

FREATHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated Wednesday 29th January 2014

Present: District Councillor Mr. J. Jones, Councillors: Mr. J. Hewett, Mr. A. Lundberg (Chair), Mr C. Robbins, Mr C. Bierer, Mrs. S. Harrower, Helen Jenkins (Clerk), and 8 members of the parish.

010114 Apologies for absence - None

020114 Minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 27th November 2013 - Approved

030114 Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda

Councillor J. Hewett declared his interest to the planning application for Lock House. All other councillors confirmed that they had no pecuniary interests to declare regarding items on the agenda.

040114 Matters arising from last month's minutes.

All matters from last month's minutes were included within the planned agenda

050114 Council Governance.

New Declaration of Interest Form passed to Councillor C. Robbins for completion. Councillor J. Hewett decided not to complete a form.

060114 Finance.

PAYE – Completed and Clerk's wages have been sorted.

Details of up to date expenditure handed to councillors.

Precept figure to be increased in line with inflation at 2%.

Community Defibrillator – Various grants have already been obtained and a fashion show is to be staged. A request is also to be made of the residents for assistance. It was agreed that the Parish Council would then look to make up the difference. They will also be involved in discussions as to where to place the defibrillator for maximum benefit.

Cheque for £500 payable to Saul Memorial Hall following receipt of grant from GPFA.

Donation to Rotary Club of Stonehouse	£50.00
Donation to Saul Memorial Hall re Inclusive Play	£100.00
H Jenkins – Clerks wages January	£
H Jenkins – Clerk Expenses	£

070114 District Councillors News

District Councillor J. Jones delivered the following report:

The District Council Budget meeting on 23rd January, proposed no increase in the District Council's share of the Council Tax, :County Council rate will stay frozen, there is a possible increase 2% in the Police tax rate, plus any increase from individual parishes .

The SDC Local Plan has been submitted for Public Examination, starting at the beginning of April. So far, only one section has not been challenged : the Gypsy and Travellers Policy.

The Parishes Planning Protocol, developed by GRCC and Parish Councillors, was presented by GRCC. If this protocol is adopted by a council, any developer for whatever size application, must consult with neighbours and the parish or town council, as well as with SDC, before submitting an application to the LPA. All have been urged to adopt it, with 50% take-up so far and SDC will use it as Supplementary Planning Guidance when the New Local Plan is adopted. Elin Tattersall at GRCC is co-ordinating those parishes that adopt it, before passing the names on to SDC.

There is a public exhibition & consultation of plans to improve the A38 main road between the Cross Keys roundabout and the Claypits junction at Eastington on February 25th in Whitminster Village Hall, from 2-0pm til 6-30pm. These plans include resurfacing, top dressing and reducing that length to a blanket 50mph limit, except the current 40 through Whitminster, which will stay.

080114 Planning Applications

There were four planning applications received following the last meeting :

S.13/2606 LBC	Fretherne Bridge House, Bridge Road, Frampton	Retrospective listed building consent for a window at the front of the building.	No objections by the Parish Council.
S.13/2649/ TCA	Lock House, Framilode	Felling and pruning of various trees in a conservation area.	No objections by the Parish Council.
S.14/0092/H HOLD	New House, High Street, Saul	Two storey extension with side porch.	Application withdrawn & resubmitted
S.14/0108/ HHOLD	Restormel, Church Lane, Saul	Raising the ridge height to create living space in the loft. Extending the garage to the rear and replacing conservatory with sun room. New detached garage	No objections by the Parish Council.

090114 Police report and Neighbourhood Watch

<u>December Crimes</u>	
1) Theft from Canal boat	2) Domestic
<u>Incidents</u>	
1) Concern for welfare	2) Family dispute
3) Male in canal	4) Theft from canal boat
5) Domestic	6) Abandoned 999 call
<u>January Crimes</u>	
Nil	
<u>Incidents</u>	
1) Ex partner sending texts	2) Argument in Pub x2
3) 2 Cows in the road.	

Neighbourhood Watch – Mr. Will. Carpenter, the Neighbourhood Watch Field Officer has recently resigned and not therefore able to attend meeting as previously arranged. Possibly PCSO Mark Lifton and a colleague to attend meeting in February. Councillor Hewett advised that there are currently no parties interested in the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Framilode.

100114 Stroud Water Canal

Councillor Bierer has circulated quote. **Councillor Bierer to speak to farmer to check he is happy for reeds to be placed on his land (as has happened previously).**

Parishioner requested help with footpath closure whilst some hedge work was carried out. Due to the nature of the works and ability to stop and start as people approach him, it was suggested he could erect signs warning the public that work is being carried out and the footpath may be obstructed

Some vandalism has taken place following the stile coming into disrepair. A temporary gate used to prevent livestock getting into road had been damaged. **Councillor Robbins to contact landowner and discuss their plans.** A parishioner suggested Stroud Valley's Project may be able to assist.

110114 Allotments

Some tipping is evident and a reminder will be sent with the new year payment request forms in April. **Councillor Lundberg to set up a user group with tenants to inform future allotment committee**

120114 Councillor and Clerk Training

GAPTC invoice paid. Councillor training in the evening (also being offered to other parishes) to be reconsidered after Elections at end of May. **Action on hold until after elections**

130114 Website maintenance updating etc.

Councillor Harrower requested remaining Councillor's details to update Councillor's page. District Councillor J. Jones provided details and suggested District Councillor H. Jones would be happy to

provide contact details. Councillor Harrower was pleased that the website has started to be used with an enquiry coming from this source.

140114 SEFRMS, Environment Agency and Severn Estuary Forum

Problems with badgers removing soil from the canal defences. Meeting needs to be arranged between EA, DEFRA, Parish and landowners. **Clerk to contact Landowners to check they are happy to have a meeting with EA.**

150114 War Memorial

War Memorial Fretherne – It was proposed that the Parish Council adopt responsibility for Fretherne War Memorial. **Councillor Bierer to contact Solicitors (WSP Stroud)**. Repairs to the highway area can then be organised.

Saul Memorial Hall – Enquiries for the name plaque for service personnel is proceeding. A list of names has now been collected. **Councillor Lundberg to visit Mrs Ridley to discuss.**

160114 Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Service

This event was advertised on the website and by fliers and was very successful. The Rotary Club collection was good and it was agreed that a donation of £50 be forwarded to the Stonehouse branch for supporting the event with the Santa Float.

170114 Communication

Communication of the flood warning received January 2nd was discussed. A parishioner advised that a lot of people had received a telephone call who had not previously registered for this service and this had caused some upset. Various discussions took place which concluded the web site should include appropriate links, contact details and alerts but for those not on email, it was agreed that people could opt to have their details stored for phone updates as further warnings are received. The list could be split between Councillors etc

180114 Village Design Statement and Emergency Plan

It was agreed that an Emergency Plan needs to be put in place and the provision of sand and sandbags to be discussed at the next meeting. **Clerk to add to Agenda.**

Village Design Statement – Marilyn Cox has agreed to help with its' preparation. A steering Group is needed to discuss with Marilyn. Possible financial help towards the cost of preparation may be available from Stroud District Community Grant Scheme. Closing date if 14th March 2014.

Steering Group to be set up to meet with Marilyn. It should consist of 4/5 people ideally represented from all villages in parish. Councillors Lundberg and Harrower to be a part of the group. **Councillor Harrower to email editors of magazine with request for volunteers for the Steering Group.**

190114 Severn Voice Meeting

Councillor Harrower attended. CEO David Hagg discussed Boundary Review of Wards in the District and there is an imbalance between councillors and people. Hardwicke and Upton-St.-Leonards are examples. Elections should take place every 4 years which is the recommendation of the Council. There was a lot of concern about moving boundaries and disrupting parishes.

Next meeting is in March and any agenda items to be forwarded to Mrs. L. Ireland. Faster Broadband for the area and School Admissions are currently on the Agenda.

200114 Memorial Hall, Playing Fields and Playground

Annual Inspection required as part on insurance. District Councillor J. Jones to forward details of a company in Hampshire. **Clerk to obtain details and forward to Councillor Lundberg.**

210114 Information Exchange

Magazines to Chairman to circulate.

220114 Public Forum

Life Belt – Neighbourhood Warden contacted clerk to advise that he had inspected life belt and it was thought that all was ok. **Councillor Hewett to check condition of life belt again.**

Fence repair – Now in order.

Mr J. Swann raised the issue of vehicular access to the Right of Way next to the Churchyard. In the past this has always been used by visiting clergy and as a disabled access. The Church have purchased a separate piece of land and will require access to this over the land next to the Churchyard. Church solicitors unable to help due to conflict of interest. Mr Swann to look into right of way of footpath. The council agreed to support looking for the deeds.

Parishioner raised the fact that the bin (used as a dog waste bin) next to the Stroud Water Canal is overflowing. It was discussed that the District Council would empty bin if advised to do so. A new Dog Waste Bin to be purchased and the District Council asked to empty it. **Clerk to obtain quotes.**

Fretherne Bridge – Cost of proposed early warning lights was challenged by a parishioner.

Canal – Parishioner raised the issue of the Sluice Gates being opened by Canals and Rivers Trust sending water into the River Frome. This didn't appear to happen in January. The River Frome is higher than normal. **Councillor Lundberg to contact CART.** Hock Gate – It is thought the Environment Agency have responsibility for the flap and the Internal Drainage Board are responsible for ditch up to the flap. **District Councillor J. Jones to speak to James Drewett at IDB.**

201113 Date of Next Meeting

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

..... Chairman

Date of next meeting February 26th at 7.30 p.m

Summary of actions to carry forward to Matters arising from last month's minutes.

Council Governance, roles and co-opting - New Declaration of Interest Form passed to Councillor C. Robbins for completion.

Stroud Water Canal – Councillor Bierer to speak to farmer to check he is happy for waste to be dumped on his land (as has happened previously).

Damaged Stile - Councillor Robbins to contact landowner and discuss their plans.

Allotments - A separate committee meeting to be set up to discuss future plans for allotment user group. Councillor Lundberg to discuss setting up a user group with the tenants to feedback any issues.

SEFRMS – Landowners to be contacted to check they are happy to have a meeting.

War Memorial - Solicitors (WSP Stroud) to be contacted.

Village Design Statement and Emergency Plan –

Clerk to add provision of sand and sandbags to Agenda.

Steering Group to be set up.

Memorial Hall, Playing Fields and Playground - Clerk to obtain details and forward to Councillor Lundberg.

Information Exchange – Councillor Hewett to check condition of life belt again.

Public Forum - Clerk to obtain quotes.

Councillor Lundberg to contact CART.

District Councillor J. Jones to speak to James Drewett at IDB.