sup> January meeting.

**16. UPDATE ON ACQUISITION OF STROUD PLAYING FIELDS AND JUBILEE FIELD.**

The documentation had been signed and completion should be within a couple of weeks.

**17. THE FOOTPATH AT GRANNY'S MEADE – TO CONSIDER FUTURE MAINTENANCE.**

The Clerk had written to Island Roads regarding this.

**18. TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENT ON 25TH JANUARY 2017.**

Arrangements for what stands and which councillors were discussed.

**19. AVENUE ROAD BUSINESS COMMUNITY – UPDATE.**

Cllr Cameron would be working on this in the following week.

Cllr Kennett said that one issue to arise through Just Ask was that small start up businesses could not afford the rent for a commercial premise. The suggestion was that 3 or 4 businesses could share one property.

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

Cllr Kennett had written to Lloyds Bank in her capacity as chair of IWALC.

She had been advised that the proposal to change the name of Hampshire Constabulary to Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary had now been withdrawn.

Caroline Morris was attending the IWALC meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January re update of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Sustainability and Transformation Plan.

Cllr Lowthion said that she had been the only member of the public at a recent Clinical Commissioning Group public meeting.

A meeting of the West Wight local councils group had been arranged for 26<sup>th</sup> January.

Cllr Bray said that she had looked into the IWC youth funding but the Parish Councils proposals for Stroud Playing Fields did not meet the criteria.

## **21. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.**

Asset manager.

## **22. OTHER MATTERS**

Cllr Kennett said that the West Wight Sports and Community Centre had been successful in the Aviva grant awards. She thanked those who had voted.

**That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.**

### **The Library**

Tender figures were discussed.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.