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FREETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

I hereby give notice of an Extra Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday 13th March 2023 at 7:30pm in Saul Memorial Hall. Members of the Parish Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of transacting the following business, residents of the Parish are welcome to attend. Anyone attending should be aware that the meeting may be recorded.

Agenda

- 010223** To receive apologies for absence.
- 020223** Declarations of Interest on the Agenda
- 030323** To discuss plans for the future management and maintenance of the disused section of the Parish Council owned Stroudwater Canal at Upper Framilode
- What is the end plan for the canal?
 - Where should the open water be, the depth of that water
 - Should parts of the canal be considered as wetlands
 - Should reed bed islands be created and how would they be maintained
 - Disposal of spoil from the work on the canal
 - Condition of the dam under the Moor St bridge
 - Strengthening the bank where the cows have been drinking
 - Concerns have been raised by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust about the possible presence of Water Vole at the canal. Surveys have been done by Acer Ecology and previously 35percent. Are further surveys needed? If so, by which company?
 - Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust are monitoring for Water Vole activity – update by Cllr Beirer and Cllr Cobb
- 040323** How to manage the work around maintaining the canal
- A maintenance programme
 - An established volunteer group
 - Funding application – grants
 - Further surveys on the canal and its wildlife
- 050323** Responsibilities
- Insurance
 - Risk assessment – PC and Canal group
 - Roles and Responsibilities including record keeping – PC and canal group
 - Method statement including what, when and how including who is responsible for each task
 - Health & Safety – PC and Canal Group
- 060323** To discuss a permanent, economic and ecological solution to water levels in the canal
Each year, water is pumped under licence into the canal from the nearby River Frome. In the past, solar powered pumps have been considered. To discuss the cost of this method or to consider another solution to the issue. Establish who will do the research into whatever is agreed.
- 070323** To discuss and approve emergency costs should the need arise and agree a permanent solution.
Discussion to include the costs involved in hiring equipment and insurance cover and long term plan of action. Set a budget for the Clerk, with agreement of the Chairman, to hire the equipment at short notice should circumstances indicate that agreed low water levels are likely to be reached.

Signed / Date



080123 Date of next Parish Council meeting is 29th March 2023

Signed: Kay Brown 7th March 2023

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.