

## FREETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Present: Councillors: Councillors Mr. D Pockett, Mr. D. Skeats, Mr. R. Findlater, Mrs. A. Greaves, Mrs. L. Griffiths, District Councillor John Jones, Mel Glover (Parish Clerk), two members of the parish.

**010110 Apologies for absence.**

Councillors Mr. C.Meredith, John Hewett, Police.

As Chairman Meredith was absent, this meeting was chaired by Vice Chair Councillor Greaves.

**020110 Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 25<sup>th</sup> November and the precept meeting dated 1<sup>st</sup> December**

Approved.

**030110 Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda.**

None.

**040110 Police report.**

No police report available this month.

**050110 Matters arising from last months minutes.**

Severn Voice meeting date had to be changed and is now Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March at Saul Memorial Hall. Clerk to confirm details to District Councillor Jones.

**060110 Finance**

All cheques were approved and signed.

Mrs M. Glover clerks wages (279.90) + stationery expenses of 31.51 311.41

JPR Environmental (stroudwater canal work) 1092.50

Linda Griffiths (Christmas tree evening refreshments) 21.94

Saul Memorial Hall (hall hire for 2009) 113.50

Allianz – fidelity guarantee increase 32.79

Whitminster Parish Council – Severn Voice Meeting 7.20

**070110 Planning - New applications for discussion.**

No planning applications for discussion this month.

**080110 District Councillor's News.**

District Councillor Jones reported on meetings to be held, which included a “housekeeping” meeting where general budget recommendations, council tax base rate and fund estimates would be discussed.

A shared scheme is to be set up with other districts in the county to manage a “payment system” on a joint basis, i.e. one central place for payment, which is a cost saving exercise. Existing staff will be redeployed.

Proposals are in place to return the joint youth/sports centres to their owners in an effort to further reduce costs. This is to be considered by the cabinet on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January, with ratification by the council on 25<sup>th</sup> February.

A council tax rate of 1.9% for District Council is to be approved at the February meeting.

Concerning the maintenance contract for the district – contractors went out of business which left the south side of the district without a maintenance contractor. The decision was taken during the cabinet meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec to use Jenkins Weir to cover both the north and south side of the district until 30<sup>th</sup> September when the contract will expire.

The appeal for the Shipton Mill planning proposal has been allowed.

**090110 Pavement salting**

To be reviewed in times of inclement weather.

**100110 Bus shelter**

Clerk was in receipt of three plans from 3 separate companies for a bus shelter with prices ranging from approximately £3,000 to £6,000. Clerk was asked to contact the supplier of councillors favourite plan to see if anything could be done with regard to the price being reduced.

**110110 Parish On line Mapping Service**

Councillors decided that no action was necessary.

**120110 School site development (CM)**

Carried forward to next month as Councillor Meredith absent.

**130110 Community Emergency Plan**

Councillor Greaves has taken the information pack from S.D.C. for review.

**140110 Information Exchange**

Clerk reported that the playground grant for £49,000 had been approved and that it was a playground that needed to be suitable for all ages but specifically children in the 8-13 age group. Letters were being given to every household in the parish in the hope that this age range of children would highlight their requirements for a playground. Councillor Greaves and clerk to contact the householders neighbouring the proposed site for their views. It is a condition of the grant that the parish are consulted and kept aware of the process.

Councillor Griffiths suggested that it would be a good idea to have an idea of the number of children from the parish likely to be entering Lakefield School each year, particularly after the recent problem of the likelihood of local children not being offered a place at the school.

Councillors Griffiths and Greaves both raised concerns about the recent Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment and the possibility of houses being put up near Saul Farm and the Marina. District Councillor Jones reported that these plots of land had been put forward for assessment only at this stage.

Councillor Findlater raised concerns over potholes as did Councillor Pocket who raised concerns about the road by the elver station.

District Councillor Jones reported that no major work would be undertaken until the cold snap has finished and that rural areas were to be assessed at the end of February.

**150110 Public Forum.**

Mrs. R. Hitchings requested some gritting bins be placed in the village, one by Pike House (wall sadly demolished yet again due to ice and snow on the road), one by Saul Farm and one alongside Saul Canal on the corner. Clerk to contact Highways.

Mrs. B. Ridley kindly thanked the Parish Council for the “lighting of the Christmas tree lights” and also requested a copy of a footpath map if there was such a thing. Councillor Griffiths took the clerk’s copy of the parish’s footpath map to copy and give to Mrs. Ridley.

**There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.02 pm.**

..... Chairman  
**Date of next meeting February 24<sup>th</sup> at 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.*