FRETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated Wednesday 24th November

Present: Councillors: Chairman C. Meredith, , Mr. J. Hewett, Mr. D. Pocket, Mr. D, Skeats, Mrs. A. Greaves, District Councillor John Jones, Mel Glover (Parish Clerk), 3 members of the parish and 2 dogs

011110 Apologies for absence.

Councillor Griffiths, Police, Members of the Parish: Mrs. V. Pratt and Ms. J. Bolton

021110 Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 27th October Approved.

031110 Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda.

None.

041110 Police report.

Chairman read out the following e-mailed report: -

the crime figures are as follows....

1 theft - from a vehicle - power tools left in sight on Passage Road Saul

1 criminal damage - domestic - damage to a boat on canal bank

This is for the time period 20.10 - 20.11

PC Kelly Akers has also carried out some initial speed checks on Moor Street – no-one caught speeding on the day she carried out the checks but we will repeat.

Councillor Skeats suggested that the checks be done at school run times and after pub closing times.

051110 Matters arising from last month's minutes.

Clerk has not ordered salt/grit bins as Highways will not supply the material to fill them. The gritter route has been changed to ensure it continues over Frampton Bridge to turn around in the

Arlingham Road, making sure grit is spread by Pike House. Highways have provided the Chairman with three bags of grit which he will spread at relevant times and places.

Councillor Skeats raised the Marina Hedge – Chairman has spoken with Frampton P.C. and will contact them again regarding the possibility of a mirror to ease visibility.

061110 Finance

All cheques approved and signed.

Cheques written since last month

Poppy wreath	16.50
Planning Application for pond	85.00
New cheques	
M. Glover – clerks wages	279.90
Severn trent Water – allotments	81.87
Greenfields – bus shelter	3877.50
M. Glover – clerks wages 5 weeks Dec.	349.88

1650

071110 Planning – New applications for discussion

All applications approved although councillors commented that access to the potential holiday cottage from right hand turn off High Street was quite dangerous as visibility is extremely poor.

S.10/2203/COU S.10/2204/LBC	Saul Farm High Street, Saul, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 7JB	Change of use of existing barn from games room ancillary to Saul Farm to holiday cottage.
S.10/2194/LBC	Saul Lodge Arlingham Road, Saul, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 7JE	Installation of handrail and emergency lighting.

081110 District Councillor's News.

There were two meetings on Nov 11th, the first one to comply with Section 33 of the Local

Government Act 2000 which gives 3 options.

Elected Leader and Cabinet, Directly elected Mayor and Cabinet, Directly elected Mayor with a Council Manager. This last option was removed in the updated version of the Act 2007. Back in 2000, SDC opted to adopt the Leader and Cabinet model, this was updated as per the 2007 Act. On 11th November the leader is now in place from May next year, for 4 years unless he/she loses their seat at the local council elections, or is thrown out for a substantiated reason by a majority vote at a full Council meeting. The leader then appoints the Cabinet, up to 9 members; these can change at the Council's AGM each May.

The second meeting. Firstly some housekeeping, then,

1a, resolved to return the Berkeley Vale Sports Centre to the Vale of Berkeley School, which is due to close anyway in the summer of next year. This to take effect on 31st March 2011.

1b, resolved to return Nailsworth Sports Centre to Nailsworth Primary School with a one-off grant of £10-000 to put measures in place to ensure its continued use within the town, subject to a suitable business plan being accepted from 31st March 2011.

1c, resolved to return Wotton under Edge swimming pool to Wotton Town Council and Wotton Swimming Club, with a one-off grant of £8-000 to ensure its continued use within the town, subject to a suitable business plan being accepted with effect from March 31st 2011.

- 2. Resolved not to join the County Council's Partnership on waste and recycling yet. SDC is tied into a contract with its waste collection contractors till 2016, with no break clause before then, (Gloucester City is tied in till 2021), but will continue to work with the Partnership to reduce waste and increase recycling.
- 3. Adopted the Bisley with Lypiatt Village Design Statement, similar to that of Stonehouse, so that this document can be used as Supplementary Planning Advice in determining planning applications within the parish, if applicable.
- 4a. Adopted the updated Statement of Licensing Policy to take effect from 1st January 2011. This Policy has to be updated and approved every three years, last done to take effect 1st January 2008 4b Adopted the Regulation of Sexual Entertainment Venues Policy. Currently there are no Sexual Entertainment Venues within the Stroud District, anyone wishing to open such an establishment would need to apply to SDC and be regulated accordingly.
- 5. Adopted, after a lengthy and sometimes heated debate, the revised Planning Scheme of Delegation, for a period of one year, when it will be scrutinised to evaluate its success or otherwise. Contrary to local press reports, Parish Councils will still be able to refer Planning Applications to the Planning Committee, albeit in a different way to that at present. Parish Councils will now refer their comments to either the Ward Member, the Chair of the Planning Committee or the Head of Planning at SDC, should they wish an application to be decided by elected members, not officers. This referral will then be evaluated by the Chair of Committee and the Head of Planning, and the appropriate action taken. Should the PC's objections be overcome by for example conditions or revised plans, then the application will not go before the Committee. It should mean among other things, more contact between PC's and Ward Member. There are still a few things being tweaked, within the documentation presented on 11th, before a detailed paper is produced for Parish Councils. The object of this exercise is to try to speed up the decision making process for planning applications, as well as making the service more efficient and cutting costs.

Because of the late conclusion of the last item, the other two items on the agenda were postponed until the next Council meeting on December 16th.

Councillor Skeats queried how changes could be made to cabinet without public consultation. DCJJ has since made enquiries and although not reported at the time would like the following to be taken into account with regards to this question:- "The Act states that the Council is expected to carry out consultation which it considers to be the least expensive, such as an advertisement in the local press. This SDC did in both 2000 and 2007, as did the vast majority of Councils."

091110 Parish Precept

Precept set at £12670 – a reduction on last year's.

101110 Financial regulations

Financial regulations were formally adopted by Council. Councillor Skeats reported he had audited the accounts and all were in order.

111110 Bus shelter

Bus shelter is installed and has been supplied with a seat. This seat may be removed at a later date if necessary. Clerk to raise invoice to RA Meredith for donation and Chairman to contact Downtons

and Attwools for donation.

121110 **School site update**

Nothing to report.

131110 Playground update

Funding for the playground is secure. Hopefully the equipment will be installed before Christmas with a parish party/opening ceremony on New Year's Day.

141110 **Notice boards**

Carried forward to January's meeting.

151110 **Christmas Carol/Tree evening**

Tree is being collected and erected Saturday 27th Nov. There will be no charge for the tree. Chairman has located the lights and decorations. Clerk has contacted playgroup for decorations. Rotary Club and carol bus/ Father Christmas will be in attendance. Refreshments are in hand.

161110 **Pond**

Councillors agreed to donate the cost of the planning application to the project.

171110 **Information Exchange**

Councillor Griffiths (via e-mail) had raised concerns regarding the implementation of the school bus service review – all currently free bus services are to be reviewed. This could have an effect on the Lakefield School Bus Service.

Councillors decided to host a meeting on 8th December to all current and potential parents of the Lakefield Bus Service from Fretherne with Saul and Arlingham. Clerk to write to relevant parents (via Lakefield School), Arlingham P.C. and parents of children at playgroup who might be affected. Chairman read out the following e-mail from Chris Watson, Framilode House: -

"I am applying to the tree preservation officer for permission to remove one of the Lime trees which has deteriorated further this summer. I am quite happy to take care of safe felling (professionally undertaken) and removal but I do remember Chris M said he may be able to help with a replacement tree? The bigger the better would be useful then we can get the digger out and get it replanted this winter.

I think the idea is that we let people know what is happening and to be sure there is no disagreement - though there is no alternative I am afraid to loosing this tree one way or another in the near future."

Councillor Meredith does have a lime tree available. Clerk to inform Mr. Watson and ask he contacts Councillor Meredith directly.

David Drew has contacted the parish council and asked that a questionnaire be filled in and returned. Councillors filled it the form, clerk to return.

Clerk reported that Moor Street is to remain closed until 24th December.

Councillor Skeats reported he has attended the Code of Conduct course and found it very worthwhile.

Public Forum 181110

Mr. Andy Martin asked who was responsible for ensuring water from the ditch in Moor Street (that has been blocked whilst Highways are repairing the road) does not back up and flood the village. Councillor Pocket (who lives along this stretch of road) has had conversations with the foreman who is monitoring the ditch on a regular basis when the workmen are not on site and also stated that the ditch would be unblocked for weekends. Highways will remove the drain blockage if and when necessary. Clerk to establish emergency out of hours point of contact.

Councillors ill.

Meredith and Hewett will attend the Town and Pari	sh Council Forum at Ebley Mi		
There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.22 p.m.			
	Chairman		
Date of next meeting 26 th January 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.