FRETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held 25th February 2009

Present: Councillors: Mr. C.Meredith, Mr. J. Hewett, Mr. D. Pocket, Mr. R. Findlater, Mrs. A. Greaves, Mrs. L. Grifftiths, District Councillor John Jones, Mel Glover (Parish Clerk), and 7 members of the parish.

010209 Election of new chairman.

District Councillor John Jones initiated this part of the evening with a eulogy for Mr. Bob. Johnson who sadly passed away earlier this year. Councillor Johnson had been a member of Fretherne with Saul Parish council for approximately seven years, three of which were as Chairman. He was well respected throughout the community and also throughout the local parishes.

District Councillor Jones asked for nominations for Chair – Councillor Pocket nominated Councillor Meredith, Councillor Hewett seconded, and there being no other nominations the motion was carried unanimously. Councillor Meredith as newly elected Chairman chaired the rest of the meeting.

020209 Apologies for absence.

None.

030209 Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 26.11.08

Approved.

040209 Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda.

Councillor Griffiths, Items 100209 and 160209. (school site and Shipton Mill)

Councillor Greaves, Item 080209 (planning application)

Councillor Meredith Item 080209 (planning application)

⁰⁵⁰²⁰⁹ Police report.

PCSO's Reynolds and Wren kindly attended the meeting and offered their condolences on behalf of the Severnside and Stonehouse police for Mr.Johnson.

They reported that there have been 10 incidences reported since 01.12.08 and these were:

1 attempted theft of a moped from Moor Street.

1 attempted burglary in High Street.

1 criminal damage – an adult male has been arrested and cautioned.

1 road traffic collision involving a stationary car.

6 civil disputes.

⁰⁶⁰²⁰⁹ Matters arising from last months minutes.

Councillor Greaves will pass on a risk assessment form to Councillor Pocket.

Finance-Cheques signed in January and this months cheques for Agreement and Signature Agreed and signed.

Slimbridge Parish Council – Severn voice meeting (signed)		000465	£ 7.22
Mrs. M. Glover clerks wages January	(signed)	000466	£225.03
Mrs M. Glover clerks wages - February	_	000467	£225.03

080209 Planning - New applications for discussion.

Home Farm S.09/0172/FUL Conversion of existing barn and erection of outbuilding.

Saul

GL27JG

Councillor Greaves abstained from this discussion.

Councillor Meredith can comment as he has a personal and non-prejudicial interest.

Council had no objections to this application, but Councillor Meredith will discuss it with the applicant.

090209 District Councillor's News.

Ground Source heat pumps have been installed at Frampton – around the Oval/Ann Wicks area. A vertical hole is drilled into the earth, pipes are inserted and water and anti-freeze is pumped around to extract the ground heat enabling the running of central heating and hot water for properties that are reliant on solid fuel for heating. This was pioneered in Coaley and the

feedback has been very positive. There is a possibility that this could be extended to private housing in the area, with some funding available towards the cost. A drop in session has been arranged for 3rd March at Frampton on Severn Community session for anybody interested in finding out more.

As a result of a recent meeting held at Ebley Mill, parish clerks will receive a weekly list from planning, showing all delegated planning decisions.

A meeting at Ebley Mill on 26th February will set the council tax. SDC tax will be set at 3 ½ % which is a standstill budget but new initiatives are being put in place to save money wherever possible.

The canal project has nothing to do with the increase; it is not being funded through council tax. Costs are increasing across the whole Council, while income is decreasing, and as an example, the planning department at SDC is losing money as they are not receiving so many applications, particularly for larger developments, so agency staff will not have their contracts renewed once they are over, which will save money. There will also be a restructuring of top management in order to save costs.

100209 School Site

Councillor Griffiths reported that she was in receipt of an email indicating that the Trustees must assume that Mr. Lane is unable to proceed. Councillor Griffiths has had numerous conversations with David Drew M.P. who could not understand this email since he had been in contact with the Diocese and spoken to Rob Stephens and David felt that there was firm understanding on the issue. Councillor Griffiths is waiting for David Drew to speak with Rob Stephens and get back to her. In the meantime she asked that the Council to prepare a letter to Rob Stevens (Buildings & Admissions Adviser) requesting an urgent meeting regarding the site should the need arise. Councillors were in agreement with this and Councillor Griffiths and the clerk will prepare the letter.

120209 Stroudwater Canal

Concerns were raised by residents of Framilode over the excavation work that has taken place in the Stroudwater canal by a resident neighbouring the canal.

Mr. T. Lever asked the following question "with respect to IHCA has the works carried out been authorised and does the work that's been carried out mean that a precedent has been set?" Clerk will contact Kate Russell (SDC conservation) re the IHCA timeline and the effect of the work on the canal.

Clerk to write to the owner of Rectory Cottage in order to establish his motivations.

Councillor Meredith did explain that the Canal belongs to the Parish council and as such any work undertaken should have authorisation from the P.C. before taking place and that a letter had been written to the residents at Rectory Cottage, pointing this out.

Mr. Lever also wanted to know "who is responsible for the guarantee and integrity of the work done on the canal?"

Councillor Meredith stated that as the parish council are the current owners that it is their responsibility.

Clerk to put this item on the agenda for next month and also to ask the person responsible for the excavation if he/she would like to attend the meeting.

130209 Bus Shelter

Clerk to establish if the pound is a conservation area, and whether or not planning would be required for a bus shelter, and also if a specific type of shelter should be used. This item to be put on the agenda for next month.

140209 Parish Councillor

A vacancy now exists for a new parish councillor, clerk to advertise and place all relevant paperwork on the notice board.

Clerk to contact Mrs. Johnson to see if she would like the picnic bench on the pound dedicated to the memory Mr. Johnson.

150209 Rectory Cottage

Planning application S.08/2225/FUL for the above address has been withdrawn.

160209 Shipton Mill

Councillor Griffiths expressed hers and a member of the parish concerns regarding the application for a tower on Shipton Mill, and the impact it will have on the parish. Clerk will contact Frampton on Severn Parish Council to ask to any relevant information.

Councillor Griffiths asked the parish council to comment on the application.

The general opinion was that more information was needed before councillors could decide either way and therefore this item will be carried forward to the next parish council meeting.

170209 Parish Snow plough

Clerk has been informed that it will cost the parish nothing to have and operate a snow plough for the area. In light of this information councillors decided that the clerk should write to Highways in order to get a snow plough attachment for Mr. D. Davies' tractor. Mr. Davies has kindly offered to operate the plough if it becomes necessary.

180209 Playground

Fretherne with Saul Parish Council have got through to the second stage of judging for a natural play playground to be put on the memorial hall playing field (as long as the memorial hall committee approve!)

190209 Auditor

It was agreed to use our normal auditor Mr Iain Selkirk.

200209 AGM

Date has been set for April 1st 2009 at 7.30. Clerk to ask WI to supply refreshments. Clerk to contact planning for possible speaker.

210209 Youth Shelter

It was unfortunately agreed that due to the vandalism of the youth shelter it was now a Health and Safety hazard and should be removed as soon as possible. Councillor Pocket will instigate the removal.

²²⁰²⁰⁹ Loan

This item to be carried forward to next months agenda. Clerk to contact SDC and Glos. C.C. in order to establish whether or not a land surveyor could offer a valuation on the parish assets.

230209 Attendance

Councillor Meredith cancelled this item.

240209 Information Exchange

Clerk has received a 3 year tender from Hilltone Services regarding the grass cutting maintenance. Councillors decided to accept this tender and clerk will advise Hilltone Service accordingly.

Councillor Findlater has been in touch with Highways over several problems in the parish; parking on the grass verge in Sandfield Crescent, potholes in the car park entrance, water on the road by the Marina entrance, and the road repairs at Moor Street.

²⁵⁰²⁰⁹ Public Forum.

No comments from the public this month, other than what was discussed in item 120209, Stroudwater canal

There being no other business the meeting of	closed at 9.25	pm
	Chairman	

Date of next meeting – March 25th 2009 – 7.30 p.m

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in exercising any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.