



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

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2020 AT 2.45 PM **VIA ZOOM PORTAL.****

**PRESENT:** Councillors: A Bamford (Chair), C Bray, G Cameron, C Fleury, A Harris, B Hobbs, D James, V Lowthion, T Murphy and J Young

Members of the public: none

Clerk: H Rowell

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1. **APOLOGIES**  
Councillors, T Dimmick, B Hinton MBE and G Kennett.  
Absent – Councillor H White
2. **TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2020**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 (having been circulated) were agreed.
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)**  
None
5. **TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNTY  
CLLRS/QUESTION AND UPDATE SESSION (UP TO 15 MINUTES FROM BOTH  
CLLRS)**

IW Councillor's Report to Freshwater Parish Council  
IW Cllr John Medland, Freshwater South Ward  
May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear members,

I am delighted to see that the Parish Council is 'meeting'.

I do not think there is much I can add on the coronavirus measures. As council councillors we receive regular updates from Cllr Stewart and sometimes from our CEO John Metcalfe and I understand that you are also receiving these? Considering the disruption of council services through home working the council staff appear to have done an amazing job, not just to maintain continuity but to implement the governments local emergency programmes.

Locally the organisation has been borne successfully by the emergency hub at the WWSCC. My only significant intervention beyond acting as a local volunteer was to nudge the IWC to make a grant to WWSCC to cover its core costs as an emergency hub. Currently there is discussion with Chris Jarman, Cyclewight and others to see if some local use can be made of the large central government budget to promote cycling. The West Wight is very well served by footpaths but suffers a dearth of cycleways forcing cyclists to use the road network.

On other issues there are two that I want to highlight. Despite the objections of myself, the parish and Cllr. Cameron Cllr Chris Quirk decided to accept the Fenney's application without referring it to the IWC Planning Committee. This has now been altered yet again and is therefore open for consultation so I hope the parish will continue to intervene. If you visit the site it looks appalling now that all the great trees which hid the site have been felled.

The other is the footpath between the back of the fish and chip shop in Tennyson Road and the former NatWest Bank, now Octopus. Funnily enough, this is the other example of Chris Quirk rejecting our joint objections and refusing to refer the application to make the former bank into three units, to the Planning Committee. The current owners of the building, running the shop and workshop 'Octopus' have reported the alley being frequented by young people who they accuse of dealing drugs and littering the alley. This is news to me but they live on site, so they presumably hear the misuse of the alley which is part of their property. They have closed the path with wooden doors and notices which has naturally annoyed all the people who have used the path which has been an informal right of way as long as people can remember.

The obvious solution it appears to me is to persuade the owners of Octopus to close the path only at night when it is unlit but to leave it open in the daytime. If they refuse, I will begin a modification order to formally adopt the path as a right of way and for this I will appreciate the Parish Council acting as applicant. As a right of way, the path will remain open at all times but will physically remain the property of Octopus.

Best wishes  
Councillor John Medland.

Report from Councillor George Cameron  
Freshwater North – May 2020

I would like to start my report by thanking everyone in our community that helped so far with the conditions we are living under, in my travels I have seen many good things, volunteers coming forward, donations being made and caring for others. But nothing comes close to what we have now and the avalanche of volunteers and donations that I have seen locally is staggering. The care we have in our community is fantastic, thank you all very much! I would like to recommend that we celebrate our local heroes at a specially arranged event in Freshwater later this year.

I have had a lot of issues locally to deal with, mostly to do with housing, benefits and the main issue is neighbour disputes which is on the increase understandably, but being arbitrator for these circumstances does help to resolve issues. I have also assisted a few business owners who had issues with receiving their government business interruption funding, these are now resolved. The footpath next to the old NatWest bank is now closed, I have had a lot of complaints about it and I believe Councillor Medland is dealing with this. From my enquiries I know that we can apply or appeal to have the path re-open as it has been used by the public for many years, we may have to get a certain amount of residents to sign an affidavit that states that they have been using the path for over 20 years. I believe Councillor Medland has received the application pack for this and I hope this can be re-opened very soon.

I have been at Freshwater Fire Station most Thursday evenings at 8pm to support the crew for the weekly clap for carers, Our Parish Chairman joined me at the Fire Station at 11am on VE day for the 2 minutes silence, thank you Ann, it means a lot for them to have our support. I went around every street in my ward on VE Day to see the street parties taking place in gardens and it was quite a happy atmosphere. As all VE Day events were cancelled, residents made most of the situation.

The introduction of the NHS Covid-19 App has proved successfully, and it will roll out nationally in the next few weeks, a large percentage of island residents downloaded the App including a couple in their 80's. The Council has spent £1.5M on PPE which contrary to belief is the right equipment and it is being sold on to care homes and businesses at cost and this is a big help for them. On the Social Care side, the island's homelessness increased by 350%, this was mainly due to young people that were "hidden" from the authority by sofa surfing with friends but that was swiftly dealt with and at present we do not have any homeless people.

Afton waste centre is now open on a booking system for, this is for refuse that cannot be safely stored at home. I have not had any fly tipping reported up to now and since the introduction of the green bins for garden waste, 9,250 people on the island subscribed to this service.

The Government announced a £250 M grant funding to introduce wider walkways and improved cycle paths to address social distancing. At the moment we do not know how much of this funding will be allocated to the island and we are not clear what criteria apply for the funding yet. Our officers are meeting this week to plan the proposed works Island

Roads has been to every town and village on the island to assess what works is to be done. We received 5 K free cones to help with the work. Also, during the lockdown Island Roads only done repairs and urgent work. As from this week they will resume the resurfacing programme and work to bring it up to schedule.

The all Saints school programme has been delayed by six months, although this is still on track to go ahead as planned. With the announcement that the schools will reopen soon I have had parents contacting me with concerns. I can say that a lot of thought has gone into this by our director for Education and he devised a plan and list of all the issues surrounding the reopening of schools in his portfolio, this list is 24 pages long which proves that everything was considered when the decision was made to make sure our children are safe. Any questions please get in touch.

*George*

## **6. CLERKS REPORT**

### **Parish Council Response to Covid 19**

Following government guidance, the public toilets in Moa Place and Gate Lane were closed in March. The library, Skate Park & MUGA were also closed.

The Facilities officer has been self-isolating.

The Clerk and Assistant Clerk have been set up with laptops which has enabled working from home. A rota is in place to provide office cover to answer phones and check mail daily.

The parish team have been supporting the West Wight Coronavirus Hub, through volunteering, disseminating information and the leaflet drop in Freshwater which was funded by the Parish Council.

### **Gate Lane Toilets**

Following the decision at the extraordinary meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 to reconsider the refurbishment option. We have received quotes for a full structural survey and are getting a quote to get a full drain/drainage survey. We are getting the specification redrawn which will reduce cost before retendering the project for rebuilding.

### **Facilities Van**

The van has been for its MOT and to pass it several repairs were required; this has been completed.

### **Library**

The lights and electrics are being upgraded on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

### **Reopening of Moa Place Public Toilets**

The facilities are being checked and deep cleaned by the cleaning contractor this week. The Clerk has taken advice from Public Health and completed a Covid 19 Risk Assessment. To reduce risk of the spread of infection we need to take the following actions:

1. Provide paper towels and appropriate bins if possible
2. Block of one of the men's urinals
3. Provide hand washing advice notices
4. Provide social distancing notices
5. Consider extra daily cleaning or shorter opening hours

To was agreed to reopen Moa Place Toilets (BH/AH)

### **Heritage Centre**

Following a vote by email and a majority in favour to proceed with securing the lease of Vectis Vapes in Avenue Road Eldridge's Solicitors have been engaged to draw up the lease on our behalf. This is in process and has taken longer than anticipated due to the lockdown.

### **West Wight Coronavirus Support Hub**

483 people have asked for help; 314 people have volunteered; 32 people have received hot meal deliveries; 200 plus sets of scrubs have been made for local care homes; 392 people have been assisted with prescription collection and volunteers are currently making over 500 face masks.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE.**

None

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

The following payments were approved:

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Memo/Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Biffa Waste Service Ltd</b>	23/03/2020	Wheelie bin rental, waste removal and waste transfer note compliance charge	31.4
	27/04/2020	Waste transfer note compliance charge and 35 days rental of wheelie bin	14.76
<b>Brighstone Landscaping Ltd</b>	04/03/2020	Grounds maintenance for December 2019 as per contract	1,429.99
	04/03/2020	Grounds maintenance for January 2020	1,429.99

	20/03/2020	Grounds Maintenance for February 2020	1,429.99
	08/04/2020	For the provision of grounds maintenance as per specification. Contract price £14,300.00 divided into 12 monthly invoices	1,429.99
	08/04/2020	To carry out grounds' maintenance as per tender agreement. Contract price £5,500.00 per year invoiced quarterly	1,650.00
<b>Business Stream Allotments</b>	04/03/2020	Water service charges 17 Sept - 21 Oct 2019	4.21
<b>Business Stream Gate Lane</b>	05/03/2020	Water bill 25 Sept 2019 - 20 Feb 2020	1,036.27
	06/04/2020	Water service charges for 20 Feb 2020 - 19 Mar 2020	24.54
<b>Business Stream Library</b>	20/03/2020	Water services 2 Dec 2019 - 10 Mar 2020	48.43
	08/04/2020	Water services - 02/12/2019 - 10 Mar 2020	48.43
<b>Business Stream Moa Place</b>	17/04/2020	Water service charges 16 Dec 2109 - 30 Mar 2020	92.02
<b>Business Supplies Group</b>	06/05/2020	Stationery	58.43
<b>Cross Country Services</b>	04/03/2020	Removal of the damaged/torn stems from the poplar trees on the boundary with Jubilee Playing Field and Ainsworth Court	120
<b>Dean Parkman</b>	04/03/2020	Re: Proposed Replacement Public Toilet Block - Gate Lane, Freshwater Bay. Isle of Wight	3,580.00

	21/03/2020	Silver pre-application enquiry charge	200
<b>Dyno Rod - Clean Island Ltd</b>	20/03/2020	Unblock the urinals	96
<b>Intuit UK Ltd</b>	18/03/2020	Intuit QuickBooks Online Invoice 04/03/2020	14.4
	22/04/2020	Quickbooks Online	14.4
<b>Island Cleaning Solutions</b>	04/03/2020	Cleaning to the public toilets in Freshwater Moa Place and Gate Lane for February	829.14
	08/04/2020	Cleaning to the Public Toilets in Freshwater Moa Place and Gate Lane	829.14
<b>Isle of Wight County Press</b>	20/03/2020	Adverts IOW1603856	226.8
	20/03/2020	Adverts - IOW1603982	302.4
<b>IW Association of Local Councils</b>	04/03/2020	Subscription Fee for IWALC 2020-21 including NALC affiliation fee	1,113.53
<b>IW Council</b>	20/03/2020	Library cleaning Q3 2019/2020	902.48
	04/03/2020	FPC grant of £200 to IWMDDF	200
<b>IW Music Dance &amp; Drama Festival</b>	04/03/2020	Sponsorship of £100 to IW Story Festival	100
<b>Mark Adams Maintenance Services</b>	04/03/2020	Removal of weed control fabric from Allotments plots 16av and 3b and return fabric to Ambulance Station	45

	04/03/2020	Replace pull cord in toilets at Parish Office	45
	04/03/2020	Service cartridge to fix running tap	22.5
	08/04/2020	Supply and fit padlocks to Skate Park and MUGA gates and Stroud toddlers play area	58
	08/04/2020	Cover Skate Park, MUGA and surrounding areas care taking duties litter duty	300
	06/05/2020	Misc odd jobs	85
	06/05/2020	Caretaker duties for MUGA, Skatepark and surrounding area 8 days as instructed	240
	06/05/2020	Suzuki Carry Van Y677 LAN MOT and repairs	665
<b>Memorial Hall - Supplier</b>	08/04/2020	Rent of Parish Office March	945.42
	04/03/2020	Rent of Parish Office February 2020	945.42
<b>Ningbo Furniture</b>	04/03/2020	18 chairs + delivery charge	509.46
<b>PC Consultants</b>	08/04/2020	SSD upgrade for Community Connector	103.2
	08/04/2020	Initial Setup of two laptops to be used for Remoting and extra two Eset licenses added. L2TP VPN created for  both users on router and tested. Unfortunately, no static IP, alternative software used for remote access onto the  PC's. Assistant Clerk will contact ISP in the future to have this altered.	121.63
<b>Southern Electric</b>	23/03/2020	Gas February 2020	110.67
	20/04/2020	Charges for March	77.1
<b>Teddy's Place</b>	06/05/2020	Water tree and planters on The Avenue - Mar - Apr	112.5

<b>The Footprint Trust</b>	06/05/2020	Quarter 4: January to March 2020 Home visits	217.5
<b>Totland Parish Council</b>	20/03/2020	Toilet cleaning supplies from Lake cleaning and catering supplies	157.86
	08/04/2020	Toilet Supplies - March Invoice 228077 - Lake Cleaning and Catering Supplies	92.57
	08/04/2020	Works/ repairs carried out to the Skate Park to include plywood	259.12
<b>W Hurst &amp; Son (IW) Ltd</b>	04/03/2020	Litter picker and welders' gloves	19.7
	08/04/2020	Gloves and paint for MUGA	47.6

## 9. FINANCE STATEMENT -RFO

### Financial and Governance Statement May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

This is a very brief statement to accompany the spreadsheet detailing the expenditure since the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

The parish Council received the precept from Isle of Wight Council of £275,085.00

Due to the lockdown and therefore closure of West Wight Sports and Community Centre and The Memorial Hall, as per the agreed budget the following were paid in April:

The Memorial Hall precept £ 10,000.00

West Wight Sports and Community Centre Grant £40,000.00

Current FPC funds £ 547,252.87

Audit and AGAR

The internal audit is in process and is being completed by email. The date for submission for the external audit and AGAR has been extended until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020.

#### **Annual Meeting**

The law has been amended and there is no requirement for the Parish Council to have an Annual Meeting this year all appointments will be carried forward until 2021.

## 10. GRANT APPLICATIONS – CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS

It was agreed to provide the following grants:

West Wight Youth Football Club - £600

**11. LAND MANAGEMENT – COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING – CLLR MURPHY**

Cllr Murphy is looking after the trees following the postponement of the Community Tree Planting Day in March. Proposing an autumn community planting day with trees 2 ½ metres apart, in line with social distancing guidance.

**12. TENNYSON/AVENUE ROAD CUT-ACTION TO ACT AS A'DESIGNATED FOOTPATH' – CLLR HOBBS**

Following up from Cllr Medland's Report, who is going to apply for a Rights of Way Pack.  
**Action:** Clerk to follow up with Cllr Medland, Rights of Way and Cllr Hobart.

**13. POST CORONAVIRUS PAPER -CLLR FLEURY**

Cllr Fleury asking for ideas, suggestions, and thoughts from Cllrs about where we are going following the Covid 19 crisis. Cllr Fleury expressed his thanks to Councillors for their ideas and support. Cllr James thanked Cllr Fleury for starting the thinking process.

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

1. Code of Conduct Addendum – Cllr Hobbs
2. Local businesses/care homes survey on how they are coping and see the future – Cllr Harris
3. Memorial to Bob Edney – Cllr Cameron
4. Reopening of footpath between Hooke Close and Longhalves - Cllr James
5. Supplies of facemasks and gloves held by the parish council.

The Chairman expressed thanks to Cllr Cameron for all his support and regular information updates during the lockdown.

Parish Meetings will return to the original published planned programme for the year in terms of days and times. Which for the foreseeable future will be held over the zoom platform.

The meeting closed at 3.46pm.