



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 6th JULY 2021 AT 7.28 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MEMORIAL
HALL, FRESHWATER**

PRESENT: Councillors: A Bamford (elected Chairman for this meeting), C Bray, G Cameron, B Hobbs, B Hinton MBE, M Locke, J Medland, T Murphy, N Thomas and J Young
Councillors C Jarman and G Kennett following their co-option at item 5.

Members of the public: 1

Clerk: H Rowell

A presentation was given by Graham Biss (Gift to Nature) about the West Wight Greenway Route, which was well received.

- 1. APOLOGIES**
Councillor D James
- 2. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 1st JUNE 2021 AND THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING ON THE 29th JUNE 2021**
The minutes of the meetings held on 1st June and 29th June (having been circulated) were agreed (JY/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. APPLICATIONS FOR CO-OPTION TO FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL**
Two applications were received and both County Councillor Chris Jarman and Gill Kennett were unanimously co-opted on to the Parish Council and took their seats for the rest of the meeting.

6. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNCILLORS.

Reports received see Appendix 1 Cllr Spink sent apologise for not attending the meeting.

7. CLERK'S REPORT

Parish Facilities Officer

Three applicants were interviewed by the staffing committee and the clerk on the 30th June 2021. Mark Adam's was appointed and commenced work on the 5th July 2021. Mark will be employed on a self-employed basis.

Business Rates Rebate

The Non-Domestic Rating (Public Lavatories) Bill has completed its passage through Parliament and become law, back dated to April 2020. As a result, our Council Tax account has been credited with £3,775.40.

Staff

The Staffing Committee will be conducting staff appraisals over the next four weeks, as due to Covid-19 and restrictions these have not been completed since 2019. The Finance Officer has been offered an additional 5 hours a week due to extra responsibilities to free up time for the Clerk and Assistant Clerk.

Parish Email

All Councillors are now using the parish council email address.

Robert Hooke Trail

The new plaques for the Robert Hooke Trail have now been collected and they are waiting for the supporting posts to be delivered. To commemorate Hooke's birthday which is on the 18 July, the Society is having a display of all the new enamel plaques together with information about the Trail. It will be held from 11.00 am to 4 pm on Thursday 15 July in the Corner Room at Fort Victoria. (The room is not available on the actual birthday). They would be very pleased if you or any other members of the Parish Council are able to visit it.

Skate Park/Pump Track Sponsorship

A photo shoot will be taking place with Hose Rhodes (estate agent) and some young skaters for a press release about their sponsorship of £5k for this project on the 20th July. A pre-planning application has been submitted.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted.

9. TO AGREE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT -LIST CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION

Payments (having been circulated) were agreed (GC/CB)– see appendix 2.

10. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT FOR FRESHWATER MAGAZINE

Traditionally this report has been submitted by the Chairman of the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Chairman would be asked to continue to write this report based on the monthly Parish Meeting.

11. QUEEN’S PLATINUM JUBILEE – FRIDAY 3rd JUNE – CLLR CAMERON

It was proposed to have a celebration event for the Jubilee. A working group will be set up with key partners in the area to plan and cost the event.

12. BEACH SAFETY UPDATE REPORT – CLLR JAMES

Cllr James sent the following report to the meeting:

“The initial ten large buoys have been deployed by Cllr Dimmick, Cllr Murphy, and Cllr James between Colwell and Brambles slipways, in a line 600 metres long extending 100 metres from shore.

A further 20 smaller intermediate buoys are on back order with the supplier and will hopefully arrive in time for the school summer holidays.

The two buoys closest to the shore will be relocated into deeper water later this month, as they are currently lying on the shore during low tides, when most people use the beach.”

13. FINANCE REPORT – CLLR BAMFORD

It was reported that the VAT reclaim is being completed and the Parish Council will be in receipt of a significant refund. Thanks were expressed to Paul Blackley for his work. The financial processes, including the awards of grants is being reviewed in preparation for the next Finance Meeting.

14. ELECTION OF FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Cameron was nominated, seconded and unanimously voted in as Vice Chairman.

15. GRANT FOR COMMUNITY STORY TRAIL

Following the presentation by Charlotte Begg at last month’s meeting, it was agreed to provide a third of the total funding from the library budget, to match contributions from Southern Housing and FATAG for this project.

16. WEST WIGHT SPORTS CENTRE REPORT – CLLR LOCKE

This was the initial meeting between Cllr Locke (as FPC WWS&CC Liaison) and Clare Griffin (WWS&CC Centre Manager). The purpose was to discuss how future liaison between FPC, and WWS&CC could be best arranged and pick up on any current issues. It was agreed that the Centre Manager will provide in person quarterly reports to Freshwater Parish Council

17 TO AGREE THE GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS – CLLR BAMFORD

A flow chart has been developed to demonstrate and clarify the community grant making process. This will be publicised on the website, with the view of making it easier for community organisations to make applications. It is also planned to publicise who the grants are awarded to.

18. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

- Publicity
- IWC Assets
- Speed Strategy
- Barnardos Report

The meeting closed at 9.28 pm.

Freshwater Parish Council Meeting July 5th 2021 – Appendix 1

IW Councillor's Report to Freshwater Parish Council

IW Cllr John Medland, Freshwater South Ward

July 5th 2021

Dear members

You will be pleased to know that there is some creeping progress on the Causeway. The reason for the impasse is that Island Roads resurfaced the Causeway three years ago considering it as an engineering problem, but they did not realise that it was part of the conservation area. Their work was halted by the IWC and IWC's conservation officer argued that they remove the new resurfacing to reduce the heightened level of the road surface. Island Roads argued that they would not do this as it would leave the bridge structurally at risk. They also wanted modern barriers that meet the specifications of stopping a vehicle direct collision.

Thankfully since the election and kicking up a fuss the various staff are now talking to one another to find a solution. The next step will be to dig some experimental holes to consider how to treat the verges, which are now at a level below the road surface and in some cases eroding.

Personally, I see a final compromise being an acceptance of the IR engineering that has already happened but IR compromising to IWC over the new barriers, so that they are like for like post and rail. Finally, there will be the usual haggle over money.

This could all be assisted by the IWC reducing the speed of traffic on the Causeway to 20MPH, adopting a 'Quiet Lane' status and/or making it one way. This would make it easier for IR to accept the post and rail replacement. It would also address safety concerns that were repeatedly raised with me during the election campaign. The new Newport to Freshwater Bay 'Greenway' crossing the road here will further increase the potential for accidents.

I would like to hear your opinions on this. As a non-driver I need to be informed by motorists on the implications of a 'quiet lane' status which is my preferred option or one way system which is less preferred.

On a related theme I carried out a survey of Afton Road residents a week ago asking them for yes no answers on six issues which came up during the election campaign; their opinion on the road being used for motor-cycle racing, whether Afton Road should be all 30 MPH rather than almost all 40MPH, whether their properties are affected by flooding since the Island Roads resurfacing, whether cyclists should be diverted onto a new cycleway across the Marsh to Blackbridge Road, whether there should be a kerb to prevent drivers parking on the footway, and whether the footway from the garage to the supermarket should be improved. I'm hoping to publish the completed results soon, but the obvious outcome is that reducing speed on Afton Road is most resident's clear priority, with 36 responses in favour of a 30MPH limit with just 4 preferring the status quo. One attractive alternative to kerbing is a combination of water gully and more white wooden posts. I will let you all have a link to the full report when it is done.

Best wishes.

Cllr Chris Jarman JP – Totland and Colwell

**IWC Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Strategic Finance, Transformational Change,
Resources**

Chair Investigation & Disciplinary Committee

Chair Pension Fund

Member Planning Committee

Member Harbours Committee

The last month has concentrated on reviews of IWC Finances, Debt, Borrowing and Investments. In the spirit of the Alliance policy on being open and transparent, we have already released publicly our inheritance of a £400m debt and confirmation that all of the IWC c.£35 capital investments had previously been placed off-Island.

Detailed financial analysis continues in relation to the impact of Covid-19. The results to date this year reflect the reductions from parking and use of social and health facilities, coupled with additional expenditures that have only partly (approximately 1/6th) been reimbursed by HM Government. The remaining a.5/6ths needs to be found from IWC existing budgets.

Council has initiated reviews of IWC assets and is now commencing local discussions regarding their best use going forward. These include dialogue with Parish and Town Councils.

The Alliance has defined the 50 aims for this administration over the next 4 years and these are being fleshed out to provide an updated IWC plan. Key is to substantially increase transparency and to open the work of the IWC to residents.

Individual Portfolio holders have initiated many of these aims including reviews of portfolio budgets and operational challenges including Island Roads, Waste Management and Floating Bridge.

Particular emphasis is currently focussed on our Island Plan incorporating finance, housing need, planning and transport.

For clarification, IWC Chief Executive has issued advice to staff confirming that the IWC does not have a ‘Shadow Cabinet’ within its constitution. It has been clarified that, although this term has been used in the press, it is purely an internal matter for the Conservative Party and has no bearing on the internal work of IWC. Similar confirmation has been issued by the IWC Leader.

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Peter Spink, IoW Council Member for Freshwater North and Yarmouth.

Since my last report the Conservatives have formed a Shadow Cabinet and I hold the portfolio for Housing and Planning. I am also a member of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, The Appeals Committee, and the Licensing Committee.

I am able to update the Committee re the following matters that were contained in my previous report:

1. **Felling of trees at Silver Glades Caravan Park Cranmore and Lockett's Farm, Yarmouth:** Both matters are still under investigation and I am continuing to monitor the situation.
2. Yesterday I attended a briefing on the **Council's Draft Housing Plan**. The briefing was by way of a summary and a copy of the Plan will be made available to me soon; I will report the contents to you at the next Meeting. The Plan will be going out for consultation this month.
3. With regard to enquiries from residents (referred to in my last report), I understand that the parking problems/obstruction to bus-stops in Heathfield Road have eased: unfortunately the fencing/bollards on Bouldnor Road (near to the junction with Thorley Road) were the result of land movement, the precise cause of which is still being ascertained.
4. I have objected to the application by West-Bay for the variation of conditions and requested that the matter be heard by the Planning Committee. However, my objection has not yet appeared on the Planning site; I will contact the Planning Department in this regard.

Best wishes,

Peter Spink, IoW Councillor for Freshwater North and Yarmouth.



Freshwater Parish Council

Transaction Detail by Account

July 2021

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Administration Expenses	
Admin, Training & Office Costs	
Admin Other Costs	£252
Audit	£250
Bookkeeping	£30
Communications	£318
IT	£70
Office Costs	£46
Office Rent	£2,061
Stationery	£137
Total for Admin, Training & Office Costs	£3,163
Other Administration Expenses	
Bank charges	£7
Total for Other Administration Expenses	£7
Total for Administration Expenses	£15,077
Grants & Projects	
Current Grants & Projects	
Avenue Road Improvements	£214
Colwell Bay Buoys	£198
Community Connector	£16
Heritage Centre	£1,998
WWS&CCT	£40,000
Total for Current Grants & Projects	£42,426
Total for Grants & Projects	£42,426
Memorial Hall Expenses	
MHALCo Maint & Other Costs	£937
Total for Memorial Hall Expenses	£937
Services Expenses	
Allotments	£201
Freshwater Bay Boat Park	£305
Land Management & Trees	
Committed Contracts	£1,386
Land Management	£3,053
Trees	£5,950
Total for Land Management & Trees	£10,388
Library	
Library General Costs	£1,624
Total for Library	£1,624
Old Ambulance Station	£143
Parish Facilities Officer	£795
Public Toilets	£1,968
Seats, Bridges & Woodwork	£53
Stroud Playing Fields	£18



Freshwater Parish Council

Transaction Detail by Account

July 2021

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Total for Services Expenses	£15,493
Youth Expenses	
Skatepark & MUGA	£241
Total for Youth Expenses	£241