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FREETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Fretherne with Saul Parish Council Meeting held at Saul Memorial Hall at 7:00pm on 28th June 2023.

Present: Cllr Lever (Chairman), Cllr B Findlater (Vice Chairman), Cllr Jeffries, Cllr van der Hooft, Cllr Cobb, Clerk K Brown

In attendance: Cty Cllr S Davies, Dist Cllr J Jones


Register of General Public attending meeting: None

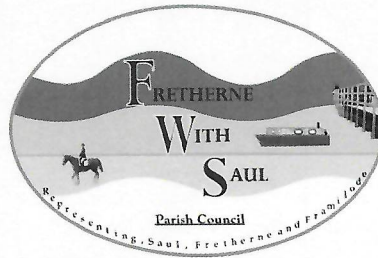
Please be respectful of the proximity to other people attending the meeting and take relevant steps to respect their welfare.

Agenda

- 010623** To receive apologies for absence – apologies have been received from Cllrs Bierer and Wynn
- 020623** Declarations of Interest on the Agenda - None
- 030623** To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting and the May meeting held on 24th May 2023 as a true record.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour
- 040623** Public Question Time
No members of the Public attended the meeting
- 050623** To receive a report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.
- At full council it was resolved that a 'care leaver' should be classed as a protected characteristic
 - The holiday activity fund will run again this summer and recently this has won an award
 - £8m has been put into active travel – cycle route ultimately from Cheltenham to Stroud, possibly utilising canal tow paths
 - 80% of roadworks are down to utility companies and GCC are currently making sure any works are repaired to how they should be with fines being administered.
 - Sponsor a tree programme where there has been large increase of trees being planted.
 - New road scheme – 'find and fix' gangs who will not only repair the marked potholes but also surrounding ones at the same time. Also a jet packing scheme to cover areas of road to repair them by spraying.
 - Will continue to chase up, with Highways manager, a solution to the damaged barriers along Moor Street
- 060623** To receive a report from District Councillor John Jones.
- Public Space Protection Order Consultation been put out by Ebley Mill, this happens every 3 years. This is mostly relevant to dogs, keeping dogs on leads on paths and tow paths has been removed so dogs can run free so long as they are under control. However, other rules under PSPO 4 will remain such as dogs must be kept on leads in burial grounds and allotments. Suggest the Parish Council respond to the consultation.
- 070623** Planning Applications
- Application Number: S.23/1113/FUL
Location: 2 Shirley Cottages, Church Lane, Saul, Gloucester.
Application Type: Full Planning Application

Signed / Date

 26/07/23



Description: Conversion of one dwelling to two dwellings

Respond by date: 29.06.2023

The Parish Council had no comment but registered their concerns about the already limited parking along Church Street. Increased accommodation would potentially mean additional vehicles.

Planning Decisions

Application Number: S.23/0775/HHOLD Willowbank, Moor Street, Saul, Gloucester.

Description: Demolition of existing garage & outbuildings to be replaced with annex extension.

Decision: Refused

Application Number: S.23/0846/HHOLD Cross View, High Street, Saul, Gloucester.

Description: Erection of outbuilding.

Decision: Permitted

Application Number: S.23/0684/HHOLD 1 Garden Cottages, Framilode Passage, Saul, Gloucester.

Description: Erection of single storey rear & double storey side extension.

(Resubmission of S.22/0803/HHOLD)

Decision: Permitted

Application Number: S.23/0582/FUL Land West Of Bibury House, Framilode Passage, Saul, Gloucestershire.

Description: Barn conversion to one dwelling.

Decision: Refused

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

080623

To discuss and approve putting into place long term plans for 'topping up' the canal

Due to the prolonged period of exceptionally high temperatures and limited wet weather intervals the disused section of the Stroudwater Canal at Upper Framilode water levels are again at a minimal level. It is essential to continue discussion about a long-term solution to maintaining the water level, the cost involved and equipment required. Any permissions required. Should a further survey of the canal be considered?

The Canal was discussed at length.

- The work on the dam which was requested has not been started however work clearing reeds is still going on against the PC's guidelines. The reeds continue to be left on the bank increasing the possibility of further contamination of the water. A resident has offered to have a skip nearby for the reeds to be disposed of.
- There is a lot of duck weed now which needs to be skimmed off.
- Due to the reluctance to provide essential information (names, emergency contact details and addresses) for the Risk Assessment, the form is deemed as invalid. This needs to be communicated to the Canal Group with a view to obtaining the required information.
- Is there a need for an Extra Meeting to discuss the canal with the Canal Group to clarify what work should and shouldn't be being done. It was agreed that three Councillors should meet with the Chairman of the Canal Group to discuss what work should/should not be done
- No one is first aid qualified; the Council is prepared to pay for three people to undergo first aid training.
- It has been reported that there is evidence of Water Voles on the canal, this needs to be factored into any work carried out.
- Is there a need for a further survey to be carried out by 35 percent to identify a work strategy going forward. It was agreed that there is a need for further direction and a survey should be carried out.
- There is a need to irrigate the canal, identify a location at the church end of the canal where water can be pumped into the canal and flow through it to the Moor St end; a potential location was identified but this would need to obtain permission of the landowners. Water would be pumped very slowly and for a limited period during the day. There is a need to identify a method of utilising rainwater for irrigation.

Council approved the need to provide first aid training, a further survey to be carried out, a letter to be sent to the Chairman of the Canal Group to arrange a meeting for further discussion about the canal.

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

Action: Clerk to make initial contact with landowners re pumping, look into available first aid courses, Councillors to agree letter to be sent to the Chairman of the Canal Group to arrange a meeting.

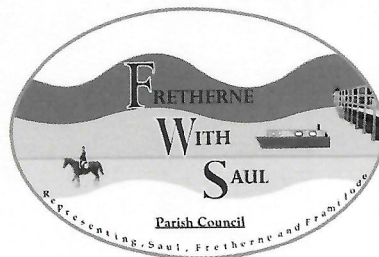
090623

To receive an update on public footpaths and public rights of way (PROW) and the stiles along those paths.

Two Councillors will be meeting with the SDC Public Rights of Way (PROW) officer in July to walk various footpaths in the Parish. The stiles are to be inspected and reviewed and possible changes or alternatives are to be discussed.

Signed / Date

26/07/23



Cllrs Jeffries and van der Hoof are meeting with PROW officer on 10th July to walk footpaths around the parish, noting any obstructions, signage and style condition. Discuss any available funding from District Council for the upkeep of the styles and footpaths. Council will be updated with any feedback at the next meeting.

Cty Cllr S Davies left the meeting at 19:55

100623

Finance: To approve the following payments in accordance with the budget. Supporting documents have already been sent to councillors.

Payee	For	Amount
Clerk	June Paye inc HMRC PAYE and o/t for additional hours	£1063.42
DJD Agri	Verge Cutting inv 1827	£474.38
Birketts LLP	Subject Access Request Legal Advice	£1526.40
GB Sport & Leisure	Repairs to Memorial Hall Playing Field Equipment	£5682.48
Water Plus May 23	Allotment monthly charge £29.04	-£122.98
Severn Grass Services	Village Maintenance inv 262	£98.10
Community Heartbeat Trust	Defibrillator Pads for Saul Defib	£88.00
April Skies	Internal Auditor	£200.00

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

To ratify payments made between meetings –

Severn Grass Services Village Maintenance Inv 246

£196.20

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

To review and approve June 2023 bank reconciliation and accounting spreadsheet

These have already been circulated to the Councillors

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

Dist Cllr J Jones left the meeting at 20:03

110623

To resolve and sign the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/23 (AGAR)

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return having been previously circulated to the councillors for consideration including an Exemption Certificate.

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 22/23 was discussed and the form completed and signed.

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

120623

To resolve and sign the Accounting Statements 2022/23

The accounting statements have been previously circulated to the councillors for their consideration.

The Accounting Statement 2022/23 has been checked by Council

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

130623

To approve the dates for the Period of Exercise of Public Rights.

The dates for the Period of Exercise of Public Rights are set between 30th June 2023 and 10th August 2023

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

140623


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

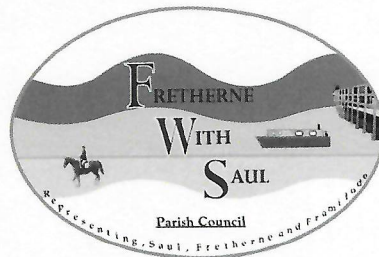
1. The Memorial Hall have been advised that the Parish Council wish to pay for the monthly meeting use of the hall on a monthly or annual basis. Waiting for confirmation of outstanding amount as the previous 10 year agreement expired in December 2022.
2. Clerk still looking into suppliers of information of noticeboards, the suitability for the phone box and cost effective.
3. There are now three Councillors who have completed the on-line banking registration. The Internal Auditor recommends that there are a minimum of four councillors qualified to complete online authorisation.

150623

To note correspondence received

Signed / Date

 26/07/23



- An allotment holder has advised that a branch has fallen from the ash tree behind their allotment. The Clerk contacted the tree surgeon who has previously carried out work at the allotments however a neighbouring allotment holder has volunteered to remove the branch.
- The Parish Council responses to the Subject Access Requests, agenda item May 2023 090523, which were sent by Registered Mail have been returned as not collected. These have been resent by normal mail.

160623

To receive a further update on Christmas on the Pound 2023 plans and arrangements

Longney and Epney Choir have confirmed which songs other than carols they have in their repertoire. A 'Save the date' post has been posted on Facebook giving event, date and time with more details to follow. The Clerk is still trying to contact Severn Trent but has found some lighting possibilities which will be presented to the Councillors.

No further information to provide re Severn Trent other than above. It was suggested that alternative sources of power should be looked into with consideration to costs incurred. Lighting possibilities were shown to the Councillors, budget to be discussed at the next meeting.

170623

To receive an update on the Oak trees for the King Charles III Coronation Commemoration

An application for part funding of the Oak Trees has been made to the Build Back Better Scheme and has had initial approval. After discussion at last month's meeting, the purchase of the Oak trees has been delayed until the autumn which is a much better time to plant trees especially of the size intended to be purchased.

It has been agreed that representatives from Saul, Fretherne and Framilode should 'plant' the trees, these people will be invited once the date for planting has been confirmed.

180623

To discuss the Councils 'Community Investment', funding for the projects and leadership of each project.

- **installing village 'gates' on the main roads through the Parish.**

The Local Highways Manager and two Councillors have driven around the Parish looking at the possibility of installing Village Gates and inspecting the condition of existing signage. Due to the width of the verges, the possibility of installing Village Gates is limited but some locations have been identified.

Feedback to be provided by Cllrs Lever and Jeffries

Variations around Village Gateways was explained from full gates with signage to single posts or road markings. This is to be discussed at future meetings once the information from the day has been circulated to the Councillors.

Action: Cllr Jeffries to circulate information gathered from the Tour of the village. Examples of signage to be sent out by the Clerk.

190623

To discuss and agree the Roles and Responsibilities including the addition of two new roles.

- Parish Council representation at Memorial Hall Meetings
- Saul Defibrillator checks

As two Councillors are unable to attend this meeting, this has been further postponed until the meeting in July

200623

To consider and adopt the following policies and notices:

- Email Policy - Proposed, seconded with all in favour
- Document Retention Policy – Proposed, seconded with all in favour
- Social Media Policy – Proposed, seconded with all in favour

The policies and notices have been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting for their consideration.

210623

The Chairman will move the adoption of the following resolution: That under section 100(A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, the public and press will be excluded from the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act

- To consider correspondence received relating to recovery of Land Tribunal costs

All Councillors confirmed that the information provided and suggested actions had been understood and supported.

Proposed, seconded with all in favour


220623

Date of next meeting is 26th July 2023

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

 26/07/23