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FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2018 AT 6.45 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE
MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors: G Kennett MBE (Chair), A Bamford, C Fleury, B Hobbs, T Nicholson, V Lowthion, D Eccles, A Harris, D James, C Bray, B Hinton MBE (to end item 13), T Dimmick and H White.

Members of the public: 8. IW Councillor J Medland (to end item 15).

Clerk: M J Mills

- 1. APOLOGIES.**
Cllr. G Cameron.
- 2. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 4th SEPTEMBER 2018.**
The minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2018 (having been circulated) were agreed.
- 3. TO INVITE COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.**
Item 9 - Cllrs Kennett and Fleury as trustees of the West Wight Sports and Community Centre.
Item 19(a) Cllr Bray as school governor.
- 4. TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (UP TO 15 MINUTES).**
There were none.
- 5. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNTY CLLRS/QUESTION AND UPDATE SESSION (UP TO 15 MINUTES FROM BOTH CLLRS).**
Written reports were received from Cllrs Medland and Cameron.
- 6. CLERKS REPORT.**

Great British High Street

Freshwater was not shortlisted in the Great British High Street awards.

Town and Parish Council seminar at County Hall

The Clerk attended the seminar on 10th September. Topics included the Boundary Commission and My Life a Full Life.

SLCC

The Clerk attended the SLCC branch meeting on 17th September. The Clerk will be attending the National Conference on 10th and 11th October.

External audit

This has now been completed. Notice of conclusion of audit has been put on the parish noticeboard and the website.

Drainage in Afton Road

Report from resident that drainage problems have not been resolved following resurfacing of the road. Matter now referred to the County Councillor.

Proposed lease of land at Freshwater Bay

Draft lease received from Isle of Wight Council on 26th September.

Library

New door has now been installed. Other issues now to be dealt with are an external electric socket where the cover is missing and outside tap which needs moving.

Laptop

PC Consultants instructed to rectify problems with the laptop. They recommend an upgrade on the hard drive at a cost of £61.49 plus VAT.

Multi Use Games Area

This was closed for a short period around 21st September when safety issues were raised by the Environment Officer. The handyman has now completed remedial work.

Metal detection licence

Licence for metal detection renewed for a further 12 months from 29th September.

Avenue Road car park

Figures have been obtained from Isle of Wight Council re income from this car park. The figure for 2017 – 2018 was £6992. A decision needs to be made on how we now progress this issue with the IWC

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

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

The following payments were approved:

Date	Num	Name	Credit
18/09/2018	100389	WWSCC	35.16
18/09/2018	100390	PC Consultants	27.60
18/09/2018	100391	PKF Littlejohn LLP	960.00
18/09/2018	100393	Gift to Nature	8,000.00
18/09/2018	100394	Island Signs	54.00

18/09/2018	100395	RJR Electrical Services	160.00
18/09/2018	100397	Brighstone Landscaping	1,343.50
18/09/2018	100399	Teddy's Place	75.00
18/09/2018	100400	Mark Adams	49.00
18/09/2018	100401	Mark Adams	35.00
18/09/2018	100402	Mark Adams	200.00
18/09/2018	100404	Mark Adams	19.50
18/09/2018	100405	Mark Adams	15.00
18/09/2018	100406	Mark Adams	132.50
02/10/2018	100407	PC Consultants	55.20
02/10/2018	100408	Mark Adams	230.00
02/10/2018	100409	Robin Whitehead	24.54
02/10/2018	100410	Teddy's Place	75.00
02/10/2018	100411	SLCC	498.00
02/10/2018	100412	IWC	757.12
02/10/2018	100413	Business Stream Allotments	18.64
02/10/2018	100414	W Hursts & Sons (IW)Ltd	11.90
02/10/2018	100415	WWSCC	40.00
12/09/2018	299	Co-op	2.99
17/09/2018	D Debit	Corona Energy	143.67
23/09/2018	D Debit	SSE	1.52
27/09/2018	D Debit	Business Stream Moa Place	188.70
06/09/2018	Debit card	Dropbox	7.99
07/09/2018	Debit card	MicroSoft	86.40
07/09/2018	Debit card	MicroSoft	270.72
12/09/2018	Debit card	Co-op	30.00
13/09/2018	Debit card	Office Outlet	6.47
14/09/2018	Debit card	Office Outlet	100.47
17/09/2018	Debit card	J Parker	27.95
19/09/2018	Debit card	W Hursts & Sons (IW)Ltd	63.96
03/09/2018	Online	Island Cleaning Solutions	829.14
03/09/2018	Online	SMC Bookkeeping Services	372.00
03/09/2018	Online	ND Bookkeeping	40.00
20/09/2018	Online	Memorial Hall	847.08
26/09/2018	Online	Salaries	4167.09
27/09/2018	Online	Island Cleaning Solutions	865.14

20867.95

03/10/2018	100416	Parochial Church Council	500.00
03/10/2018	100417	Equals IW	100.00
03/10/2018	100418	Patient Participation Group	400.00
03/10/2018	100419	Breakout Youth	125.00
03/10/2018	100420	300.00	
03/10/2018	100421	West Wight Youth Football Club	100.00
16/10/2018	100422	Leaving care Team	50.00
16/10/2018	100423	All Saints Primary School	225.00
16/10/2018	100424	Totland Parish Council	1,120.54
16/10/2018	100425	Brighstone Landscaping	1,343.50
16/10/2018	100426	Brighstone Landscaping	1,500.00
16/10/2018	100427	Hillbans Pest Control	63.40
16/10/2018	100428	Mark Adams Maintenance	65.50

03/10/2018	Online	Memorial Hall	200.00
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9. WEST WIGHT SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE – FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR YEAR COMMENCING APRIL 2019 AND ONWARDS.

The manager of the Centre had sent a report which had been circulated.

Cllr James referred to competitive threat from the proposed new water park at Robin Hill.

Cllr Kennett referred to Our Place. There were now 40 to 50 people attending. No funding was being given to the project from Isle of Wight Council even though it was thought to be saving them a good deal of money. One morning a week was becoming insufficient.

Cllr James said that the market for cafes and leisure was becoming more competitive. He suggested that customer service at the Centre could be improved and mentoring as well as financial support should be offered.

Councillors spoke of their own experiences.

10. LLOYDS BANK – TO NOTE THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE BANK IS INTENDING TO CLOSE AND TO CONSIDER ANY ACTION.

Cllr Harris said that this was an example of something being costed not valued.

Cllr Hinton pointed out that the cashpoint would be lost. The cashpoint at the Co-operative was often out of order and Sainsbury's machine often ran out of £10 notes. The mobile bank would be of little use. There was wealth in the West Wight.

Cllr Fleury said that community banking worked in other countries. Lloyds Bank were making substantial profits.

Cllr Harris suggested the banks made little profit from the small customers so had no interest in them.

A member of the public said that she had written a letter of complaint and she was unhappy with the response. There were always people in the bank and the cashpoint often ran out of money. Making a trip to Newport could take an afternoon for those with no car. The Post Office did not supply statements etc.

Cllr Nicolson said that this was typical of many people in that getting to Newport was not easy for them. The proposed closure was disgraceful.

A member of the public said that a survey would be carried out to see how many people used the bank. It was always busy. People with poor eyesight or Alzheimer's had problems using machines.

Cllr Fleury pointed out that the village relied on the tourist economy.

Cllr White said that it was now essential to have a bank account. Customers of HSBC, Barclays and Nat West may well have transferred to Lloyds when these banks closed branches in Freshwater.

A member of the public said that a previous requirement to keep at least one bank in a community had gone fairly recently.

Cllr Lowthion said that 3000 branches had closed in the last 3 years. There seemed to have been little in the way of campaigns against this.

A member of the public said that the Post Office was not suitable. Between 10.15 and 12.15 40 people had used the bank. The cashpoint was always busy and often ran out of money.

Staff often needed to help people.

The night safe would go if the bank closed.

Cllr Harris said that FYTBus passengers came to Freshwater to use the bank. He suggested going to the Ombudsman.

Cllr Fleury said that IWALC and NALC should be copied in to communications.

Cllr Hobbs suggested looking into community banks.

Cllr James suggested Nationwide.

A member of the public said that businesses which did not take cards were constantly referring people to the cash point.

Cllr Bray referred to clubs, pubs and businesses needing cash.

Cllr Hobbs was concerned about security with more cash being left on premises.

A member of the public said that confidentiality was difficult with a mobile bank.

The Chair suggested working with other town and parish councils in the West Wight.

A member of the public said the bank could be at the Library. Another suggested the banks could have one day each.

It was suggested that the matter be publicised in the County Press and the Observer. The MP should also be involved.

11. RAILINGS AT FRESHWATER BAY – CLLR DIMMICK TO UPDATE.

Cllr Dimmick said that he had sent in a freedom of information request and he had obtained an admission from Isle of Wight Council that they owned the railings. The railings had been inspected and posts were OK. Railings to the south of the Albion needed replacing and 50% of those to the east. Some of the railings were not owned by the Isle of Wight Council and it was thought that these belonged to the Holiday Fellowship. Cllr Dimmick estimated material costs at £3400 plus 10% contingency. Labour could be provided free of charge from the Freshwater Bay Residents Association. There was a legal aspect and Isle of Wight Council would have to give their permission. Painting would be needed every 5 years.

Cllr Hobbs was concerned about setting a precedent. She suggested raising it as a health and safety issue.

Cllr Harris suggested that the Isle of Wight Council could contract the Parish Council to do the job.

Cllr Eccles had no objection to making a contribution but felt that the Parish Council should not take on the liabilities.

Cllr Kennett suggested a meeting with Isle of Wight Council.

Cllr Fleury felt that money should not be spent on assets which were not owned by the Parish Council.

Cllr Nicolson was concerned about having to maintain the railings in perpetuity. He suggested using the £4000.

Cllr White suggested reminding Isle of Wight Council of their responsibilities and the fact that there was no cap on compensation now in the event of a claim.

It was suggested that Cllr Dimmick should meet with Cllr Medland on site along with Lee Matthews from Isle of Wight Council.

The Chair thanked Cllr Dimmick for his work.

Cllr Nicolson mentioned that Isle of Wight had not swept the promenade. This had been done by the Lifeboat.

The Chair mentioned a scoping paper which Isle of Wight Council had prepared re co-operation between IWC and town and parish councils. However IWC had not discussed this with town and parish councils.

12. ELECTORAL REVIEW OF ISLE OF WIGHT CONSULTATION – RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS FOR FRESHWATER.

Details of the proposals had been circulated.

It was felt that current proposals did not sufficiently address community cohesion or historical and geographical boundaries. This would cause problems for county councillors.

The proposals seemed illogical.

Cllr James queried the 18% drop in electors in Freshwater North. He suggested that this needed checking.

13. COMMUNITY CELEBRATION – UNSUNG HEROES.

Cllr Harris referred to the volunteer administrator at FYTBus who did many hours. She was not the only one. Dimbola, the Lifeboat shop and Our Place should also be considered. The Chair asked councillors to think of people who deserved to be recognised. A date should be arranged in the New Year.

The Chair thanked Cllr Harris for his input.

14. REFURBISHMENT OF GATE LANE TOILETS.

The Clerk had looked at Shanklin Town Council's information re the 2 toilets they had had refurbished. They has used Danfo and the spend was in the region of £160,000 (ie £80,000 per toilet).

Cllr Eccles said he thought £100,000 had been spent with Moa Place toilets.

Cllr Dimmick said that the materials (stainless steel) were not expensive. Modern flush systems were needed. A 9 litre flush would be required for the toilet to work properly. A meeting with Danfo was being arranged. Cllr Dimmick thought it might be possible to get the work done for around £60,000.

Cllr Bray thought that the toilets were out of date and needed completely redoing. Possible contractors were MCM who had done Moa Place or Buckets who had done the toilets in Brighstone.

It was felt that this should proceed as soon as possible and Cllr Dimmick will produce something for consideration.

15. BLUE FLAG SCHEME. TO NOTE THE BLUE FLAG BEACH CRITERIA AND TO CONSIDER ANY ACTION.

Cllr Bray said that the scheme was not something that the Parish Council could comply with. **Resolved** to take no further action.

16. REFURBISHMENT OF THE WAR MEMORIAL – CONSIDERATION OF QUOTE FROM WIGHT STONEMASONRY

Cllr Bray gave details and she stated that the church had not yet been consulted.

The Chair pointed out that it was the 100th anniversary of the Armistice.

It was agreed to carry out the work and this should be done by November 2019. The quote of Wight Stonemasonry in the sum of £2680 plus VAT was approved. Grants should be investigated and obtained if available.

17. THE OLD AMBULANCE STATION – PROPOSAL FROM THE ROTARY CLUB.

The Chair explained the proposal from the Rotary Club which was that the Parish Council and the Rotary should share the use of the building.

Cllr Fleury thought this might lead to problems. He said that Rotary had had the building for many years and the Parish Council should take it back.

Cllr James said that other storage was available in the West Wight for example Gas Works Lane. He felt that there was now too much competition in this area for the Rotary Club's activities to be very effective.

It was **resolved** to take back possession of the building at the end of the existing licence (31st December 2018).

18. BOOKKEEPER - UPDATE.

The bookkeeper has resigned.

Cllr Harris said that FYTBus were now using Community Action. They were familiar with Quick Books. Otherwise approval was given to recruit a replacement.

19. TO CONSIDER COMMUNITY GRANTS - APPLICATIONS FROM:

A) ALL SAINTS SCHOOL

B) EQUALS ISLE OF WIGHT

C) PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

D) PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (ALL SAINTS CHURCH)

E) LEAVING CARE TEAM (ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL)

F) BREAKOUT YOUTH

The following grants were approved:

A) All Saints school £225

B) Equals Isle Of Wight £100

C) Patient Participation Group £400

D) Parochial Church Council (All Saints Church) £500

E) Leaving Care Team (Isle Of Wight Council) £50

F) Breakout Youth £125

G) Freshwater and Totland Scouts £300

H) West Wight Youth Football £100

I) MHALCO (seniors' lunch) £200

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

Cllr Bray's written report re the Library will be circulated.

Cllr Fleury said that Christmas arrangements were progressing well. The apprentice had put in some great ideas.

Cllr Bray referred to an article in the County Press which mentioned 60 acres of land at Golden Hill being acquired for a public park 50 years ago at a cost of £750.

21. CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED CREATION OF A NEW COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY FOR HAMPSHIRE, ISLE OF WIGHT, PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON.

Resolved to comment that Freshwater Parish Council did not support the proposal. The view was that there would be a loss of control, priorities for the proposed new authority were likely to be off the Island, costs were uncertain and there was a potential to be paying for specialist equipment not required on the Island.

22. LOCAL AREA CO-ORDINATION

The Chair had become aware of a paper regarding the future of local area co-ordination. It was felt that the local area co-ordinator had done a very good job.

The parish council resolved to give the local area co-ordinator its full support.

23. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

None suggested.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.