



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 1st DECEMBER 2020 AT 6.53 PM VIA ZOOM PORTAL.**

PRESENT: Councillors: A Bamford (Chair), C Bray, G Cameron, T Dimmick, C Fleury, A Harris (from 7.45pm), B Hobbs, D James, G Kennett, V Lowthion (from 8.01pm) T Murphy and J Young

Members of the public: 1 and Cllr J Medland was in attendance.

Clerk: H Rowell

1. **APOLOGIES**
Councillor B Hinton MBE
2. **TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3rd NOVEMBER 2020.**
The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2020 (having been circulated) were agreed (GK/GC)
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)**

Report from councillor George Cameron
Freshwater North
December 2020

I have again been in touch with the cabinet member as well as the appropriate officers about the state of the Causeway bridge, I have not heard anything as yet but I have had information to suggest that the ecology officer has been involved and hopefully this will progress soon. I have also chased up outstanding highway works that I reported some time ago, these are: The junction of Edinburgh road and Windsor Drive where there is no clear signage as to who has right of way and is not safe, Hill Lane near the stables. There was an accident earlier this year and I have asked for clear road signs including paint signage on the road to warn drivers to slow down and I have reported the speeding issue at Middleton which is what was raised at the previous parish meeting.

Any councillor may also report highway issues using info@islandroads.com

I had to ask for the developers at Colwell Road to park neatly and to consider the junction with Madeira Lane again, the planning officer has been out to speak with them and hopefully they will soon be able to park on site to alleviate this problem.

I have arranged a meeting with some residents at West bay to discuss the frequent planning applications that is being submitted and also the loss of their facilities such as the swimming pool which they are still paying towards by means of levies. The desired outcome is to approach and ask the management company to consider reinstating the facilities that has been lost to them.

As this is our last full Parish meeting of 2020, I would like to thank everyone for what they have done for Freshwater. In particular our staff who are working relentlessly to keep the wheel of village life turning. Also, to our chairman for steering us throughout the pandemic and keeping the ship sailing as if it in calm waters. We are very lucky in Freshwater to have so many good people and volunteers who are working hard to care for their community, on top of my list of thanks are the team at the West Wight Hub. I look towards the parish council to support me in nominating them for an award, they have been excellent. They provided meals, prescription service, transported people, done shopping for residents, signposted people to professional services offered assurance and comfort to residents who are vulnerable. The list is never ending, just to set up the website and create the hub is fantastic and I cannot thank them enough.

Hopefully we will see an end to the pandemic soon so that we can continue living our lives normal again.

Thank you,
Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

George

IW Councillor's Report to Freshwater Parish Council IW Cllr John Medland, Freshwater South Ward

Dear members, Thanks to this month being one of the 'second lockdown' there has been little communication and there is little to report. I had a meeting with the Clerk and Chair this morning and we agreed that I continue to write to Island Roads over the state of Silcombe Lane and continue pressure for a revamp of Afton Road footway from the garage to the Co-op. We also considered a footpath to link the Co-op car park to Stroud Road.

Very Best Wishes Councillor John Medland.

6. CLERK'S REPORT

Christmas

The decorations are up and there have been a lot of positive comments on social media including "I'd just like to say how nice the Christmas trees and lights in Freshwater are looking! Thank you to everyone involved for cheering us all up!", We are posting pictures of the trees so people can see them if they are not going out.

This is a picture of the Heritage Centre Window with Lord Tennyson's post box.



Mel Gardiner has knitted Noel the clown below who will be out and about during Advent, promoting 'shop local' and Freshwater... where is Clarence today?



Facilities Officer

Work is still going on to clear up the library garden, and the litter picking which has increased in the village.

Website

A new website is in the process of development and should be completed by the beginning of January. We need to upload a new contact form; would councillors like to receive emails directly or would you prefer that they just went to the Parish Office?

We are planning to include information, pictures, and links to all areas that the parish council provides funding to, including WWSCC, Golden Hill, Afton Marsh, Community Connector, as well as the parish council's direct services and assets.

Allotments

There will be six new quarter plots by January and 13 new allotments holders will be starting in the New Year.

Parish Signage



New Signs are now up!

Boat Park

The Public shelter at the boat park had a structural survey carried out on Friday 27th November, of which we are currently waiting for the report to come back. The process of registering it with the Land Registry is also under way. New signs for the boat park and safety notices for the beach have

been ordered. Some are in storage along with the notice boards waiting for the rest to arrive. .



Retained Plans

Legally the Parish Council does not need to retain any old plans used for planning purposes. We are going to dispose of all planning paperwork not required to be kept. Please let me know if there are any plans that you think the parish should retain for archive/historical purposes. It was agreed to keep any plans pertinent to the parish or relating to Robert Hooke.

Town and Parish Council Briefing with Isle of Wight Council 30th November 2020

The purpose of the briefing was to hear about the IW Council budget for 2022/22. They would like to hear from town and parish councils about what is important to protect. They can increase council tax by 2% and an additional 3% for Adult Social Care, as there are extra pressures due to COVID-19. There was some talk about assets and town and parish councils, with the IW council suggesting transfer by lease rather than sale. However, those assets were not identified and there are likely to be further discussions.

Anti-social Behaviour

The banners in the village, seemed to have reduced the anti-social behaviour. However, since taking them down there have been some incidences of damage in the Skate Park. The bins have been trashed two days running, and one of the ramps has been damaged which requires substantial repairs.



Moa Place Phone Box

The adoption of the telephone box by the Parish Council has now been completed and the telephony has been removed.

- 7. CORRESPONDENCE**
None received

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

See Appendix 1. Agreed (GC/JY)

- 9. ROBERT HOOKE SOCIETY PROJECT PROPOSAL – CLLR FLEURY**

The finance Committee considered this proposal on the 17th November for replacing the Robert Hooke Society Trail plaques and posts at a cost of £2,670.00. The Finance Committee would like to recommend the proposal to the full Parish Council for funding approval.

It was agreed unanimously.

- 10. DRAFT BUDGET 2021/22 AND PRECEPT SETTING – CLLR FLEURY**

The draft budget and proposed precept increase was presented to the Parish Council. It was agreed unanimously to accept it and take it forward for public consultation (CB/GC).

11. WILDLIFE TRUST PRESENTATION – CLLR MURPHY

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust are particularly interested in what is happening in the West Wight and are looking to enhance public open spaces for wildlife. Cllr Murphy shared at their event the work that has taken place on Stroud including the Community Tree Planting and plans for an edible food trail. As well as how the parish manages its open places in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way.

12. MEMORIAL HALL ARTS AND LEISURE COMPANY ANNUAL REPORT – CLLR BAMFORD

The annual report was presented and accepted.

13. PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Proposal by the Clerk to change the Parish Notice Board to mirror those at the library and the Boat Park. It was agreed unanimously to change the notice board (CB/CF).

14. TO APPROVE MEETING DATES FOR 2021

Meeting dates agreed (GK/GC)

15. BOAT PARK BUSINESS PLAN SUMMARY

The Assistant Clerk is working on developing a business plan for the Boat Park and this will be presented to Councillors in the New Year.

16. PUBLIC CONSULTATION JANUARY 2021

It was agreed that consultation will be different in 2021 due to Covid-19 focussing on major projects and the budget.as well as providing general information about the work of the Parish Council. If possible, considering the opportunity for people to meet one-one with councillors in a Covid secure way.

17. RURAL COMMUNITY ENERGY FUND

South West Energy Hub have funding up to £40k that can be applied for to conduct a feasibility study to look at energy efficient sources for parish buildings. It was agreed to investigate to determine what the options are.

18. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

1. Moa Place Phone Box
2. All Saints School
3. Lighting in Avenue Road Car Park

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Freshwater Parish Council Meeting 1st December Appendix 1

2020/21 Position as at 31st October 2020				2020/21 Year End Forecast			
April - October, 2020				Comments on Variance	2019/20 Annual Budget	Estimated Committed Costs	Funds Available To Commit
Total							
Actual	Budget	over Budget					
Administration							
Total Admin, Training & Office Costs	12,157	12,750	593		22,000	20,841	1,159
Equipment	153	500	347		1,000	263	737
Insurance	3,136	4,000	864	Annual Insurance	4,000	3,136	864
Photocopier	174	600	426		800	299	501
Subscriptions	622	1,167	545		2,000	1,066	934
Total Staff Salaries	55,714	49,559	-6,155	Overspend due to HMRC	84,958	95,509	-10,551
Archives	0	0	0		500	0	500
Bank charges	171	0	-171		0	294	-294
Environment Officer	0	2,000	2,000	Nothing to date?	2,000	2,000	0
Just Ask	0	156	156		267	0	267
Chairman's Allowance	0	0	0		500	0	500
Election Expenses							
Memorial Hall							
Memorial Hall Expenses	0	0	0		0	0	0
MHALCo Maint & Other Costs	0	0	0		10,000	0	10,000
MHALCo Precept	10,000	10,000	0		10,000	10,000	0
MHALCo Public Works Loan	1,587	1,587	0		1,587	1,587	-0
Services Provided by the Parish Council							
Total Library	5,985	11,667	5,682		20,000	10,260	9,740
Total Public Toilets	13,526	14,583	1,057		25,000	23,188	1,812
Land Management & Trees	0	0	0		0	0	0
Jubilee Field	0	1,750	1,750		3,500	0	3,500
Land Management	762	2,946	2,184		5,050	1,306	
Trees	1,715	11,268	9,553		19,316	2,940	
Committed Contracts	10,235	12,836	2,601	Brightstone Landscaping & Hillbans	20,434	20,434	0
Stroud Coppice	0	1,000	1,000		2,000	0	2,000
Total Stroud Playing Fields	125	2,000	1,875		4,000	214	3,786
Motor vehicle Expenditure	1,510	0	-1,510		2,000	2,589	-589
Old Ambulance Station	417	2,917	2,500		5,000	715	4,285
Allotments	534	1,460	926	2019/20 Income £2,083 - Expense £721 = £1,362	2,000	915	1,085
Footpaths	0	0	0		1,000	0	1,000
Seats, Bridges & Woodwork	62	0	-62		1,000	106	894
Tools & Equipment	2,521	0	-2,521		0	2,621	-2,621
Freshwater Bay Boat Park	588	0	-588	Freshwater Bay boat yard signs & tarmac	0	2,718	-2,718
Youth - Skatepark/MUGA/Youth Shelter							
Total Youth Expenses	1,496	3,055	1,559		5,238	2,565	2,672
Grants and Projects							
Community Connector	10,295	20,500	10,205		20,500	17,649	2,851
Community Grants	-1,840	0	1,840	£3,000 Grant income from Scottish and Southern for Sports Centre now in income	7,000	1,203	5,797
Golden Hill	3,333	4,000	667	£4,000 inc vat for Golden Hill	4,000	3,333	667
Afton Marsh	3,333	4,000	667	£4,000 inc vat for Afton	4,000	3,333	667
Total Events / Xmas Lighting	0	200	200	Xmas £5,000	10,000	5,000	5,000
Projects / Public Realm	0	0	0		40,000	0	40,000
New Gate Lane toilets	695	0	-695		0	1,191	-1,191
Heritage Centre	0	0	0		0		
FYTBUS	0	5,000	5,000		5,000	5,000	0
War Memorial	0	4,000	4,000		4,000	78	3,922
WWS&CCT	40,000	40,000	0		40,000	40,000	-0
Skatepark and Pump Track					0	0	0
Total Expenses	194,575	225,499	30,924		389,649	308,886	60,643
Non-recurring accounts are not included in this report but all expenses are included in the Year End Forecast Totals							
Year End Actual Forecast = Actuals YTD/Month x 12	194,575	225,499	30,924		389,649	308,886	60,643
	0	0	0				
						114,310	