



**DRAFT**

**FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Parish Office 01983 752000**

---

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2020 AT 7.17 PM VIA ZOOM PORTAL.**

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

Members of the public: none

Clerk: H Rowell

---

1. **APOLOGIES** – None  
**ABSENT**– Councillors H White and B Hinton MBE
2. **TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2020**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (having been circulated) were agreed (CB/JY)
3. **TO INVITE COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**  
Cllr Kennett as Chair of WWSCC and Cllr Fleury as a trustee of WWSCC declared interests in Item 9 (Review Memorandum of Understanding with WWSCC)
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)**  
Due to the proximity to the last Parish Meeting (19<sup>th</sup> May) no further updates have been received.

## 6. CLERKS REPORT

### Land Management

Cllr Bray and Cllr Murphy have had concerns regarding the ash & elm trees on Black Hut Green, School Green Road, Brookside Road & Spin Fish, these are the areas where they could cause harm if they fell, either to people, footpaths & buildings. We have had very little storm damage so far this year, but trees that are weak & dying are a problem.

The following have been identified which need either felling or branches removed

- 1 dead elm & 2 ash trees on Black Hut Green
- Small branches that have died to be removed on some of the lime trees on School Green
- 1 large ash tree to be felled {if this falls it will damage the Health Centre} Plus 3 dead elms & 2 small elms that have fallen
- 1 large branch to be felled on the lime tree at the edge of Spin Fish also 4 dead elms, 1 dead elder and 2 large ash trees plus several branches that overhang the footpath.

**Unfortunately, Cross Country Services are not working at the moment as they cannot comply with the current social distancing guidance. It was agreed to find an emergency contractor to deal with the potentially dangerous trees as soon as possible.**

Cllr Bray and Cllr Murphy will be looking at these areas again when the tree work has been carried out, and plan to plant replacement trees where possible. Cllr Bray and Cllr Murphy plan to look at the orchards at Granny's Meade and Stroud and Stroud Coppice and implementing the 6-year management plan in the autumn/winter.

**Cllr Bray and Cllr Murphy would like your permission to plant memorial trees in the autumn, The Murphy family would like their tree on the Stroud & the Bray family would like their tree in Brookside Road. Cllr James proposed this is approved and it was unanimously agreed.**

Spinfish & Granny's Meade are looking beautiful, Cllr Bray and Cllr Murphy are also delighted with the orchard on Stroud & the fringes that have been left around part of the grounds.

### Public Toilets

The toilets at Moa Place reopened on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and deep cleaning and minor repair work is being done at Gate Lane and hopefully they will reopen on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020.

## **Coronavirus Support Hub**

- 501 people have asked for help or support
- 485 people have volunteered
- 44 hot meals are being delivered weekly
- 900plus cloth masks have been made by the sewing volunteers
- 415 people have been assisted with prescription collection and delivery.

The Parish Council put in a small funding bid to SSE through the SLC and have been awarded £3k for the Coronavirus Support Hub.

**Skate Park** - The Skate Park reopened on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June with signage around guidance to keep safe while using the Skate Park.

### **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

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

An up-to-date list will be sent to Councillors and reviewed at next meeting.

### **9. REVIEW SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT WITH WWSCC**

Cllr James proposed that the agreement is updated, and annual reports are received by the Parish Council, seconded by Cllr Hobbs and agreed by the whole council.

### **10. BOAT PARK UPDATE**

Emma Carter – Assistant Clerk is taking on the role of Boat Park Manager. She is currently working through the process with Land Registry and identification of ownership.

### **11. PLAN TO REOPEN THE PARISH OFFICE**

#### **Introduction**

The Parish Office was closed to visitors in March when national lockdown was announced. Parish business has continued remotely, and a member of the team has been into the office daily dealing with phone calls, messages, and post. As the lockdown is easing it is time to think about reopening the office to the public and staff returning to working in the Parish Office environment.

### **Health and Safety**

The health and safety of visitors and staff is paramount including reducing the risk of the spread of COVID 19 infection. The following need to be considered:

- Regular cleaning of all the shared spaces used by the Parish Office staff, including the office, hallways, toilets, kitchen, stairways, and meeting room. Currently The Memorial Hall cleaning staff are on furlough.

**Recommendation** – The Parish Office reopens in conjunction with The Memorial Hall when cleaning staff return to work.

- Visitors currently use the intercom system to access the building then find their way upstairs to the Parish Office.

**Recommendation** – To talk to visitors on the intercom and if appropriate to have a face to face conversation meet either in the outside space (outside Parish Office entrance – will need to make it more friendly) or just inside the entrance.

- **The office environment is safe for staff.**

Recommendations – That only 2 members of staff use the office at any one time. If there are more than two staff in the others can relocate into the meeting room. Ensure that there are sufficient and appropriate cleaning materials available for cleaning any shared equipment including phones, photocopiers, filing cabinets, desks etc.

## **12. CHURCHYARD ALL SAINT'S CHURCH – CLLR KENNETT**

Jill Reynolds the Churchwarden has asked if the Parish Council will support them in getting a contractor to undertake a one off cut to enable the volunteers to then maintain the church yard. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Kennett will find out what the cost would be.

## **13. CORONAVIRUS UPDATE -CLLR KENNETT**

### **Update on IW Coronavirus Community Meeting – May 19<sup>th</sup>**

This is now a fortnightly meeting because as things are beginning to calm a little so it was agreed that the meeting could go to fortnightly. It is run via Zoom and has fairly good input from communities and T&PC's from across the Island

Community Action IW have led on setting this up and we are fortunate to have had feedback from Cathy Budden, IWCCG regarding support around Mental Health and Kathy Marriott, IWC, regarding children's welfare and how they are supporting families through this time.

Ian Lloyd (IWC) is leading the Emergency Community Cell for the Covid-19 response for the IWC and attends all of the Community Meetings and is able to give feedback on the current position regarding supporting Island residents through this pandemic.

Currently 4890 Island Residents are being supported by IWC through weekly phone calls and where necessary welfare visits. In total there are 5646 people on the Island classed as shielded. As you will have heard on the news today many vulnerable people may now begin to leave their homes after shielding for 10 weeks. Some shielded people are still being advised to remain at home.

The IWC staff have been providing the weekly calls to shielded residents during this time and have been seconded from their permanent role within the council to this work. Going forward there have been discussions about whether this role can be picked up via the community hubs in the future to enable the IWC staff to go back to the “day job”.

Most areas on the Island are now reporting that requests for help are beginning to reduce and things are calmer than earlier in the lockdown. All credit must go to those people who have given their time so willingly to help others.

Issues from the last meeting

- CAB – CAB are working remotely at the moment but happy to help residents via phone or email – they have been busy
- Feedback on concerns regarding 2<sup>nd</sup> homes being occupied over the “pretend” half term. These were escalated to Inspector Ged Armitage
- Chris Ashman (Regeneration Lead) discussed the recovery and response period we are hopefully now entering. We discussed Schools and non-essential Shops opening and we have now had the update on that from the Government.

Gill Kennett

**14. IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON LOCAL BUSINESSES AND CARE HOMES – CLLR HARRIS**

Cllr Harris will continue to explore and understand the impact with further updates as things develop.

**15. FOOTPATH HOOKE CLOSE AND LONGHALVES -CLLR JAMES**

Cllr James proposed writing to the developer to find out when the path is due to be opened.

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

1. Code of Conduct Addendum – Cllr Hobbs
2. Reopening of footpath between Hooke Close and Longhalves Lane - Cllr James

3. Regular update about All Saints School
4. Revised drawings for Gate Lane Toilets
5. Footpath beside the previous Nat West Bank between Tennyson Road and Avenue Road.
6. West Wight Heritage Centre

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

DRAFT