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## FRETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Fretherne with Saul Parish Council Meeting held at Saul Memorial Hall at 7:30pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022.

Present: Cllrs B Findlater (vice Chairman), R Findlater, P Van Der Hooft, A Lever, L Jeffries, C Bierer, Clerk K Brown

In attendance: Dist Cllr J Jones

Register of General Public attending meeting: one

### Agenda

- 010221 **To elect a chairman of the Parish Council and receive the Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office.**  
No-one stood for election as Chairman, adjourned for councillors to give this some thought before the next meeting. Vice Chairman B Findlater continued with the meeting.
- 020221 **To receive apologies for absence.**  
Cty Cllr S Davies sent his apologies.
- 030222 **Declarations of Interest on the Agenda** – declarations of interest were received from Cllr L Jeffries regarding minute 160222.
- 040222 **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 as a true record.**  
Minutes were Proposed, seconded with all in favour.
- 050222 **To receive a report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.**  
Cty Cllr had sent a report to the clerk who read the three items out –
- County Council has launched a project to target additional support for Families with babies and toddlers born during the Covid 19 pandemic.
  - The County Council passed its budget on the 16th February
  - GCC has suspended any charges for Road Closures for the Queens Jubilee
- 060222 **To receive a report from District Councillor John Jones.**
- The SDC Budget was confirmed at the full Council meeting last week. SDC's share of the Council Tax rate was set at a rise of 2.2%, meaning that an average Band D household in the District will be paying around £10-00 a year more. To that has to be added the County Council's increase, the Police and Crime Commissioner's increase, plus any extra from your Parish Council. Council Tax has to be set by the end of February to allow distribution of Demand notices. More households are opting to receive their demand notices by electronic means, rather than by post, which helps keep costs down. Next financial year, an average Band D household in FwS will pay a total of £2011-58, made up of County Council £1451-36, SDC 222-52, PCC £280-08, and FwS PC £57-62. . Households on a lower Banding than D will pay less, those at a higher Banding will pay more.
  - The budget allows for measures to increase resources for the Planning Department, especially the Enforcement part of that, so that it can function more effectively. It also proposed to increase charges to park for the first hour in Council owned car parks in Stroud town by 10p, or 12.5% for the first hour, the reason given that it will encourage people to walk, cycle or use buses to get to Stroud, instead of by car!! It was opposed, on the basis that the District is largely rural, with poor public transport links to Stroud from outlying

Signed / Date

*R. Davies* 30/3/22



parts, therefore car use is essential to get to Stroud, and hiking parking charges will not encourage people into the town, and hit traders businesses, but the proposal to take this item out of the budget was lost.

- The Outline planning application for the Eco Park both sides of the A419, east of J13, is still undergoing the checking and validation process, but should be on the planning portal shortly. It has been given a number, S.22/0206/OUT
- A phased return to work at Ebley Mill is in progress, some staff are still working from home, or on a percentage basis. Ebley Mill, along with the main building at Brimscombe Port, is now heated by a water source heat pump from the River Frome. Costing over a million pounds, it should pay for itself, eventually, but there are no gas boilers in use at either place now.
- The bid to build a Fusion plant at the Oldbury and Berkeley Nuclear Power sites has made it through to the second round of bidding, where it will be considered against five other sites around the country. If successful, it is likely to generate billions of pounds to the economy of this area, as well as provide around 31,000 extra jobs. Plusses for these two sites are that they are close to a plentiful water supply, and the experimental laboratories at Oxford, where the idea of Fusion is being developed, are only an hour away, as well as a large skilled workforce is already in place locally.

**070222 To receive a report from PCSO M Treble.**

PCSO M Treble could not attend. Crime figures taken from Streetcheck were read out by the clerk.

**Action:** Clerk to contact PCSO Treble re the authenticity of the crime stats listed on Streetcheck.

**080222 Public Question Time**

The member of the public attending has raised concerns around water levels in the River Frome. Rivers and Canal Trust pumping water from the Gloucester Sharpness canal, at Saul Junction, into the Frome. After contact with the R&CT, explaining the impact this action could have at critical times such as experienced recently, and asking could they not pump water at the sluice in Purton or at Sharpness? They advised that they don't intend to change this practice. The Environment Agency has no control over the level of water being pumped or any form of monitoring at Saul Junction. Also queried is the lack of safety barriers at the sluices; which are in place at Purton over similar sluices. The height of the flood bank being created at Framilode by the EA is higher than surrounding gardens which would heighten the risk of flooding in those properties too. Could the parish council put the pressure on the R&CT to stop this practice at high tides to prevent the risk of flooding at Framilode as they do not seem to have a clue what was being talked about.

To note, other parishioners and a councillor have also contacted R&CT regarding this. There seems to be a total disconnect of understanding between the CRT, EA and IDB on the situation or impact this pumping could cause.

**Action: Cllrs Bierer and Lever to follow up with various authorities.**

**090222 To receive an update on the progress of the Build Back Better Applications**

Pump and respective pipework and power source – Cllr Bierer investigated fencing, work involved and costing to fence along one section of the Stroudwater Canal. Has had difficulty finding companies that can supply a solar pump of the dimensions needed for this work, investigation on going.

Lifebelts and stands and fencing – Cllr B Findlater has got pricing for lifebelts, to submit an application for just the lifebelts and stands.

Playing Field equipment repairs – Memorial Hall are repairing some of the equipment. Companies have been suggested for repairs to the zip wire.

**Action: Cllr Bierer urges councillors to look at the fencing along the canal side.**

**Clerk to send Build Back Better application form to Cllr B Findlater**

**Clerk to get quotes for repairs to the equipment.**

**100222 Planning Applications**

**Application Number:** S.22/0289/HHOLD

**Location:** 39 Passage Road, Saul, Gloucester, Gloucestershire.

**Application Type:** Householder Application

**Description:** Erection of two storey and single storey rear extension and loft conversion along (resubmission of S.21/2485/HHOLD)

**Council have no comment**

**Application Number:** S.22/0331/FUL

**Location:** Dunstalls Farm, Arlingham Road, Saul, Gloucester.

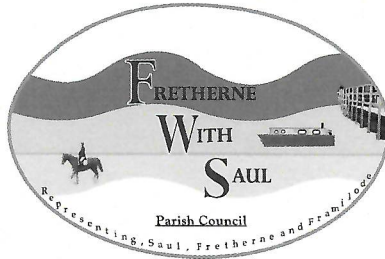
**Application Type:** Full Planning Application

**Description:** Construction of Livery Yard with Associated Parking and Paddocks

**Action: Clerk to note concerns regarding light pollution and arrangement to dispose of manure.**

Signed / Date

*A Bierer* 30/3/22



**Planning Applications Decisions**

**Application Number:** S.21/2628/HHOLD Hillfield Cottage, Passage Road, Saul

**Description:** Erection of single storey and two storey rear extensions

**Decision:** Permitted

**Application Number:** S.21/3030/HHOLD Trevoze, Fretherne Lane, Saul, Gloucester.

**Description:** Replacement front porch.

**Decision:** Application Approved

**Application Number:** S.22/0056/TCA 7 Canal Row, Framilode, Gloucester, Gloucestershire

**Description:** T1 Rowan - remove.

**Decision:** Application Approved

**Application Number:** S.21/2751/HHOLD 1 Garden Cottages, Framilode Passage, Saul, Gloucester

**Description:** Erection of double storey rear extension

**Decision:** Application withdrawn

**Planning Appeal**

**Appeal Ref:** APP/C1625/W/21/3275126 Land rear of 7 Sandfield Crescent, Church Lane, Saul GL2 7JZ

**Description:** retrospective planning for garage building and gym outbuilding.

**Appeal Decision:** Appeal dismissed

**Community Asset**

**Ref:** 2021/0009/ASSETC The Ship Inn, Framilode

**Description:** Continued register as a Community Asset

**Decision:** Application Approved

110122

**Finance:**

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

Supporting documents have already been sent to councillors.

Payee	For	Amount
Admin costs	Inc. clerks wages (Feb)	£358.30
Clerk	Oak tree stakes, ties, protection spirals and tubes	£44.57

Proposed, seconded with all in favour.

**To ratify payments made between meetings –**

Water Plus Allotments water supply £195.16

SLCC various publications for the parish council use £203.30

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

**To review and approve February bank reconciliation and accounts.**

Proposed, Seconded with all in favour.

120222

**To note correspondence received**

Member of the public enquired about the level of the precept this year. This has been replied to.

Member of the public reported that there were branches and brambles sticking out from the hedge on Arlingham Road making cyclists and walkers move into the middle of the road. This has been reported to Highways asking them to inspect the hedge. Highways Inspector has visited and reports no urgent work required.

130222

**Clerks Report**

Feedback from items raised at the last meeting –

The Build Back Better Guidelines and application form have been circulated to all councillors.

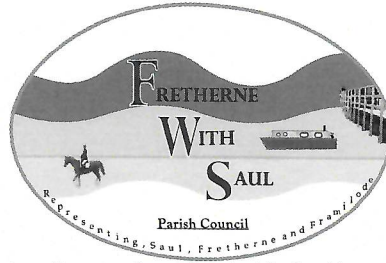
A query was sent to SDC Planning Dept. asking why the rowan tree on Canal Row was being removed and why PC's requests for replacement trees went un-noted. The response was circulated to the councillors.

Frampton Silver Band were sent an email regarding the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations. They have replied, Diu Regnare is only suitable for bagpipes. The band is looking into whether there is a suitable version for brass instruments but has suggested playing a YouTube recording of the piece. Is going to discuss with brass section to see if they could manage the piece between them.

The contract for the purchase of the telephone box has been printed and will be signed at the February 2022 meeting.

Signed / Date

*Bob Barr* 30/3/22



Feedback has been provided on the queries raised with the Memorial Hall Committee, circulated to the councillors for their reference.

The stakes, ties, rabbit protection and irrigation tube have now been received and will be with the Under 5 Play group to plant the Oak trees.

The publications have been ordered from SLCC but as yet not received. Clerk has queried this with the SLCC, waiting for a response.

- 140222 To receive an update on the register of The Ship public house as a Community Asset.**  
The five year listing of The Ship as a Community asset expired in August 2021 and was resubmitted in 2021. This has now been approved.
- 150222 To receive an update on the repair and maintenance of the phone box/defib housing.**  
Cllr Bierer has not had an update as to when work will commence, but the materials have been bought. Council set deadline for the repairs to be done, the work will then be reviewed and quotation considered.  
**Action: Cllr Bierer to contact the person who originally volunteered with a deadline to repair and paint the phone box.**
- 160222 To receive an update on the trees around the allotments.**  
Clerk advised that Wood Vale arboriculture specialist, had recently visited the allotments to look at the Ash trees along the perimeter. The trees are part of the original hedge line and have in the past been 'pollarded', the large trees to be seen now are young regrowth, approx.50 years old, which have not been managed. His suggested action is to remove the ivy, by cutting the main stem, managing any large overhanging branches on an adhoc basis over the next few years. Most importantly establish who's boundary it is. The removal of the ivy would apply to all trees on all boundaries as they are all very neglected.  
**Action: Clerk to look through old records to establish ownership of boundary hedge. May need to contact Land Registry, ask if we can get the documents pertaining to the ownership of boundaries and what cost would be involved in getting those documents.**
- 170222 To review the condition of the taps and stand pipes on the allotments.**  
One of the taps needs to have the washer replaced and both taps are in need to maintenance. Work covered by the emergency work due to the huge bill incurred.  
Proposed, seconded with all in favour.  
**Action: Work covered by emergency work, Clerk to get someone to quote to replace washer.**
- 180222 To review the damage to the noticeboard at Framilode and agree cost to replace.**  
The Framilode noticeboard was recently damaged and is not repairable. It will need to be replaced. Budget for new board set at £300.  
Proposed, seconded with all in favour.  
**Action: Clerk to order replacement within the budget.  
Clerk to advertise for anyone to carry out repairs on an ad hoc basis around the parish.**
- 190222 To review the hedges at the Memorial Hall Playing Field.**  
The contractor has approached a councillor re cutting the hedges around the Memorial Hall Playing Field. Responsibility for the hedges surrounding the Memorial Hall Playing Field was decided to be that of the Memorial Hall Committee.
- 200222 To receive a request from a lecturer at UWE for a research project for a student to analyse the water quality in the disused section of the Stroudwater Canal at Framilode.**  
RAMS would be covered by the University. Work on the reeds could continue with no effect on the research. Council had no objection to the project work being carried out, it would be beneficial to understand the water in the disused section of the canal.  
Proposed, seconded with all in favour.
- 210222 To discuss and approve how many trees to request from the Environment Agency (EA).**  
The Environment Agency working at Upper Framilode have generously offered the parish a number of fruit trees in thank you for any inconvenience the work they have been doing has caused. The trees can be planted anywhere in the parish. The Environment Agency workers could also assist with planting some of the trees.  
**Action: Clerk to put posters for the trees on the noticeboards. Cllrs Lever and Van Der Hooft will walk around the parish to identify possible areas for trees, councillors to ask parishioners to register interest.**
- 220222 To receive an update from the work group about the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations.**

Signed / Date

*Al Bain* 30/3/22



Cllr Jeffries updated the council on all celebration plans to date. Possibly restricting the event to parishioners, restricting access to the field, leaflet drop planned, various games & events, bring your own picnic. Tea, coffee, cakes in hall. Wet weather plan considered. To be held on June 5<sup>th</sup>, noon until four pm, collection buckets on the day towards a bench/shelter on the playing field. Total cost possibly £500 – 600, to update further at next meeting.

**Action: Cllr Jeffries to ask if Memorial Hall insurance covers the event.**

**230222**

**To review and approve the mandate – signatories.**

Clerk has reviewed the signatory list, previous mandate has not been actioned by the bank. A new mandate form has been acquired, to be signed and returned to the bank. Two full power signatories to sign. Proposed, seconded with all in favour.

**240222**

**Date of next meeting is 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022.**

Signed:

*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

*A. Bawa 30/3/22.*