

FRETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated Wednesday 23rd February

Present: Councillors: Chairman C. Meredith, Mr. J. Hewett, Mr. R. Findlater, Mr. D. Pocket, Mr. D. Skeats, District Councillor John Jones, Mel Glover (Parish Clerk), 11 members of the parish

010211 **Apologies for absence.**

Mrs. A. Greaves, Mrs. L. Griffiths

020211 **Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 26th January 2010**

Approved

030211 **Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda.**

None

040211 **Police report.**

Mark Lifton attended the meeting and is taking over the patch from Debbie Flay. Not much to report – three incidents in the last month, theft of overhead cables, and two suspicious circumstances.

Mark also reported that the responsibility for Severnside is being changed from Stonehouse to Dursley station.

050211 **Matters arising from last month's minutes.**

Clerk has contacted Highways and is awaiting a response.

060211 **Finance**

All cheques approved and signed

M. Glover – clerks wages 279.90

GAPTC membership 134.40

Ann Greaves – refreshments for park opening 12.58

Aon Limited – insurance for new bus shelter 27.33

(The cheque for Aon was not on the agenda)

070211 **Planning – New applications for discussion**

2 Canal Row, Framilode. - Detached garage with covered car port at front – s.11/0045

This application was approved.

080211 **District Councillor's News.**

D.C.J. Jones offered his congratulations on the playground and reported the following: -

There was a budget meeting two weeks ago. The District Council budget was set taking into account the £1.4 million savings over the next year.

There is a meeting tomorrow night when the Council tax will be set– the District Council, County Council and police are all proposing a 0% council tax increase, the only increase for the council tax will be from parish councils.

The District Council is not increasing the rate of the council tax – the government grant will be equivalent of 2.5% for Band D across the county.

Councillor Meredith asked if this would mean cuts to services.

DC J.Jones replied that yes it would, for example the Neighbourhood Warden.

090211 **ROSPA**

Clerk reported that Memorial Hall Committee would like to have the pond area included in the annual playground safety checks. Rospa will charge almost the same amount to do the pond as the rest of the playground equipment. Clerk to get some quotes from other companies.

DC.J.Jones will supply the clerk with details of the company used in Whitminster. Clerk to report to Chairman and parish council agreed to support the chairman's decision regarding employment of safety check company.

- 100211 Saul Pound (bus shelter and chain link fencing)**
Clerk has not received any comments from any member of the parish regarding the relocating of equipment on Saul pound.
Council voted 3-2 to relocate the notice board to inside the bus shelter for a six month trial period (to be reviewed in the September meeting). Councillors Meredith and Findlater to action.
Councillor Meredith would like to see the chain link fence around the pound removed as it is broken in places, hazardous and unsightly.
Councillors Findlater and Meredith will try to repair the fence short term.
- 110211 Footpaths**
Councillor Greaves and Mr. Mike Ounsted are working together and Councillor Greaves will report back at next P.C. meeting.
- 120211 School site update**
Nothing to report – still awaiting a response from the Dioceses solicitor.
- 130211 Playground extras**
Picnic benches, seating areas and litter bins are all needed to accompany the new playground. A disclaimer notice is also needed. Clerk to get some quotes for signage.
Clerk to organise meeting between Mem. Hall committee and parish council to discuss playing field accessories.
Councillor Skeats will upload playground opening pictures to parish website.
- 140211 Notice boards**
Councillor Meredith has been given a notice board which may be suitable for Framilode.
Councillor Hewett will contact Mr and Mrs Bowkett to see if they are happy with the noticeboard to be sited where the old notice board was, by their property.
- 150211 Royal Wedding**
Clerk has applied to Highways to have High Street closed for a street party. A closure of Church Lane has also been applied for by a Church Lane resident. There is also still the option of the party in the park.
Clerk to organise meeting with the Church Lane organiser as pointless having more than one parish party.
Councillor Greaves has looked into the possibility of mugs to gift to the parish and has found an assortment with varying prices. Clerk also has looked into mugs and found varying assortments ranging upwards in price from £1.75.
Gift to be discussed at road closure/party meeting.
Mrs. Lever (member of the parish) recommended that as benches are needed for the playing field it might be better for parish council to supply a commemorative bench rather than individual mugs for the members of the parish.
- 160211 Framilode Pound**
Parish council is in receipt of a letter from a member of the parish asking that he purchase the land for a nominal amount and use the land for agricultural purposes.
The second option is that the Friends of the Pound (FOP) “adopt” the area and maintain for the benefit of the parish.
Councillors voted unanimously for FOP to maintain the site but that the council must work in conjunction with the group.
Mr.Cook recommended replacing the lids to the culverts in the pound as the existing ones are perishing.
Parish Council and FOP to meet on site on Thursday 24th Feb to discuss.
- 170211 Community Payback/School site**
The school site is to be cleared by Community Payback. Councillors agreed to the side and the back of the school being cleared.
A toilet must be available for the duration of the works and clerk to organise this. Councillor Meredith will provide a trailer for the waste.

180211 **Village litter pick**

Date set as 19th March, same format as last year. Clerk to amend last year’s poster and distribute. Councillor Meredith has sufficient equipment (high vis vests, gloves, pickers, bin bags).

190211 **EA – Managing the floodrisk**

The Enviroment Agency is proposing several measures of retreat concerning the flood defences for the area, details of which were circulated.

Councillor Meredith reported that it was suggested at the recent Severn Voice meeting that a “protest” group be formed. Councillors voted unanimously to support such a movement.

200211 **Settlement boundaries**

Settlement boundaries are being reviewed by Stroud District Council. Councillors agreed to include the area behind Saul School and High Street Houses that have increased their garden sizes in the new settlement boundary.

210211 **First Aid Course**

Clerk has only had four members of the parish show an interest in this course. Clerk to explore possibilities of joining forces with another local parish.

220211 **Information exchange**

Clerk is in receipt of a “Eon Power Pack”, a tool kit containing various items that will come in useful in times of a power cut. Pack includes items such as reusable hand warmer, wind up torch, non digital phone.

Councillor Meredith read out details from a letter regarding the Perryway Junction. No further action necessary at this stage.

Councillor Meredith reported that the Environment Agency have agreed to reduce our water abstraction licence and will change the charges accordingly.

230211 **Public Forum**

Mrs.Ridley thanked the parish council for the playground and did raise concerns regarding the new pond that is being installed. Councillor Meredith suggested that any concerns regarding the pond should be raised with the Memorial Hall Committee.

Mr. Kitchner reported that the badgers have been very active in the flood defence banks of the Frome.

Mrs. Lever wanted to know how a member of the parish goes about getting a copy of the parish magazine. Mrs. Ridley will sort that out.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.22 p.m.

..... Chairman

Date of next meeting 30th March 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.