

FREATHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated Wednesday 29th June

Present: Councillors: Chairman C. Meredith, Mr. R. Findlater, Mr. D. Skeats, Mr. J. Hewett, Mrs. A. Greaves, Mr. D. Pockett, District Councillor John Jones, Mel Glover (Parish Clerk), 4 members of the parish

010611 Apologies for absence.

Councillor Greaves

020611 Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 25th May

Approved.

030611 Police report

No police report available this month. Councillor Meredith reported knowledge of two burglaries in Fretherne in the last month.

040611 Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda.

None.

050611 Matters arising from last month's minutes.

The pump has been requested to refill the canal with water from the Frome. This action will take place as soon as is possible to tie in with existing work commitments.

Moor Street works will take place but no date has been given as yet – Chairman and clerk due to meet with Highways next week.

060611 Finance

M. Glover – clerks wages £270.00

M. Glover – payment to GPFA for seminar for 2 x councillors £40.00

M. Glover – print cartridges £147.97

070611 Planning – New applications for discussion

Saul Farm, High Street, Saul

S.10/2203/COU – revised red line/site location plan detailing revised access.

Clerk to contact planning in order to obtain further detail regarding the “revised access”.

080611 District Councillor's News.

District Councillor John Jones reported that there has not been a recent council meeting; there is a housekeeping meeting next Thursday with two main items on the agenda: -

1/ the appointment of the Monitoring Officer as Colin Spencer is moving on. The proposal is to designate Peter Cruden, Head of Legal Services.

2. Notice of a motion: - the publishers of the Stroud News and Journal and the Dursley Gazette are relocating their offices from Stroud and Dursley to Tetbury.

The motion suggests that the offices should remain in the district and not relocate to the Cotswolds. The council are opposed to the withdrawal and relocation of the offices.

There was a cabinet meeting a couple of weeks ago, the main items were: -

The appointment of a new firm of managers for Stratford Park Leisure Centre. The current management contract expires at the end of October. The new managers will be Sports and Leisure – this bid was accepted as it was less than Parkwood Leisure, the current management.

The Woolaways properties in Minchinhampton built with concrete and metal reinforcement – the metal is going rusty and the houses need knocking down and rebuilding.

It was agreed at the cabinet meeting to purchase the Lister property site for £1.00 which will encourage the site to remain in Dursley and not relocate to Tewkesbury. The acquisition has gone through and it is hoped that development will continue. The landlord for the site is now Stroud District Council.

Councillor Greaves asked when the new hospital will be ready. DC JJ reported that it is two thirds completed and should be open next year.

Councillor Greaves also asked what does a Monitoring officer do and was advised that for example he ensures that members adhere to the code of conduct.

090611 Auditors report

Approved.

Councillor Skeats recommended that due to the time spent by himself and the clerk on trying to reconcile the auditors figures alternative audit arrangements should be made for next year. Clerk to establish what qualifications are required to fulfil the internal audit role.

100611 School site update

Councillor Meredith read out the following minutes from a meeting held with the diocese: - The availability of an insurance policy to provide cover for the proposed transfer was acknowledged but this should cover the trustees against any future claims. Whether it also needed to cover the Parish Council was unclear.

The PC would urgently seek a revised policy to cover the trustees and pass the new version to RS for comment by him and solicitors.

If the Policy is acceptable then there would be no need to consider using a charitable scheme.

The process, with insurance agreed, would be the transfer of the site Jock Lane ending the involvement of the Diocese. Jock would then subsequently transfer the site to the PC. The Diocese would like the process to be completed by the winter (September/October).

Some memorandum of agreement would be needed to provide coverage for all parties over costs, with the PC agreeing to meet the agreed Diocese costs and those of Jock Lane.

The PC would seek to draw up the necessary legal documents though some comment/advice might be needed from Diocese solicitors over any complex trust issues. Costs for this to be sought by both parties.

The Diocese will draw up a new schedule of their costs for the next meeting.

The Diocese is currently registering the site with the Land Registry.

Councillor Greaves highlighted that there was no mention of costs.

Councillor Skeats reported that there are no new costs that have not previously been discussed.

Councillor Hewett asked what the insurance costs were.

Councillor Meredith reported that the cost is not yet available.

110611 Framilode Pound

Mr. Cook (Framilode Pounder) provided the parish with a cheaper alternative method for covering the inspection shafts. Council agreed to pay for this method of sleepers, bolts and sheet metal as per the quote provided. Clerk to advise Mr. Cook to proceed.

120611 Notice Boards

Clerk reported that no dimensions have been provided by Leyhill – council agreed to order a wall mounted notice board – clerk to order.

130611 Jubilee Party 2012

Councillors agreed that finance should be raised to fund a free parish party for the Golden Jubilee sometime during the 1st weekend in June 2012. Clerk to place advert in parish magazine asking for ideas and volunteers. Councillor Griffiths was voted in as the head of the sub committee. A licence will be required if alcohol is to be sold.

140611 Amendment to minute reference 190411

From the minutes in April 2011 ref: 190411

“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.”

Clerk has received e-mail notification from Mrs. Penny Lidstone that the above information is incorrect and stated: “I was reading the parish minutes for April in the Severnside magazine. I noticed that Saul Church have been given a grant towards a lawnmower and it was stated that Fretherne and Framilode had their own mowers. As a matter of fact Framilode Church does not have its own mower and employs someone to cut the grass or volunteers do it using their own machines”.

150611 Emergency Plan

Councillor Greaves and clerk to meet to discuss and finalise the parish questionnaire. Councillors will be given a “patch” and will be responsible for distributing the questionnaire, along with the village plan update, and will also collect the hopefully completed questionnaires one week later.

Councillor Greaves will correlate returned items and follow the emergency plan guidance supplied by SDC.

160611 Footpath plan

Councillor Meredith reported that the village judges for the vibrant village competition were very impressed with the plans to move forward with the parish footpath linking.

A sub committee to start the process was suggested as follows: Mr. Mike Ounsted, Mr. Mike Barton, Councillors Pocket and Findlater with Councillor Skeats being responsible for document planning. Clerk to contact both Mr. Ounsted and Mr. Barton to ask if they mind being involved.

170611 Parish council meeting July/Aug

Chairman will be away on holiday for July meeting and suggesting cancelling July’s meeting and holding the meeting in August. Councillors opted for July meeting with Councillor Greaves as Vice Chair holding the meeting.

180611 Information Exchange

Various publications were distributed by the clerk to interested councillors.

190611 Public Forum

Mrs. B. Ridley wanted to thank the relevant party for the kissing gates along footpath EFL15/1 as they are much easier to manage than stiles!

Mr. S. Robbins asked the parish council what was happening on Framilode Pound. It was explained that the Parish Council owned the land and that local residents had taken over the management of it to make user friendly.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

..... Chairman

Date of next meeting 27th July 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.