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**Minutes of Fretherne with Saul Parish Council meeting, held by Zoom due to Covid 19 restrictions, at 7:30pm on 31st March 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

James Druett and James Thomas from Internal Drainage

**Register of General Public attending meeting:** One member of the public attended

**010321 To note apologies for absence:** None

**020321 Declarations of Interest on the agenda:**  
Cllr P van der Hooft declared a pecuniary interest in item 150221.

**030321 To approve minutes of meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 as a true record.**  
The minutes had previously been circulated were resolved as a true record.  
Proposed Cllr R Findlater, Seconded Cllr C Bierer

**040321 To discuss local drainage issues, flooding issues and workings of the pump with James Druett and James Thomas of Internal Drainage.**  
Following a number of questions and comments previously sent to James and James and council having read their responses, a discussion followed around water courses in the area, out to the Hock and water flow direction through culverts in the village. The working of the pump was explained, its efficiency and performance during the high water levels on 23<sup>rd</sup> December '20. J Druett and J Thomas will follow up, after Covid restrictions have eased, with Cllr B Findlater regarding drainage on land adjacent to Moor Street.

**050321 Public Question Time**  
Member of the Public attending did not want to comment.

**060321 To receive report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.**  
Reviewed the forthcoming elections, County x1, District x2, Police Commission x1 and the Parish Council elections.  
A number of letters have been circulating to Councils, Councillors and Siobhan Ballie MP re travel charges incurred by families who have children attending schools not in the catchment area. This is being looked into. County Councillor Davies will send a letter to Clerk in response to future letters. There is a commitment to finding land for a new school in the Stroud area, possibly Whaddon, with the plan to open in 2025.  
The subject of the junction on the A38 with the Perryway was raised. Every conceivable option has been considered over the years. A38 is a major trunk road, considerations not to cause delays and maintain movement through the junction. Statistics do not indicate it is a dangerous road junction and it does not have the worst incident rate.

**070321 To receive report from District Councillor John Jones.**  
In Purdah due to the upcoming elections so there will be no political comment.  
With regards to the development in Whitminster, this application goes to full council on the last Thursday in April. There are plans for the old gravel pit behind the filling station to be filled with soil. There are objections to this plan as the pit is used as a reservoir to alleviate flooding from the River Frome. The entry onto the A38 is also in close proximity to the Perryway junction.

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Signed / Date



An application for a solar farm between Whitminster and Moreton Valence has been submitted; this is an extensive area. The planning application is listed as in Moreton Valence.

Election Nominations must be submitted before 4pm on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Follow up questions were asked: Is there any benefit to the local area having the solar farm nearby, preferential terms? The power will be fed into the National Grid. With so many solar farms appearing, is there a limit to how many solar farms there are in the area? County Councillor Davies said there was concern over the overdevelopment but the flat area between the escarpment and the river was an ideal location for these developments, there are no limits presently.

**080321**

### **Planning Applications**

#### **Applications:**

- S.21/0414/HHOLD 1 Riveredge, Framilode, Gloucester  
Proposed demolition of conservatory to rear, construction of new single storey extension. Alteration of existing single storey annex to raise floor level and provide alternate window and door openings to front and rear elevations.  
Cllrs made no further comment on this application.
- S.21/0548/TCA The Pound House, Framilode, Gloucester  
Trees in a Conservation Area; Proposed T1 Pittosporum – reduce in height by 3m and remove diseased branches. T2 & T3 Flowering Cherry – reduce approx. 2m from all branches. T4 Copper Beech – reduce the leader branch by 3m and reduce height by 2.5m.  
Cllrs made no further comment on this application

#### **Applications awaiting decision:**

- S.21/0026/FUL Land Adjacent to Lion House, High Street, Saul  
Construction of 2 dwellings and associated landscaping works
- S.20/2777/FUL Dunstalls Farm, Arlingham Road, Saul  
Revised replacement barn and change of use from agricultural building to additional office accommodation, with associated works.

#### **Permissions granted:**

- S.20/2569/HHold 1 Barn Court, Framilode, Gloucester  
Proposed shed, garage conversion, wall and removal of trees  
Permitted.
- S.20/2792/FUL Fretherne Bridge House, High Street, Saul
- Creation of new vehicular access  
Application approved.
- S.21/0228/HHold 14 Sandfield Crescent, Church Lane, Saul  
Proposed demolition of garage and erection of new garage  
Permitted.
- S.21/0275/TCA Highmead, Moor Street, Saul  
Proposed pruning and reducing height of six fruit trees  
Application approved.

#### **Applications withdrawn:**

None

**090321**

### **To discuss any correspondence received**

A number of letters have been received by the clerk regarding charges being imposed on school bus users going from this parish to Rednock school which is not their catchment school. This was discussed during County Councillor Davies report.

A number of emails have been received regarding the increase in precept. Council cannot go into finite detail because of sensitive issues but a broad explanation has been sent to all enquiries explaining the increase with one second email to be responded to.

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Signed / Date



**100321 To approve the following payments in accordance with the budget**

Payee	For	Amount

**Cheques written out between meetings – C Bartlett re Christmas Bauble Comp £21.17**  
**Admin – to inc. wages and training £362.80**

Proposed by Cllr R Findlater Seconded by Cllr P Van Der Hooft with all in favour.

**110321 Clerks Report**

- Severn Trent water supply to the allotments. In 2016 STW account migrated to Water Plus which is a commercial account. No water rates have been paid since. New account details have now been provided and waiting to receive the back dated bill. A rough amount has been provided which indicates it will be a sizable bill. Clerk to provide current meter reading.
- Digibus has been contacted and parish had been provisionally added to the list of venues. This will most probably be in Spring 2022. Venues and permissions to be found by then.
- Allotment Tenancy Agreements have been sent out by post, email to be sent 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.
- Audit progress – IAC Audit & Consultancy confirmed for internal audit. Part 1 of Internal Audit sent.

**120321 To receive report from PCSO M Trebble**

PCSO M Trebble is not available until early April. Local crime figures provided by clerk from Streetcheck.

- January – there were 3 Violence and sexual offences reordered, 1 on or near B4071 and 2 on or near Church Lane. All are under investigation. Also 3 reports of anti-social behaviour, 2 on or near Church Lane and 1 on or near the recreation area. No comment as to what has happened in regard to these.
- February – 2 anti-social crimes recorded. 2 on or near Moor Street, 1 on or near the park. No follow up comments

**130321 To review and approve the Code of Conduct, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations**

These documents having been previously circulated to councillors. Chairman asked if there were any further observations or amendments to be made to the regulations; as no further amendments, council moved to approve.

- Code of Conduct  
Proposed Cllr R Cowley, seconded Cllr C Bierer with all in favour.
- Standing Orders  
Proposed Cllr R Findlater, seconded Cllr B Findlater with all in favour.
- Financial Regulations  
Proposed Cllr P Van Der Hooft, seconded Cllr C Bartlett with all in favour.

**140321 To discuss and approve the Risk Management Schedule**

This has been previously circulated to the councillors. It was thought to be a reasonable template to begin with but need to be more bespoke to the parish. This will be worked on by the Chairman and the Clerk, circulated and to be discussed at the next meeting. Request for a copy of the Asset list to be circulated.

**Action: Clerk to circulate Asset list and revised Risk Management Schedule**

**150321 To review and discuss the Financial report.**

To include Budget, Bank STO's and DD's, Fee's & Charges, VAT and GAPTC annual membership of £190.49. These were previously circulated to the councillors. The VAT has been claimed for the past three years, it will now be claimed annually. Clarification made that in order to claim the VAT all invoices must be made out to Fretherne with Saul Parish Council and not the person organising the work. If shopping for things such as function items eg cups, plates, prizes, please make sure these are on a separate receipt to grocery shopping for example.

Signed / Date



With no objections the Budget, Bank STO & DD, Fee's and Charges, VAT and GAPTC annual membership were approved.  
Proposer Cllr R Findlater, seconder Cllr C Bierer with all in approval.

- 160321 To discuss and approve the work on allotments 12b and 13b.**  
Quotes have been received from three sources where possible. These have been passed to councillors and a costing worked out. This was discussed, council were in agreement that the work needed to be done and the allotments back in use.  
Proposer Cllr C Bierer, seconded Cllr R Findlater  
**Action: Clerk to contact and confirm the work, the skip and portaloo.**
- 170321 To advise on Social Media Commenting**  
There have been a few comments on social media which, although nothing wrong with them in themselves or distasteful, but as a councillor it would be best to be mindful as would possibly be under scrutiny.
- 180321 To discuss and commit to Keep Britain Tidy Campaign**  
To discuss doing a village litter pick during the Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean/Million Mile Mission. The Great British Spring Clean is 28<sup>th</sup> May – 13<sup>th</sup> June. FwSPC have some litter picking equipment. Neighbourhood Warden may be able to assist when dates are confirmed.  
Cllr C Bartlett advised that this is something that has already been discussed by the Entertainment Committee and he would be happy to take this on. From previous litter picks, it was noted that a Sunday was the best day so either the 30<sup>th</sup> May or 6<sup>th</sup> June. Observations to be raised – high viz, areas and roads to be identified, work within Covid restrictions and done the Sunday before the fortnightly rubbish collection so bags can be collected. Various offers of volunteering from councillors.
- 190321 Date of next meeting – 28<sup>th</sup> April, 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.*