

FREATHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

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I hereby give notice of a Parish Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 29th November at 7:00pm 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.

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

Agenda

011123 To receive apologies for absence.

021123 Declarations of Interest on the Agenda

031123 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2023

041123 Public Question Time

10 Minutes is allocated to allow members of the public to address the Parish Council, 3 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).

051123 To receive a report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.

061123 To receive a report from District Councillor John Jones.

071123

Planning Application

Application Number: S.23/2272/HHOLD

Location: 7 Sandfield Crescent, Church Lane, Saul, Gloucester.

Application Type: Householder Application

Description: Erection of a two-storey extension to the side and rear and a single storey extension to the rear of the existing dwelling

Respond by date: 13.12.2023

Planning Decisions

Application Number: S.23/2021/P3Q Dunstalls Farm, Arlingham Road, Saul, Gloucester.

Description: Change of use of agricultural buildings to 1 no. dwelling house with associated operational development.

Decision: Awaiting Decision

Application Number: S.23/1974/TCA Highmead, Moor Street, Saul, Gloucester.

Description: Apple and Pear - Prune all over to near previous (approx. 1.0m off). Lawson Cypress Reduce the height to previous (approx. 1.0m off). Large Apple - Reduce all over to near previous. 4 Cherry Trees Prune by up to 1m.

Decision: approved

081123

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

Supporting documents have already been sent to councillors.

Payee	For	Amount
Clerk	Pay for November 23	£408.42
Town & Parish Websites	Annual Subscription for the website	£175.00
RBL	Remembrance Day Wreaths	£150.00
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust	Survey of the Stroudwater Canal	£1920.00
April Skies	Interim Audit	£115.00

To ratify payments made and income received between meetings –

Water Plus	Allotment water supply	£85.26
The Sign Maker	Commemorative Plaque for the Oak Trees	£53.96
Clerk	Lights for the Christmas event	£86.54
Clerk	Flyers for the Christmas event	£44.99

To review and approve November 2023 bank reconciliation and accounting spreadsheet.

These have already been circulated to the Councillors.

091123

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

1. Canal notice board cost has been approved but the request to look into a double-sided board has delayed the ordering.

2. Commemorative plaque for the Oak Trees has been purchased.
3. Inspection of the play equipment on the Memorial Hall Playing Field has been confirmed, lead time 12 – 16 weeks.
4. Remembrance Sunday Wreaths were laid, thank you to Cllrs Findlater (St Mary's, Fretherne) and Jeffries (St James, Saul) and Parishioner T Lever (St Peters, Upper Framilode)
5. The overhanging branch along the canal tow path will be removed on 4th December
6. The Bauble competition and Christmas on the Pound advertising was carried out via the website, social media and flyers to households within the Parish.
7. Gloucestershire Highways have authorised payment of the verge cutting costs, payment received.
8. The Extraction figures (nil) have been submitted to the Environment Agency.

- 101123 To confirm the decision to replace of styles with Kissing Gates on Public Rights of Way (PROW).**
The Parish Council have identified the styles which are considered to be in a poor condition and would have the most impact by being replaced by Kissing Gates. The PROW officer has been informed and is now reviewing these styles. Landowners will be contacted for permission to replace the old style.
- 111123 To confirm compliance with the 1st January 2024 deadline for all Town and Parish Councils to take their first actions for Biodiversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.**
All local authorities have to sign the Biodiversity agreement by 1st January 2024. They are encouraged to detail their efforts to encourage biodiversity in their areas. Fretherne with Saul Parish Council are encouraging Biodiversity by planting the three oak trees, the planned work on the disused section of Stroudwater Canal, encouraging the recreational activities for parishioners and visitors to the area with making Public Rights of Way more accessible. Further ideas to encourage Biodiversity are to be included in the budget discussions.
- 121123 To review and approve three policies and related form,** these have been circulated to Councillors for review.
- Risk Management Schedule
 - Appraisal Policy
 - Grants Policy and Grant Application Form, to consider amending the application date to the start of the Financial Year.
- 131123 The approve the National Pay Award for the Clerk and set the date for the annual appraisal.** Details have been circulated to the Councillors.
- 141123 To approve the Clerks attendance at the Christmas Networking on the 6th December at a cost of £30.**
- 151123 To review the Interim Audit Report and approve the findings.** This document has been circulated to the Councillors for their consideration prior to the meeting.
- 161123 To receive a final update on Christmas on the Pound 2023, 2nd December at 6pm**
Flyers and posters have been sent out around the Parish about the Christmas Bauble competition and Christmas on the Pound. The website and the community Facebook page have been updated with all the details. The trees are in the process of being decorated in anticipation of the lights being switched on. Has anything been forgotten?
- 171123 To receive an update on the commissioned survey on the disused section of the Stroudwater Canal at Upper Framilode.**
Work on the canal has been temporarily suspended with the exception of strengthening the dam below the bridge on Moor Street and the removal of the duck weed. The report for the survey which was carried out by Wild Service in early October has been received. A public meeting, which the Parish will be invited to attend, will be organised after the Parish Councillors have considered the report.
- 181123 To begin discussion on the budget including projects for the coming year**
Councillors have been considering possible projects to be included in a business plan for the next three years, costs are being researched and budgetary discussion can now begin. Items to be considered include:-
- Adult outdoor circuit training equipment will no longer be considered as it is considered of not sufficient demand by the Parish
 - Parish Gateways – Plans to introduce Parish Gateways has been put on hold for the next financial year as the cost implication for installation is considered too great.
 - The clearing/replacement of existing down pipes draining into the canal along the length of the disused section of the Stroudwater Canal at Upper Framilode to 'top up' the water levels throughout the year reducing the need to pump water into the canal. This will, if successful, reduce the need to hire in pumping equipment.
 - In partnership with Stroud District Councils PROW (Public Rights of Way) team, replacing the damaged and dilapidated styles around the Parish with Kissing Gates. The PROW team are considering the styles identified as most in need of replacement, do the Parish Council want to consider other styles around the Parish for replacement.
 - To consider providing information boards at key locations in the Parish – Stroudwater canal and Saul Pound. These would include the history of the Parish, its buildings, key locations and photographs.
 - Biodiversity around the Parish. As of 1st January 2024, all local government authorities have to sign the Biodiversity Policy. Ways in which Biodiversity can be promoted in the Parish will be discussed.

191123 **To discuss the work to replace down pipes along the disused Stroudwater Canal.** By replacing and restoring the down pipes is hoped to alleviate the need to hire expensive pumping equipment each year. A second quote has been received, Council to consider the quote.

201123 **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 confirm understanding of correspondence received

211123 **Date of next meeting is 31st January 2024**

Signed: *Kay Brown 24th November 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.