

## **FREETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013

Present: Councillors: Mr. C. Meredith, Mr J. Hewett, Mr. C. Bierer, Mr. S. Robbins, Mr. A. Lundberg, Helen Jenkins (Parish Clerk), and 3 members of the parish.

**010213 Apologies for absence.**

District Councillor Mr. J. Jones, Councillors Mrs. L. Griffiths and Mr. C Robbins.

**020213 Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 30<sup>th</sup> January**  
Approved

**030213 Police report**

Not available. Councillor Meredith suggested that we reintroduce ourselves to the police. Councillor Bierer is to attend a Neighbourhood Coordination Group meeting on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February and will discuss there.

**040213 Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda.**

None

**050213 Matters arising from last month's minutes.**

SEFRMS Wordings - A copy of the draft had been circulated to all councillors for approval. This was agreed and forwarded to the Environment Agency. The EA have responded advising they will try to incorporate the suggestions in the final wording.

Recognition of Service - an appropriate amount is at the discretion of the parish council. Clerk to obtain details of items available at Gloucester Trophies. It was hoped that the gifts be presented at the Annual meeting in April.

Saul Playgroup - Councillor Meredith had advised playgroup of the donation of £250.00. They were very pleased.

Tree in Church Lane - Councillor C. Robbins was to speak to the parishioners who raised the issue. With the absence of Councillor Robbins this is to be carried forward to the next meeting.

Hedge Laying - Councillor Meredith to speak to J K Smith with the offer of £200 towards the cost.

Moor Street Ditch - Councillor Meredith had met with 2 persons from the Inland Drainage Board and walked the length of the ditch. They think the amount of silt has no bearing on the water level and are convinced the water flows away. The ditch on one side of the road is completely dry at the moment so why is there water still in the other ditch? It was explained by the Internal Drainage Board that the ditch on the other side of the road only comes into use after a certain height of water is reached. The problem only seems to have arisen in the last couple of years before the ditch was empty. The water seems to soak away rather than flowing away. Mrs S. Gower has 2 photographs taken in November when her fields were flooded. Councillor Bierer suggested the Mrs Gower approach him when the water levels are high

and further photographs will be taken. Concerns have also been raised by other parishioners since the January meeting. IDB to contact Councillor Meredith in the next couple of weeks.

Snow plough - Councillor Meredith is dealing with issue.

**060213 Finance**

All cheques were signed.

H Jenkins clerks wages February £266.88

RBL Poppy Appeal £20.00

Gloucestershire Probation Service £200.00

PAYE £0.00

Saul Memorial Hall Committee £1500.00

GAPTC (Annual Subscription) £146.97

RBL Poppy Appeal-covers production cost and a small donation.

Glos Probation Trust-used for hedge cutting last visit on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

PAYE-believed to be overpaid. Councillor Meredith to contact.

Councillor Meredith asked clerk to confirm the payment for the hire of SMH for meetings.

Believed to be in arrears.

Clerk to action

**070213 District Councillors News**

TBC

**080213 Planning Applications**

Approved

S.13/0292/HHOLD	Lower Mangrove Farm, Fretherne Lane, Saul	Alterations, extension and associated works to existing dwelling.
-----------------	---	---

---

**090213 Stroud Water Canal**

There is an ongoing management plan for the canal, one action point being to control the reeds. There is a quote in force for a stage one cut back of the reeds for approximately £1000. Councillors approved this action at the meeting in November however, JPR advise that they are no longer able to cut the reeds by hand (the water level being too high) and therefore are unable to deliver as quoted.

Councillor Meredith discussed with JPR who are extremely apologetic. The water level is about 1 foot higher than when they quoted. Their preferred solution is to use an Amphibious Harvester and treat the canal in 2 halves. The cost is £1750 for ½ the canal i.e. £3500 for the whole canal. This will need to be undertaken every 10 years. The previous quote would have

entailed control of the reeds on a more regular basis. It is proposed to undertake the first Harvest in August when the reed growth would be at its maximum level. The use of chemicals were discussed however JPR would prefer not to use this method as it is not as tidy as using the Harvester and not as effective. The need for further quotes was discussed.

Councillor Bierer to action.

**100213 Allotments**

Councillor Meredith proposed not to increase the rent. It is proposed that a skip be delivered in April/May to be used for allotment rubbish only at a cost of around £150. Councillor Meredith is to send a covering letter with the new agreement forms.

**110213 Councillor and Clerk Training**

It has been established that GAPTC are happy to provide group training. It is hoped that a suitable course can be put in place for all new councillors sometime in May. Clerk to action.

**120213 Saul Memorial Hall Rental Agreement Proposal Confirmation**

This was confirmed and a cheque of £1500 is to be forwarded to the Memorial Hall Committee. Clerk to check where we are as regards dates i.e. have we paid up to the end of 2012.

**130213 New Inclusive Playground Equipment - Insurance**

The parish council have been asked to assist with the insurance of the new playground equipment. The council currently assist with the insurance of the other playground equipment. Councillor Meredith happy to support Action agreed.

**140213 Glos PFA Grant Application**

An application has been completed by Jane Bolton for help with further playground costs following two successful applications totalling £20,000 to provide wheelchair access. The Parish need to complete part of this application. Councillor Meredith to action.

**150213 Website maintenance, updating etc**

Mr Skeats had previously offered to maintain the website however Councillor Meredith would like to keep this "in-house". Councillor S.Robbins is to ask his wife if she is prepared to take on the task. To be carried forward to the next meeting.

**160213 Village Email Address List for Communication**

Councillor Bierer raised. Councillor Meredith is obtaining contact details via the allotment mailing. Clerk to check with M Glover as it is thought there was a distribution list. Councillor Bierer suggested it could also be linked to Neighbourhood Watch and also place an advert in the parish magazine. It was agreed to start with the distribution list. Clerk to action.

**170213 Salmon Fishing**

Information received from the Environment Agency with a very short timescale. Councillor Meredith read the following email from Frampton who

are extremely disappointed. Councillor Meredith suggested the parish council fall in line with Frampton so that we can benefit from the expertise of Rose Spence. Agreed. Councillor Meredith to action.

**180213 Information Exchange**

Sevenside Summer Festival. Clerk to circulate.

Waste Incinerator. Several parishes have registered as Non Supporters. Councillor Meredith is not prepared to register as a non supporter for the parish and it was suggested that this could be done on a personal level if individuals wished to. Councillor Lundberg suggested it was not easy to draw a conclusion. Councillor S. Robbins stated that waste would have to be received from other counties as currently the county do not produce enough waste as most is recycled. This would have an impact on Junction 12 and traffic volumes. Clerk to circulate details again.

Letter from Neil Carmichael MP. Various items discussed. Councillor Bierer suggested that NC be invited to assist with the SERMS dealings. Councillor Meredith advised that he is already involved.

Annual Parish Litter Pick. This is to be held Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 11am. Councillor Meredith advised that there are usually 6-12 people who attend. It usually takes around 1-2 hours. Meet at Framilode or Fretherne. Councillor Meredith to put leaflets up.

**Public Forum**

**190213** Councillor Hewett discussed canal bridge operations raised at a Severn Voice Meeting. Were we to go back with proposals and do we put our point across? The Canals and Rivers Trust are proposing to change the way bridges are operated to either people operated bridges or remotely by CCTV. There is currently a consultation process. It is an enormous deviation from where they are at present. Councillor Meredith to circulate email.

A parishioner highlighted that Walk Farm Ditch seems dangerous. Councillor Meredith advised that it is Frampton's responsibility and he will discuss with them. Councillor Meredith to action.

Gift for M Glover. There is a suggestion of a Jane Fryer picture or another local artist. Suggestions and costs were invited.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

..... Chairman

Date of next meeting March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m

Minutes January Helen Jenkins, L'Eglise, Church Lane, Saul, Gloucester. GL2 7JY