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Minutes of Fretherne with Saul Parish Council meeting, held by Zoom due to Covid 19 restrictions, at 7:30pm on 27th January 2021.

Present: Cllrs A Brown (Chairman), B Findlater, R Findlater, C Bierer, P Van Der Hooft, C Bartlett, Cllr R Cowley;

In attendance: Cllr S Davies; Cllr J Jones

Register of General Public attending meeting: No members of the public attended

010121 To note apologies for absence: None

020121 Declarations of Interest on the agenda:
Cllrs C Bierer, B Findlater and R Findlater, pecuniary interest in an item listed in item 080121.

030121 Public Question Time
No members of the public were present.

040121 To approve minutes of meeting on 25th November 2020 as a true record.
The minutes had previously been circulated were resolved as a true record.
Proposed Cllr R Cowley, Seconded Cllr R Findlater

050121 Introduction to Harriett Osburn, Highways
Harriet sent her apologies as not able to attend.

060121 To receive report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.

Noting that during this lockdown there is greater impact on both county and district councils, this is due in part to higher rates of Covid, need for home schooling amongst others. Staff continue to work from home.

County vaccinations are ahead of most of the country but caution is still needed.

County Council have allocated additional £200k to buy another laptops for children to assist with home schooling and also continue to support the no child goes hungry scheme providing meals whilst schools are closed during February half term .

Fire and Rescue have had an inspection during the Covid, they have reacted well to the demands with the fire service driving ambulances.

Council have initiated a kick start program to help particularly 16 – 24 year olds on universal credit to get to work. Covid has disproportionately affected young people in jobs.

Budget has been published for the next year with investment details are online along with the opportunity to comment on the budget.

The council has launched a scheme to replace any tree suffering from Ash die back, applications are on line.

070121 To receive a report from District Councillor John Jones.

Most SDC staff still working from home, and likely to do so for the foreseeable future.

Signed / Date



The determination of Planning Applications is lagging behind still, there are some new staff in the department, hopefully will improve.

SDC is to review and develop a Leisure, Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which is aimed at improving lifestyles and helping the area to recover from the pandemic, as things get better, (we hope).

Applications to the Community Resilience and Wellbeing Grant Fund close on Friday this week, any voluntary organisation that is struggling financially can apply to see if they are eligible, in the first place, before applying to the Fund. Details can be found on the SDC Website

There is a planning application in by Smiths of Eastington to fill the old gravel pit behind Fromebridge Service Station with 57,000 cubic metres of soil of varying grades. I, with support from Cllr Davies, and FoS and Eastington PCs have called it in to Development Control Committee for determination, on possible flooding and road safety issues.

080121

Planning Applications

Applications:

- S.20/2664/HHold The Old Vicarage, High Street, Saul
Proposed construction of new cart shed.
Cllrs made no further comment on this application.
- S.20/2569/HHold 1 Barn Court, Framilode, Gloucester
Proposed shed, garage conversion, wall and removed trees
Cllrs made no further comment on this application.
- S.20/2792/FUL Fretherne Bridge House, High Street, Saul
Creation of new vehicular access
Cllrs resolved to object to this application with the main concern of Highway Safety.
- S.21/0026/FUL Land Adjacent to Lion House, High Street, Saul
Construction of 2 dwellings and associated landscaping works
Cllrs resolved to object to this application with the main concern on increased strain on drainage issues.
- S.20/2777/FUL Dunstalls Farm, Arlingham Road, Saul
Revised replacement barn and change of use from agricultural building to additional office
Cllrs made no further comment on this application
- S.21/0100/TCA Lavender Cottage, Moor Street, Saul
Prune branches of 3 x willows overhanging driveway
Cllrs made no further comment on this application.

Permissions:

- S.20/2541/TCA Canal Row, Framilode, Gloucester
T1 Self set tree which has rooted into the masonry surrounding the old lock entrance/bridge stone work – to be removed, T2 Willow – remove, T3 Willow – fell.
Cllrs noted and information passed on to the Restoration group.

090121

To discuss any correspondence received

Emails from resident with regards to future possible development of Fretherne Nursery site, the Council advised that at present nothing has been formally submitted and, at this stage, there is nothing to be acted on. There was no information to be passed on at this stage.

Report, by a resident, of a man removing fish from the disused canal at Framilode. Environment Agency emailed details of bylaws which if contravened they would consider becoming involved. Two bylaws were being contravened –

- You can use live bait - using a small fish to catch bigger fish - providing that the bait fish is retained and used only in the water from which they are taken, except where local bylaws prohibit this.
- It is prohibited to move any fish, alive or dead - or any other creature or plant life - from one water to another, as this can spread diseases.

This is noted should there be any other instances of fish removal happening. Need signage to say Private and no fishing allowed. To be discussed further at next meeting.

Action: Cllr C Bartlett to contact Water Bailiff re support with this.

Signed / Date



Email from resident regarding water levels around Hells Corner area. The level of flooding and standing water around Hells Corner and between there and Malt House Farm is of concern, Highways have investigated the drain and found that the pipe has been damaged possibly as a result of work during fibre installation. Drains continue around the corner, past Hoopers Farm, Lion House to the village. Further investigation is needed into drainage issues.

Water levels / flash flooding through the village over the past weeks were included in this discussion, in particular the 23rd December, including the pump capacity. Could the Council have o.o.h. tel numbers for pump company? Church Lane surface ditches have been cleared but are the culverts clear? Need a flooding / water level survey carried out to make sure that water flows through the parish and not cause floods. Person at County to be contacted re possibility of including the parish in flood assessment.

Dist Cllr Stephen Davies left the meeting at this point.

A proposal to formulate a village floodplan was made. Identify people who could respond, sand bag availability, storage. To be carried forward to the next meeting.

10.01.21 To approve the following payments in accordance with the budget

Payee	For	Amount
Staff	Wages, tax, postage, training	£505.92
C Bartlett	Village Amenities – Christmas Tree lights	£41.96
CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England)	Annual Membership	£36.00

Cheques written out between meetings –

Staff costs Dec - £272.80

Birketts, Professional Charges - £2000

Proposed by Cllr R Findlater Seconded by Cllr B Findlater with all in favour.

110121 Clerks Report

- All signatory records are now up to date.
- SDC have been contacted re Declarations of Interest. Parish Council details have been checked. Amendments and up to date Declarations have been submitted.
- All allotment tenancy agreements have been returned. Over December another four allotments were re-allocated. A letter has been sent out asking that a vehicle does not use the allotment area for parking due to damage to the entrance area, this appears to be being adhered to.
- Thank you for the prompt response to authority to book training courses. These are now booked.
- I received a call re issues with the verges around the parish which could cause problems with cutting. This was referred to Highways; advice was given for one of the issues and Highways will review the other with the land owner.

120121 To receive report from PCSO M Trebble

Crime statistics for the six month period prior to the 24th January 2021 are 37.5% up on the same period in the previous year with 11 recorded crimes. The largest crime over both periods was Assault causing injury.

PCSO M Trebble and the SDC Neighbourhood Warden have visited the local playgroup and walked around the village and up towards Sandfield Bridge.

Signed / Date



130121 To receive and review the progress of the Code of Conduct, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations – Cllr Brown

Apologies, this is still to be done. Work on other Council business has delayed progress on this but will now be the focus. Discussion to be delayed to the next meeting.

140121 To receive a report and resolve previous years Audit and progress of this year's Audit.

The income and expenditures have been listed for the financial year, budget figures revised year on year. The budget will be further reviewed at the next meeting.

150121 To review and agree the Precept application

Precept figures guideline revised following information received from various authoritative bodies. Proposed by Cllr C Bartlett, seconded by Cllr P van der Hooft with all in favour.

160121 To receive a report on Statutory Declaration re ownership of the disused canal at Framilode – Cllr Bierer

As yet, still no information to report. To be revisited at a meeting in the future.

Action – Cllr C Bierer to update council.

170121 To receive a report on Memorial Hall Committee comments on CCTV update

A number of attempts to contact the Memorial Hall committee have gone unanswered. A further attempt will be made in person. To be further reviewed at the next meeting.

180121 To receive report on Entertainment Committee

The Windows of Saul during December were a great success around the village. The lights in the village Christmas tree were lovely. There are no Entertainment committee meetings at the moment due to Covid – 19 but, restrictions permitting, four events through the year will be organised. Costs to run these events will hopefully be funded in large by money raising events, a budget to be presented at a future meeting.

Action – Cllr C Bartlett to present the Entertainment Committee's budget at a future meeting.

190121 To discuss and review recent flooding in the village

This item was moved forward and included in item 090121.

200121 Date of next meeting – 24th February, 2021

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 22:30 Chairman

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.

Signed / Date