

## **FREETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May

Present: Councillors: Chairman C. Meredith, Mr. R. Findlater, Mr. D. Skeats  
Mel Glover (Parish Clerk), 3 members of the parish

**010511 Apologies for absence.**

Councillors: Mr. J. Hewett, Mrs. A. Greaves, Mrs. L. Griffiths, Mr. D. Pocket, District Councillor John Jones

**020511 Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 27<sup>th</sup> April**

Approved.

**030511 Police report**

Mark Lifton attended the meeting but had to leave before giving his report. Chairman reported that there had been 3 non dwelling burglaries reported between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 24<sup>th</sup> May, and also one report of theft from a vehicle.

**040511 Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda.**

None.

**050511 Matters arising from last month's minutes.**

Highways are scheduling works to improve the visibility of the ditch on Moor Street.

Duncan Carter is satisfactorily trained to do monthly playground safety checks.

Play tree branch has been rectified as it has been removed and incorporated into the design of existing tree and new (FOC) tree.

Leyhill information has been received regarding notice boards and benches.

Signatories at the

**060511 Finance**

All cheques agreed and signed.

M. Glover – clerks wages for april	279.90	-tax £55.80	£ 224.10
M. Glover – clerks wages for may	279.90	-tax £56.00	£ 223.90
Monster Play – Remaining Balance			£7285.00
Fast Signs			£ 49.84
Iain Selkirk - Auditor			£ 115.00

**070511 Planning – New applications for discussion**

None

**080511 District Councillor's News.**

As DC J.Jones was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior commitment the following report was e-mailed to the clerk and read out by the chairman.

Stroud District Council held its Annual General Meeting on Thursday of last week.

At that meeting, Cllr John Hudson was re-elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year, with Cllr Ray Apperley appointed as Vice-Chair.

Cllr Frances Roden was elected as Leader for the next four years, in line with SDC's adopted Government guidance.

The Cabinet remains at seven members, including Cllr Roden, with Cllr Keith Pearson holding the Regeneration Portfolio, along with the position of Deputy Leader. Other Cabinet members are, Cllr Nigel Cooper – Finance, Cllr Debbie Young – Housing, Cllr Joe Forbes – Community Services, Cllr Barbara Tait – Planning and Environment,

Cllr John Stanton –Climate Change, which includes Waste Management.

After some considerable discussion on the implementation of the Widdicombe Rules, the method by which the political make-up of Standing Committees is calculated, the following Chairs and Vice-Chairs were duly elected. Development Control Committee, (planning), Cllr Graham Littleton(C), Cllr Rowland Blackwell(V/C)

Licensing and Regulation Committee, Cllr Norman Smith(C), Cllr Elizabeth Peters,(V/C). Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Cllr Chris Brine(C)

Cllr Gordon Craig(V/C) Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Cllr Geoff Wheeler(C) Cllr Alex Stennett(V/C). Audit Committee, Cllr Brian Tipper(C)

Cllr Daniel LeFleming(V/C) Housing Management Forum, Cllr John Jones(C) Cllr June Cordwell(V/C)

Several appointments were made which are not subject to a political balance, from the Severn Ward area, Cllr Norman Smith was appointed on to the Standards Committee, and Cllr John Jones on to the Social Housing Advisory Panel.

Appointments will be made shortly, at Cabinet Members recommendation, of Councillors that represent SDC on Outside Bodies.

Of these, Cllr John Jones will represent SDC on the Gloucestershire County Community Safety Scrutiny Committee, The Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association, The Stroud Road Safety Liaison Group, and the Stroud CCTV Users Group.

Once again, my apologies for absence.

John Jones

**090511 School site Update**

A meeting is still to be arranged to discuss the Charities Commission Proposal. A letter asking for relevant information has been sent to the Charities Commission.

**100511 Auditors report**

The report was not approved as the figures did not look accurate – to be investigated and put on next months agenda.

**110511 Royal Wedding Party**

The party was a huge success and thanks were given to Mr and Mrs Bowman for their organising efforts. A total of £264.00 was raised and will be banked and possibly put towards the purchase of a memorial bench for the playground – to be discussed in further detail at next meeting.

Due to the success of the parish party clerk suggested councillors plan to hold annual parish party – costs for which could possibly to be added to parish precept. To be discussed at next meeting.

**120511 Framilode Pound**

Clerk has received confirmation from IDB that the responsibility of covers for the shafts on the pound lies with the land owner (FWS PC). Clerk received details of a supplier from IDB and two quotes have been received.

Clerk to arrange site meeting with “the Pounders” and Parish Council to discuss further to enable councillors to make a decision at next pc meeting.

**130511 Village Plan Update**

Has been updated and needs mailing to entire parish.

**140511 Stroudwater Canal water level**

Maggie Drake has contacted clerk regarding dangerously low water levels. Councillor Meredith agrees with this and feels water needs pumping in. Clerk to contact landowner for permission to access River Frome and also Mr. Merrett in order that he may facilitate the pumping again.

**150511 Notice Boards**

A price for a wooden “traditional” style notice board has been received from Leyhill prison. Clerk is still awaiting dimensions. To be put on next months agenda.

**160511 Village grass cutting**

Clerk to place advert inviting tenders for a one year contract for parish grass cutting with the possibility of extending this to three years subject to parish council satisfaction of work throughout the year. Clerk to advertise in all three parish magazines. Tenders needed by end of July.

**170511 Playground Seminar**

Anyone attending the playground seminar is able to action monthly safety checks on the play equipment. Councillors Meredith and Findlater to attend this meeting.

**180511 Winter action plan**

Chris Riley from Highways would like to meet with FWS PC to form a winter action plan. Councillor Meredith will meet with him to discuss this along with other relevant parish issues.

**190511 Information Exchange**

Clerk has received a letter from Neil Carmichael with regard to the EA and managing the flood risk.

Clerk has received a letter from Lloyds bank confirming that the cheque guarantee card scheme will be closing.

Councillor Findlater has received complaints about the parking by Sandfield bridge. Thanks to Chris Riley at Highways as it was felt that the priority signs were making a difference to the flow of traffic when parking is in force at the bridge.

Councillor Findlater has also had concerns raised about the appearing “hump” in Church Lane where previous pipe work has been actioned. To be raised at meeting with Chris Riley.

Clerk to contact John Swann re potholes and verges in Church Lane to establish if he contacted Highways and if any action has been taken.

**200511 Public Forum**

Nothing from the public this month.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.48 p.m.

..... Chairman

**Date of next meeting 29<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 p.m**

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*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.*