



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019 AT 7.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE  
MEMORIAL HALL**

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

Members of the public: 1

Clerk: M J Mills      Also present IW Cllr J Medland

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**1. APOLOGIES**

None (all present).

**2. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2019**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 (having been circulated) were agreed (CB/GC). A question was asked regarding progress on the Parish Council's application to take over management of Avenue Road car park. The Clerk had just received an e mail which he would respond to. Cllr James suggested that parking should not be operated as a revenue raiser but should be tailored to needs. He said that parking was being run in that way in Cornwall.

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

None.

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

No questions were raised.

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

Cllr Medland referred to his written report. He gave some further details with regards to the schools consultation. Cllr Fleury queried how quickly the diocese would be to make any decision. Cllr White said that she was aware that the Church of England were closing rural schools. Cllr Harris expressed concerns about the school closing but the rebuilding not

taking place. Cllr Hobbs thought that moving children like this was problematic. She suggested that All Saints should remain open whilst the new build took place alongside. The Chair pointed out that there was now a further period of consultation when concerns could be raised.

Cllr James pointed out that there was no information on how to access Freshwater Early Years pre-school and that needed clarification. However it seemed that things had moved a long way and comments had been taken on board.

Cllr Fleury felt that the diocese was all important but they would want to sell. Cllr James said that the Isle of Wight Council had enough land to be able to build around the existing site. The Chair pointed out that the Church of England owned the access.

Cllr Cameron said that the Church had been consulted. There were discussions now with Yarmouth and Shalfleet but it was thought that the existing federation would be kept.

Cllr Medland said that he was pleased with the prospect of investment in a new modern school but it would be opposed by Yarmouth he thought. Money would be coming from the Department of Education.

Cllr Cameron referred to his written report. He mentioned the fly tipping incident which Isle of Wight Council were still investigating.

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

### **Pensions**

Re-declaration completed on 4<sup>th</sup> April for the Pensions Regulator.

### **Meeting with Isle of Wight Council**

The Clerk attended the town and parish councils meeting with Isle of Wight Council on 29<sup>th</sup> April. Topics included network integrity register and town and parish council involvement in planning decisions.

### **SLCC meeting**

The Clerk attended the branch meeting of the SLCC on 30<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Fly tipping**

Reports of fly tipping in Spinfish, Golden Hill, Moons Hill and the cemetery opposite St Saviours school received on 1<sup>st</sup> May. This matter is now being dealt with by the Environmental Health Department.

### **Van**

A van has now been purchased for the PFO. Total cost was £1700 including service, MOT and new wheel bearing.

### **Best Kept village**

Just Ask officer has organised volunteers for weed clearance at Moa Place. The apprentice has put up several notices.

### **Stroud Coppice**

The PFO has started work in the coppice. He has also made some squirrel feeders and squirrel activity has been seen.

### **Picnic bench**

There is one further picnic bench available for the Stroud. A decision needs to be made as to where it should be cited.

### **Meeting with the Monitoring Officer**

Clerks have been invited to an informal meeting with the monitoring officer on 31<sup>st</sup> May.

**Isle of Wight Local Full Fibre Networks - Public Sector Building Upgrades Letter of Commitment**

Isle of Wight Council is arranging for full fibre networks to be installed in public buildings across the Island. The project will cover the provision of the full fibre connectivity but not the ongoing monthly cost of services. The Clerk has accepted this on behalf of the Parish Council for the Memorial Hall following discussions with MHALCO. It is understood that installations will also be made at the Library and the West Wight Sports and Community Centre.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

The following payments were agreed:

Date	Num	Name	Memo	£
10/04/2019	Debit	Intuit	Quickbooks	23.04
17/04/2019	Debit	Memorial Hall - Supplier	Precept, Rent of office and hire of small hall	5,673.08
24/04/2019		Island Signs	3 welcome to Freshwater, 1 Freshwater village	648.00
01/05/2019	Debit	Jo Blackley	March 2019 Bookkeeping	96.00
01/05/2019		Hillbans	Pest Control March & April 2019	126.79
07/05/2019		Business Supplies Group	Office Stationery	41.76
07/05/2019		Mark Adams Maintenance Services	Skate Park & MUGA holiday cover	120.00
07/05/2019		Ventnor Town Council	Wallgate Contract 1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020 4 handwash units	681.60
07/05/2019		Ricoh UK	Photocopier rent and charges for printing	201.62
07/05/2019		Totland Parish Council	Public Toilet supplies Moa Place & Gate Lane. Sept , Oct, Dec, March x2	593.43
07/05/2019		PC Consultants	Upgrade HDD to SSD and replace keyboard on office laptop	171.60
07/05/2019	Debit	Mike Garwood Ltd	PFO: Hedgetrimmer, safety gear, oil, grease and resin.	298.98
			Total	8,675.90

## **9. GATE LANE TOILETS – REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUP ON PROGRESS ON THE OPTIONS FOR THE GATE LANE TOILETS REFURBISHMENT/REPLACEMENT SCHEME**

Cllr Eccles referred to his written report. He said that this had been awaiting the architect's scheme which was now available. He felt that demand should be assessed perhaps by 2 short surveys. Cllr Eccles said that in his opinion (based on a number of years' experience as a chartered surveyor) the existing building was basically sound.

He outlined the 2 alternative schemes. Pricing was needed for the architect designed scheme and a quantity surveyor would need to be instructed.

The Chair pointed out that no decision had yet been made and consideration would be given to refurbishment as well as rebuilding.

Cllr James suggested that some statistics would be useful. The toilet was by a bus stop which would affect demand. Thought should be given to how much queuing was acceptable.

Cllr Hobbs said that there had been problems with the working group meetings. However item this needed to go back to the group and a survey of usage should be arranged. Walk the Wight was a one off which should not be considered she said.

The Chair reminded members that the working group consisted of Cllrs Eccles, Hobbs, Dimmick and Totland Cllr Wyre. She suggested having an extraordinary meeting to decide this issue. She queried whether the group should be expanded.

Cllr Hinton said that there was strong demand for the toilets particularly on Friday nights. Holiday Fellowship and the Albion were not available to the public. He suggested expanding the working group.

Cllr White said that she had found a photograph from 1946 when the building had not been there. It was likely to have been built in the 1950's when building quality was high. The Council should look at refurbishment she felt and suggested a tender process when contractors would be asked what they could do for a certain sum of money.

Cllr Dimmick said that the Danfo quotes were £99000 using the existing building or £115000 for a new build. The architect designed rebuild was likely to be in the region of £100000 to £110000. He thought that refurbishment would be almost as much.

The Chair suggested that the assistant clerk would help the working group.

Cllr Eccles said that the working group would present timescales at the next meeting.

Cllr Hinton volunteered for the working group.

Cllr Lowthion pointed out that disabled access was required. She suggested that there was a need to future proof designs and referred to a hoist and access community changing places. Consideration needed to be given to stomas.

Cllr James thanked the working group.

## **10. PROPOSAL TO FENCE THE PLAY AREA AT STROUD**

A written proposal had been circulated. Cllr Fleury did not feel that there was a problem with dog mess near the play equipment. He felt that children should not be enclosed as proposed and that there were better uses for the money. Cllr James queried using traditional hedge laying. Cllr Bray said that parents were concerned. Cllr Lowthion agreed that this was not necessary. It was **resolved** not to proceed with the proposal.

Cllr Fleury suggested investigating putting in a fence from the bungalow to the first bench. This would keep dogs away from the area. This was agreed.

- 11. PROPOSED NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT ITEM – VIPER ROPE SWING**  
A written proposal had been circulated. Cllr Fleury said that this was not what the children had requested. What was needed was a climbing frame or monkey bars.  
It was **resolved** not to proceed with the proposal.  
The Chair thanked Cllr Bray and the assistant clerk for their work on this and the previous item.
- 12. FEEDBACK FROM WEST WIGHT LOCAL COUNCILS GROUP MEETING ON 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2109.**  
Cllrs Cameron and James had attended the meeting. Cllr James said that discussions had been mainly about the schools consultation. Brighstone PC had brought up problems with the bus service and there had also been discussion about use of mobile homes/caravans without planning permission.
- 13. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES FROM THE LIBRARY WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2019**  
The minutes were duly received.  
Cllr Hinton thought that the Friends of Freshwater Library had been negative.  
Cllr White said that heritage lottery funding was under pressure. Money was available for heritage but not libraries. Cllr Bamford pointed out that FOFL already had raised in the region of £17000.  
Cllr Bray said that she felt the library would not get grant funds.  
Cllr James said that he had raised the issue of longer opening times.  
Cllr Bamford said that it was important to keep the library service.
- 14. FEEDBACK FROM THE TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS/ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2019**  
The Clerk had attended the meeting. It had included interesting discussion on the new network integrity register.
- 15. COMMUNITY GRANTS**  
Grants were approved for:  
The Wave Project £200  
Freshwater Early Years Centre £700 as a loan rather than a grant
- 16. TO AGREE TO SEEK FURTHER DETAILS FROM ISLAND ROADS REGARDING THE WORK ON THE FRESHWATER CAUSEWAY**  
The Chair said that it was now clear that the tarmac was too high. This had led to properties in Church Place getting flooded. Also the posts and railings were in a shocking condition.  
Cllr Cameron said that he would meet with Island Roads and would ask for these issues to be done together. In the meantime the Clerk would write to Island Roads pointing out the health and safety issues.
- 17. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SUB-GROUPS, COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES**  
Cllr Fleury presented NALC guidance on access to funds.

Cllr James said that the fete committee were hoping for an event in September. This would have less music than previous events and more of a literary theme.

**18. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Fleury suggested inviting the police and or the vicar.

Cllr Lowthion suggested looking at more community events. She said that there had been 10,000 people at an event in Fratton.

**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.**

**19. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR.**

It was resolved to co-opt Tom Murphy as a member of the Council.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.