## FRETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated Wednesday 27 April

Present: Councillors: Chairman C. Meredith, Mr. J. Hewett, Mr. R. Findlater, Mr. D. Pocket, Mrs. A. Greaves, District Councillor John Jones, Mel Glover (Parish Clerk), Mr. J.Bircher and Mr. B. Bircher, 5 members of the parish

## 010411 Apologies for absence.

Councillors Mr. D. Skeats, Mrs. L. Griffiths

Chairman handed over the chair to Vice Chair Ann Greaves in order to facilitate item 020411.

### 020411 Election of Chairman, Vice Chair and RFO

Vice Chair Greaves asked for nominations for Chair – Councillor Meredith was willing to restand – proposed by Councillor Pocket, seconded by Councillor Findlater, motion carried. Chairman Chris Meredith retook the chair and thanked the Vice Chair for her services. Nominations were asked for Vice Chair – Councillor Greaves was willing to restand – proposed by Councillor Meredith, seconded by Councillor Hewett – motion carried.

RFO – clerk reappointed – Councillor Meredith proposed and Councillor Findlater seconded. Motion carried.

# 030411 Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 30<sup>th</sup> March and 7<sup>th</sup> April 2011 Approved.

### 040411 Police report.

None available.

## 050411 Mr. R. Bircher and Mr. J. Bircher – footpaths of Arlingham

Messrs. Bircher were invited to talk about the instigation of the walks of Arlingham. Mr. J. Bircher told us that it started initially because footpaths and stiles in the village needed replacing and that older people were unable to negotiate the stiles. It was also felt that businesses in the area needed supporting and there was a need to bring people to the village to be able to do that. It was felt that there was such a wonderful network of walks in the area that this was a prime area to develop.

Mr. Bircher was elected to the Rights of Way local access forum.

Kissing gates were the best option to suit all ages and abilities of walkers (and their dogs!) and that the metal ones were better than wooden as less maintenance would be required.

Arlingham Parish Council agreed to the proposal and a small committee was established to carry forward. There was a huge amount of effort and cost involved in the project.

The results have been fantastic for the local businesses.

Mr. B. Bircher said that two things were fundamental - a small project team was needed and also a rationale of why you want to do it. See separate attached notes.

Councillor Meredith reported that FWS parish Council had been inspired by the Arlingham walks.

Mr. Mike Ounsted queried public liability insurance, who is responsible for example if the circular walk promotes people walking on the public highways and also wondered what the possibilities were. If walking on a footpath, county council responsibility, on private land, landowners responsibility; it would be possible to link the parishes and that a circular route is important with a suitable centre to start from.

District Councillor Jones Jones asked if the costs quoted included the price of the kissing gates, 75 gates were bought at a cost of £14,500. Nearly 5000 leaflets have been used and distributed to local businesses, tourist information offices and the heritage centre.

DC J Jones reported that Whitminster PC have been working on a similar project for the last year, at a cost of approximately £1000. No footpath maintenance has been necessary though as most of them are in good order.

Councillor Greaves reported that there is a leaflet in existence, actioned by Friends of Framilode Church that offers five walks.

Mr. Mike Ounsted has written a report regarding the footpaths.

### 060411 Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda.

None.

## 070411 Matters arising from last months minutes.

Clerk to chase Highways re Moor Street markers/gulleys.

Clerk to check with Duncan Carter if he is trained sufficiently to action play equipment safety checks.

Play tree will be rectified Tuesday 03.05, a bough to be removed and incorporated into existing tree and new tree to be delivered.

Clerk has contacted SDC and is awaiting response regarding Leyhill prison equipment.

Memorial Hall Committee are managing the grass contract as PC can not legally take over in order to save VAT.

Clerk to check signatories with the bank.

#### **080411** Finance

M. Glover – clerks wages

279.90

Monster Play – Remaining Balance

7285.00

Due to new HRMC payroll clerk was asked to wait for wages until next month,

Monster Play cheque was not written either as work has not been completed.

cheques written not on the agenda were the following:-

Severn Trent Water – allotments - £68.57

For the street party:-

Alfredo the magic clown - £100.00

Sharon Curtis – facepainter - £150.00

Mr and Mrs. Bowman – disco £125.00

Arti Castles – bouncy castle £100.00

## 090411 Planning – New applications for discussion

S.11/0678/TCA 18462

Ash Cottage. Framilode, reduce height of cryptomeria japonica tree to 1m Approved.

### 100411 District Councillor's News.

DC J Jones reported that not much has been happening. At the planning committee an application for wind turbines has been turned down and an application for 14 new houses in Stroud has not been well received. A retrospective approval for a kit house in Oakridge woods has been approved and the local residents are not happy.

There is a council meeting 28<sup>th</sup> April and SDC will be asked to adopt a Stroud District Standards Board Regime.

District Council will maintain the SBR for members and possibly parish councils as a mandatory code of conduct.

The report of the joint overview and scrutiny committee is recommended to be adopted by the council.

A new civic timetable needs to be approved.

## 110411 Footpaths

Covered in 050411 – Councillor Meredith thanked Mr. Ounsted for his efforts so far.

Thanks were given to the (absent) parishioners who had strimmed the woodland.

## 120411 School site Update

Councillor Meredith reported that he is trying to establish a meeting with the diocese with regard to moving forward.

A letter has been drawn up to go to the charities commission and enquiries have been made to an insurance company who claim they can offer indemnity insurance.

#### 130411 Notice Boards

Clerk is awaiting information from SDC regarding Leyhill contact. Clerk to investigate other avenues for notice board.

## 140411 Royal Wedding Party

Various acts have been booked for the street party (which is now to be located on the playing field), including face painter, magician, disco and bouncy castle. Ian Neville will organise some races for the children. There will also be hook a duck, tombola, and a treasure hunt. Families are invited to attend with a picnic at a cost of £5.00 per family to include a free ice cream for the children.

Councillor Pocket asked what would happen to any profit made.

Mr. Swann was disappointed to hear that as it stands only £75.00 worth of tickets have been sold (although families were turning up on the day) and asked how can members of the public coming to use for example just the play equipment be charged to enter on the day.

Councillor Greaves suggested that paying participants could be given a stamp or a sticker to show they have paid.

It was decided that ultimately this was up to the organisers to sort out.

#### 150411 Framilode Pound

Clerk to contact IDB to establish if they can supply the grills for the inspection shafts on Framilode pound.

#### 160411 PAYE

Due to new legislation PC needs to pay clerk according to HMRC regulations. Councillor Meredith is in receipt of relevant paperwork and clerks wages this month will be paid next month when correct systems are in place.

## 170411 Allotment Shed (Mr. A. Harris)

Mr. Harris would like to replace his allotment shed with a new 8' x 6' shed. This size is subject to parish council approval according to the allotment tenancy agreement. After a lengthy discussion councillors agreed to allow the shed on condition the old shed be completely removed.

## 180411 Information Exchange

Councillor Greaves highlighted the footpath problems that need immediate attention according to the details as supplied by Mr. Ounsted. Clerk to contact PROW.

## 190411 Public Forum

DC J. Jones has been contacted regarding the problems with the parking by Sandfield Bridge. It is hoped that the new traffic priority signs located Frampton side of the bridge will alleviate the traffic congestion problem. As discussed previously Highways and parish council are unable to deter parking in this area.

Clerk has received a letter from Saul PCC asking for a donation towards a lawn mower to mow the church grounds.

Fretherne and Framilode both have their own mowers and it's not really viable to share this equipment. Any mower purchased would need to be fairly robust. Parish Council agreed to donate £250.00.

Mr. Swann reported that there is a problem with potholes and also the grass verges on Church Lane. DC J. Jones recommended that Mr. Swann contact Highways.

Mr. Swann also reported possible problems with weight restrictions on Church Lane bridge. Clerk to check with Highways.

Annual Parish Meeting to take place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.



## Date of next meeting 29th June at 7.30 p.m