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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 25th January 2023.

Present: Cllr B Findlater (Vice Chairman), Cllr Van Der Hooft, Cllr Cobb, Cllr Bierer, Cllr Jeffries, Clerk K Brown

In attendance: Dist Cllr J Jones

Register of General Public attending meeting: None

Please be respectful of the proximity to other people attending the meeting and take relevant steps to respect their welfare.

Agenda

- 010123 To receive apologies for absence.**
Apologies were received from Cty Cllr S Davies and Cllr Lever
- 020123 Declarations of Interest on the Agenda**
Cllr Cobb declared an interest in agenda item 090123
- 030123 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 30th November 2022 as a true record.**
Minutes approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour
- 040123 Public Question Time**
20 Minutes is allocated to allow members of the public to address the Parish Council, 5 minutes will be allocated to each person. Speakers are requested to keep their comments brief. Standing Orders item 3, para (e)(f)(g)(h)(k).
No public present.
- 050123 To receive a report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.**
Cty Cllr Davies apologised for his absence but has sent a report.


GCC have used the equivalent of 19 Olympic Swimming pools of Tarmac on the County's Roads, but due to recent cold weather we are expecting a challenge with potholes.
GCC have published it's Annual Report on tackling Climate Change. Highlights include:

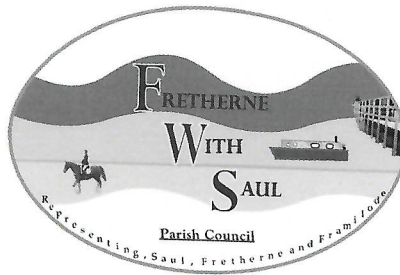
- Planting 66,000 trees with another 80,000 planned
- Increase in recycling rates to 50.8%
- Commissioning 1,000 Electric Vehicle Chargers
- Carbon Emissions in the County has dropped 12% according to Government Figures in 2020 since 2019

GCC have been awarded £500,000 to support walking and cycling
The Holiday Activity Fund, providing Activity and Food during holidays for Children on Free School Meals has been extended at least until March 2024.

- 060123 To receive a report from District Councillor John Jones.**
District Council budget proposals should be published imminently; there will be an increase in the Council Tax. Local Plan timetable has been circulated, consultation period is February through to end of May.

Signed / Date

 22/02/23



Arlingham Solar Farm planning application has been withdrawn. Another solar farm planning application is being worked on for Frocester.

070123

Planning Applications – no new planning applications

Planning Decisions

Application Number: S.22/1897/HHOLD Chance Barn, Saul Lodge West, Arlingham Road, Saul.
Description: Proposed rear free standing raised terrace, new windows & doors & upgraded / painted cladding to the dwelling

Decision: Application withdrawn

Application Number: S.22/2277/TCA Gardeners Pool, High Street, Saul, Gloucestershire.

Description: Removal of trees with Ash dieback. Removal of tree leaning over pool and pollard Willows.

Decision: Approved

Application Number: S.22/2447/TCA Allotments, Park View, Saul, Gloucestershire.

Description: Ash trees - T1, T3, T5, T6 and T7 reduce the tree canopy by a maximum of four metres per tree.

Decision: Approved

Application Number: S.22/1202/FUL Site for Proposed Livery Yard Associated With Dunstalls Farm, Arlingham Road, Saul,

Description: Construction of livery yard with associated parking and paddocks (Resubmission of S.22/0331/FUL)

Decision: Awaiting Decision

080123

To note correspondence received

Members of the public confirmed in writing the questions raised during Public Question Time as per the minutes of the meeting held 30th November 2022, agenda item 041122. These questions and correspondence have now been replied to by letter.

No new correspondence received.

090123

To receive an update regarding the discussion about the safety barriers on Moor Street as per the meeting on 30th November 2022, agenda item 091122.

Members of the Parish Council have met with the Local Highways Manager at Moor Street on 16th December to discuss the repairs to the barriers, the safety of the barriers, and other matters of concern to the residents of Moor Street as per discussed at previous meetings in 2022. The Highways Manager will discuss the both the metal and wooden barriers with his Manager in the New Year. Also discussed were concerns about damage to culverts along Moor St and the High St and the impact of heavy vehicles to the road surface. The weight limit of both bridges on Moor St has been confirmed.

The supporting posts were recently re-inspected, posts beds are now out of the road in places; red barriers are now back and held in place with cable ties. Concerns raised about the wooden barriers at the Saul end of Moor St.

Action: Clerk to report the condition of all barriers to Highways and request an update.

100123

Finance: To approve the following payments in accordance with the budget.

Supporting documents have already been sent to councillors.

Payee	For	Amount
Clerk	To inc January pay, postage, stationary	£402.20
GAPTC	Clerks Networking Inv 7531	£25.00
Acer Ecology	Water Vole survey – Framilode Canal	£480.00
J.P.G. Heating & Plumbing	Taps and stand refurbishment at the allotments	£197.00
Lenovo	Replacement Laptop for Clerk	£965.93 *
Jon McKay	Reducing the allotment trees	£850.00

***This has now been amended to £955.93 due to change in laptop ordered**

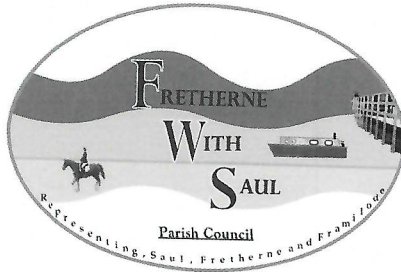
Payments approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour.

To ratify payments made between meetings –

RBL Poppy	Wreaths and donation	£100.00
Town & Parish Website,	website annual subscription	£160.00
Water Plus	Allotment water supply Nov 22	£39.65
Water Plus	Allotment water supply Dec 22	£37.42
Clerk	December '22 Pay inc's national pay award and	£621.92

Signed / Date

[Handwritten signature] 22-02-23



	grade review as discussed at November '22, Agenda item 241122	
Clerks HMRC payment	HMRC payable 22 nd January 23	£103.80
Re-issue of cheque	Smiths Skip hire, wrong name on 1 st Cheque	£330.00
Cheque 001187 cancelled	Smiths (incorrect payee details)	£330.00
Re-issue of cheque	Town and Parish Website	£160.00
Cheque 001191	Cancelled destroyed	£160.00

Payments between meetings approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour

To review and approve January bank reconciliation and accounts.

These have already been circulated to the Councillors.
No bank reconciliation in December '22 as no meeting.

Approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour

120123

To discuss and agree the method of future payments other than by cheque

The Clerk has recently had issue with paying for the hire of a skip by cheque and has been notified that as from 1st January 2023 that company will not be accepting cheques. Many companies are moving in that direction with preference to direct or card payments or issuing proforma invoices. Clerk is also having to pay for items eg laptop on her personal debit card before being reimbursed at a future meeting. Council to discuss methods of payment, should the council have a debit card for authorised debit limited purchases by the clerk and also set up an authorising signatory for payments made through online banking?
After discussion, payments through online banking was approved. Councillors listed on signatory mandate approved their inclusion in the approval process. A Council debit card will be discussed at a future meeting.
Online banking payment approval was approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour

130123

To approve existing Bank Standing orders

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

To approve existing Direct Debit

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

140123

To approve the proposed budget for 2023/4.

This has been circulated to councillors for their consideration and discussion prior to the meeting.
After further discussion regarding the provision for a Christmas event at Saul Pound and the Coronation of King III and whether the Bee Beautiful Project should be included in the 2023/24 Budget, it was approved.
Budget approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour

150123

To approve the Precept for 2023/24.

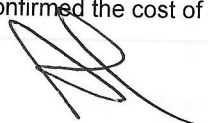
This has been circulated to councillors for review and discussion prior to the meeting.
The Precept figure being requested has not changed from 2022/23, remaining at £16,500.00
Approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour

160123

Clerks Report - Feedback from items raised at the last meeting and other points to be discussed

GB Sport & Leisure are still to complete the work on the Memorial Hall Playing Field equipment. They are still waiting for the supply of some of the posts.
The work on the allotment taps has now been completed, both taps replaced and the one pole has been replaced and installed. A leak has been identified on the mains water supply before the stop tap, this has been reported to Severn Trent as suppliers. The water supply to the allotments is presently turned off.
The allotment notice board due to be installed in November is still to be installed. The ground has been too wet.
The Ash trees along the allotment boundary have been trimmed back to reduce the overhang above the allotments. Chippings are being used by allotment holders on the allotments. Logs have been left along the boundary.
The skip for the allotments was unfortunately delayed as it was deemed too wet for the deliver lorry to access the allotments, this will be revisited in a couple of months' time.
The Clerk has written to Wold & Vale Tree Consultancy requesting their recommendations as to the willow in the canal be put into writing. As yet there has been no reply. Have chased but have received out of office until 23rd January '23.
The Clerk has written to the Gloucestershire CC Community Speedwatch Survey team requesting a repeat speed survey but not during a school holiday period. Still to hear back, will chase.
N.B. Wold & Vale have now confirmed the cost of a written report to be £260.

Signed / Date

 22/02/23.



Councillors discussed and approved the cost of the report.

Action: Clerk to confirm the Councillors approval of the cost of the Wold and Vale report.

Aside from actions from the last meeting -

The Memorial Hall Committee have confirmed they are happy to pay 50% of the cost for a new bin. This will be ordered before year end.

170123

To discuss the plans and arrangements for Christmas on the Pound 2023

To commence planning a parish Christmas event giving plenty of time to get all aspects can be considered and arranged in plenty of time. Already discussed in the budget planning discussion, lights for the trees on both Saul and Framilode Pound. Other things to discuss are parishioner involvement, suggestions inc. music, carols and refreshments.

It was agreed that new lights are needed for the Christmas tree at Saul Pound and to add lighting to other trees on the Pound and to include other trees around the Parish – Upper Framilode Pound and identify possible trees at Framilode Passage and Fretherne. Councillors discussed what the event would include and when to hold it, a choir, a band and refreshments were all proposed the first weekend in December 2023. Further updates, discussion and approvals at meetings through the coming year.

Action: Cllr Jeffries to look into replacement lights and lighting for other trees, the choir and band

180123

To discuss renewing the agreement with the Memorial Hall Committee to hold the Parish Council meetings at the Memorial Hall, Saul

The ten year agreement with the Memorial Hall Committee to hold Parish Council meetings at the hall has now expired. Hall charges are £6.50 per hour. Cllr Cobb to give update on cost of CCTV, what is entailed and viability. Cllr Cobb has been researching CCTV costings and the various implications involved in CCTV installation; this will be further updated at the February meeting.

Action: Cllr Cobb to further research the potential offering of CCTV cover for the Memorial Hall

190123

To discuss the offer of a 'Water Vole and monitoring training' workshop and the survey carried out by Acer Ecology.

A workshop has been offered by the representative from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, now to be held on 24th March 2023 at Fromebridge Mill with just six places available for the Councillors and Canal Volunteer Group. I have confirmed an initial interest, numbers interested need to be confirmed.

Acer Ecology completed the initial survey mid-December. To discuss the findings of the survey and proposed work pattern in the coming months.

Periodic checks on the water in the canal have been carried out, water quality is good and levels remain high. Councillors discussed the nature of the canal and how best to identify it – it is no longer a working canal, while people like to see water in the canal, it has many characteristics of a wetland. The cycle of drying out and filling back up. No work is being carried out at the moment as it is too cold, but how best to manage it is for future discussion.

Action: Clerk to confirm all six places have been filled and request the possibility of a seventh place.

200123

To approve the policies listed below.

Councillors have been asked to review these policies during the seasonal break ready for discussion at this meeting.

- Transparency Code
Approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour
- Complaints Policy
Approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour
- Vexatious Policy
Approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour
- Freedom of Information Policy
Approved: Proposed, seconded with all in favour

210123

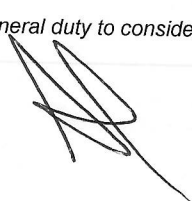
Date of next meeting is 22nd February 2023.

Meeting closed at 21:00 hrs

Signed:

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in exercising any of its functions: Equal Opportunities

Signed / Date

 22/02/23



(race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

Signed / Date

AD 22/02/23