

FRETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: District Councillor J. Jones, Councillors: Mr. A. Lundberg (Chair), Mr. C. Bierer, Mrs. S. Harrower, Mr. A. Pritchard, Mr. B. Findlater, Mr. C. Bartlett, Helen Jenkins (Clerk), and 2 members of the parish.

011014 Apologies for absence - Mr. M. Ounsted

021014 Minutes from Parish Council Meeting dated 24th September 2014 - Approved

0301014 Councillors Declaration of Interests to Items on the Agenda

All councillors confirmed that they had no pecuniary interests to declare regarding items on the agenda.

0401014 Matters arising from last month's minutes.

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

0501014 Council Governance

Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interest forms handed to new councillors.

Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interest forms to be completed and handed to Clerk. New Councillors and clerk to action.

061014 Finance

VAT return to be completed. **Clerk to speak to Councillor Bierer.**

All cheques approved.

H Jenkins – Clerks wages October	£
H Jenkins – Clerk Expenses (Oct)	£42.20
Saul Memorial Hall	£100.00
P M Mountjoy (Accountant)	£30.00
Discovery Timber Play Ltd (slide ramp)	£2392.56
Severn Trent Water (Allotments)	£162.76
RBL Poppy Appeal (Production and Donation)	£50.00

Clerk to make enquiries regarding possible limits on donation giving. **Clerk to chase.**

Councillor Lundberg to obtain quote for cutting back dead wood from trees on Saul Pound. Councillor Lundberg.

Grass Cutting - **Invoice to be checked to confirm what period it covers. Clerk to action.**

071014 District Councillors News

District Councillor J. Jones, gave the following report:

The Council will be meeting on Thursday of next week. At that meeting, the main item will be the approval of the Environment Committee's recommendation on the New Waste Service contract, as outlined in the report I sent last month.

No site for a depot has been identified yet, although negotiations are ongoing on 3 separate places. A proposal to delegate to Strategic Officers and the Chair of the Environment Committee will be put forward to make a final decision on the site of the new depot, to avoid the need for having to come back to full Council for that, if it is approved.

A special meeting of the Full Council will take place on December 9th. This meeting will be to discuss the new proposals on housing numbers needed in the District, up to 2031, i.e. the life of the Emerging Local Plan. It is anticipated that Council will be asked to endorse a recommendation of 11200 houses that will be needed to be built in the District during that time. This is an increase of approx. 1700 on the number put forward in the Local Plan which went for inspection in public earlier this year, and was rebuffed by the Inspector carrying out that inspection. This new figure has been

worked out by a different consultant to the one used previously, and has used a different method to arrive at this figure. Should this new increase in the number of houses to be built be approved, it is likely that the application to build 1350 houses and include industrial development on land West of Stonehouse, will come back in to the reckoning. If so, this should remove pressure on smaller pieces of land in other parts of the District that are currently being exploited by developers. Many of that figure of 11200 have already been built, or have consent to be built, but we still await the approval of the Local Plan inquiry Inspector before anyone can say the New Local Plan is in place.

Should the 1350 houses get the green light eventually, it will mean re-thinking the proposals on the Ward Boundary makeup of SDC. If current proposals are adopted, in order to get a 1 Member to 2000 electors' ratio or to within 5% of that ratio, it is likely that Whitminster Parish will join with Eastington and Standish parishes and coming out of Severn Ward. However, with an extra 1350 houses in Eastington and Standish happening, it will be back to the drawing board, Any changes to Ward boundaries are due to come into force in May 2016.

Dog Waste Bins

The report presented to the Environment Committee last Thursday was discussed, the outcome being that a further report was asked for to come to the Committee's next February meeting. It was suggested that figures are needed to show the tonnage of dog waste collected monthly, and if it's disposal could be incorporated with the proposed green waste collection.

In the meantime, the 416 dog waste bins currently sited throughout the District shall remain, and be emptied at the cost to the Council. No further bins will be purchased or installed by the Council. Should any Parish or Town Council wish to install new bins, then they must meet the cost of purchase, installation and emptying, as well as any ongoing maintenance. Previously SDC has borne the cost of emptying the bins, but are no longer in a financial position to do so. It may be that after the February Committee meeting, all Parishes and Town Councils will be asked to contribute at least some of the cost of emptying the bins already in place, and all of any new ones.

081014 Planning Applications

There was one planning application received following the last meeting :

S.14/2194/ LBC	Fretherne Bridge House, Bridge Road, Frampton on Severn	Replacement of windows in the downstairs of the property.	No objections by the Parish Council.
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Notification has been received regarding a development of land in Arlingham Parish which borders the boundary in Fretherne. **Councillor Lundberg to look at planning application.**

091014 Police report and Neighbourhood Watch

No police report received. It was believed however that there had been a number of thefts from vehicles in the Frampton on Severn area.	Report from Neighbourhood Warden to be put on website – nothing to report for parish.
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Councillor Bierer offered to speak to new agent in the area regarding the provision of a monthly report. **Councillor Bierer to action.**

District Councillor J. Jones advised that repairs to the skateboard ramp in Whitminster will be covered by the family concerned. This was possible by the benefit of CCTV and good policing.

101014 Stroud Water Canal - Nothing to report.

A long term plan to be discussed at a future date.

111014 Allotments

Councillor Lundberg has allocated a new plot to the next person on the waiting list.

Councillor Lundberg to set up user group meeting.

Outstanding payments (14 in total) have been chased with a respond date of 1st December 2014.

Clerk advised that one payment has already been received. **Clerk to forward updated list to Councillor Lundberg.**

A discussion took place regarding the possibility of setting up a Direct Debit facility in the future to collect the annual payment directly from a bank account. **New Clerk to action.**

121014 Councillor and Clerk Training

Councillor Lundberg has been in discussion with GAPTC regarding a training session for all councillors to take place in the Memorial Hall. The original date is not acceptable to all councillors and it was therefore decided to look at two options: either 1 evening giving basic information, or a full course over 2 evenings in Mid January. **Councillor Lundberg to action.**

131014 Website maintenance updating etc

Councillor Bartlett to take over website maintenance from Councillor Harrower. Discussions are taking place. **Councillors Harrower and Bartlett to action.**

Personal profiles to be provided by the new councillors for inclusion on the website. **Councillors Bartlett and B. Findlater to action.**

Councillor Bierer also to provide personal profile.

Facebook was discussed. To be discussed further at a future meeting.

141014 SEFRMS, Environment Agency and Severn Estuary Forum

Concerns have been raised that defences on the River Frome, which protect the village, may be compromised by badgers excavating them. Environment Agency are aware of the situation and have works programmed to clear the embankment of excessive vegetation around mid November. This will allow better access to assess the extent of the damage. Contact details held.

151014 War Memorial

War Memorial Fretherne – Quote received for £495 to be completed before Remembrance service. Agreed. **Councillor Lundberg to action.**

161014 Village Design Statement

Village plan has been looked at and has not changed very much in the last 10 years. District Councillor J. Jones suggested that a 5 year plan may be more appropriate. A grant may be available from the District Council to assist with the production of a Design Statement.

Previously Councillor Harrower had made attempts to set up a steering group to discuss the Neighbourhood Plan, however there had not been any interest from parishioners at that time. The steering group would ideally need 2 councillors and 3 parishioners. With any large development of 10+ properties the developer should contact the parish council beforehand anyway. It was felt that a large development would be unlikely. It was also felt that the focus should be on the Neighbourhood plan in the first instance.

District Councillor J. Jones suggested that the parish should turn its' focus to the Emergency Plan before the Design Statement.

To be discussed at next meeting. Clerk to action.

171014 Rural Housing

Decision was taken not to go ahead with carrying out a Housing Need Survey at this time. To be looked at in the future.

181014 Emergency Plan

Councillor Bierer has requested details from other parishes in the area, although no responses have been received to date. **Councillor Bierer to discuss with the Chairman at Longney and Epney Parish Council.**

Items that are important to the village are flooding, closure of A38 or motorway, Canal bridges and snow.

The recent Severn Voice meeting included details of the trial of equipment on the canal bridges including Sandfield Bridge. The trial included the use by boatowners of a mobile phone app to operate the bridges. There may also be a change in the number of hours the bridges could be

operated for. This change was minimal. The likely difference would be in the winter as currently the bridges are only operated for 3 days of the week.

Councillor Bierer to obtain copies of plans in the local area and draft a plan for this parish.

The snow plough was discussed. Currently this is shared with Frampton on Severn parish council. District Councillor J. Jones advised that the County Council pay the cost of the plough and attachments and the operator for their time spent clearing snow. **Councillor Lundberg to discuss with Mr. D. Davies.**

Cutting of verges – this takes place annually and then on a ‘visibility only’ basis at junctions and bends.

Pump Switch –Councillor B. Findlater to be the keyholder. **District Councillor J. Jones to contact Internal Drainage Board.**

191014 Memorial Hall, Playing Fields and Playground

Monster Play in liquidation. Company dealing with enquiries are Caloo. Discussion has taken place and photographs provided. To continue chasing. **Clerk to action.**

201014 Slide Ramp

Order placed and 30% deposit forwarded to company.

211014 Grass Cutting, Signs on bridges, Overhanging Trees, The Pound

Grass Cutting - Advert for tender prepared. To be advertised in magazine and on website. **Councillor Lundberg to action.**

Signs on Bridges – Issue was raised at last Severn Voice meeting and is to be taken up with CRT.

Overhanging Trees – Church Lane has many overhanging trees. Councillor Bierer spoke to Highways 6 months ago and was advised that the trees are the responsibility of the landowners, these being British Waterways, Sandfield Farm and Gardeners Pool.

Councillor Pritchard to discuss with a local farmer to establish what his liabilities are in respect of keeping the trees cut back on his land.

Councillor Harrower to discuss with the owners of Gardeners Pool.

The Pound –The broken posts have been replaced. **Councillor Bierer to discuss the replacement of broken chains with Paul Gardner.**

Double Yellow Lines in Church Lane to be discussed at next meeting. To be added to agenda. **Clerk to action.**

221014 Vacancy for Parish Clerk

2 applications have been received. Interviews to take place with Councillors Lundberg and Harrower. Applications to be circulated to all councillors to include interview notes for approval by all.

231014 Information Exchange

Precept to be discussed at next meeting. To be added to agenda. **Clerk to action.**

Electoral Review of Stroud – Poster on noticeboard.

Gloucestershire Record Breaker – Details on noticeboard.

Stroud Festomane – Details on noticeboard.

Talking Politics –‘The Future of Farming’ – Details on noticeboard.

Cotswolds Tourism phone app – Details in Severnside magazine.

Stroud Ambitions – Flyer requested.

Stroud Valleys Project – Unable to assist at this time.

Provision of road salt for the winter. **Councillor Lundberg to action.**

241014 Public Forum

Dog Waste Bins – District Councillor J. Jones has circulated report from Community Services’

September meeting.

The dog waste bin has been removed next to the Stroud Water Canal. Councillor Bierer to discuss the replacement with a litter bin. **Councillor Bierer to action.**

Brambles along Memorial Hall drive – Councillor Harrower raised the issue and will discuss with the Memorial Hall Committee. **Councillor Harrower to action.**

251014 Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting November 26th at 7.30pm.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.25pm.Chairman

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

Council Governance, roles and co-opting – New Councillors

Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interest forms to be completed and handed to Clerk. New Councillors and clerk to action.

Finance – Enquiries to be made regarding possible limits on donation giving. Clerk to action.

VAT return to be completed when audit finalised. **Clerk to speak to Councillor Bierer.**

Councillor Lundberg to obtain quote for cutting back dead wood from trees on Saul Pound.

Precept to be discussed at next meeting. To be added to agenda. **Clerk to action.**

Grass Cutting - **Invoice to be checked to confirm what period it covers. Clerk to action.**

Planning Applications - Notification has been received regarding a development of land in Arlingham Parish which borders the boundary in Fretherne. **Councillor Lundberg to look at planning application.**

Police report and Neighbourhood Watch - Councillor Bierer offered to speak to new agent in the area regarding the provision of a monthly report. **Councillor Bierer to action.**

Allotments –The possibility of setting up a Direct Debit facility in the future to collect the annual payment directly from a bank account. **New Clerk to action.**

Councillor Lundberg to set up user group meeting.

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Personal profiles to be provided. **Councillors Bartlett and B. Findlater to action.**

Councillor Bierer also to provide personal profile.

War Memorial Fretherne – To be repaired before the Remembrance service. **Councillor Lundberg to action.**

Village Design Statement -- To be discussed at next meeting. Clerk to action.

Emergency Plan – Councillor Bierer to discuss with the Chairman at Longney and Epney Parish Council.

Councillor Bierer to obtain copies of plans in the local area and draft a plan for this parish.

Snow plough - **Councillor Lundberg to discuss with Mr. D. Davies.**

Pump Switch - **District Councillor J. Jones to contact Internal Drainage Board.**

Memorial Hall, Playing Fields and Playground – Monster Play in liquidation. Caloo dealing with enquiries. Discussion has taken place and photographs provided. To continue chasing. **Clerk to action.**

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Clerk to action.

Information Exchange

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Public Forum

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