

FREATHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

1 French Burr Place, Gloucester, GL1 5PH
Tel: 01452 247040 or 07775 935739
Email: fwsparishclerk@gmail.com
www.frethernewithsaul.org.uk

Minutes of Fretherne with Saul Parish Council Extra Meeting held at Saul Memorial Hall at 7:00pm on 28th February 2024.

Present: Cllr B Findlater (Chairman), Cllr C Bierer, Cllr L Jeffries, Clerk K Brown

In attendance: Cty Cllr S Davies

Register of General Public attending meeting: None

Agenda

- 010224 To receive apologies for absence.**
Dist Cllr J Jones and Cllr Wynn
- 020224 Declarations of Interest on the Agenda**
Cllr Bierer noted an interest in agenda item 070224
- 030224 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 11th and 31st January 2024**
The minutes had previously been circulated and are resolved as a true record
- 040224 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).
No members of public in attendance
- 050224 To receive a report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.**
Gloucester County Council (GCC) and Stroud District Council (SDC) have both approved their budgets going through with no incident. GCC budget is £616,000,000, big three spends are adult social care, childrens social care and highways. SDC budget includes increased spending in playgrounds and planning enforcement. Both Councils are solvent and passed a balanced budget.
Green Gloucester Community Fund, details on County website, open to Parish Council which have green related projects for funding.
A consultation for Adult Social Services Fairer Contribution Policy has been launched.
A Contract has been awarded for two of the three Family Hub's offering help and advice.
Flood Victims Scheme, driven by the Environment Agency (EA), assists funding for flood protection on properties. GCC providing funding up to £5000 for flooding protection where people can't afford to pay 'upfront' and then claim it back from the EA.
Cty Cllr Davies meeting with the Highways Manager tomorrow to discuss highway issues, still no solution to the problems along Moor Street.
- 060224 To receive a report from District Councillor John Jones.**
Cllr J Jones did not attend but sent in a report.
Local Plan.
The Inspectors appointed to examine the Draft Local Plan have give SDC the asked for pause in Inspection. This Pause is for 10 months, from the beginning of February, so the Inspection will start again in December. The first 7 months of the Pause SDC will be used to consult with partners to find a solution to the 3 parts of the plan identified by the Inspectors that they were not happy with. The time left will be used to consult on any changes deemed necessary before resuming the Inspection in December.

Planning Permission was given last night for the Missing Mile application to restore the Stroudwater Canal between Eastington and Whitminster. The Development Control Committee voted unanimously in favour of the go ahead. It was emphasized that the proposed Marina/Basin Managers flat above the café will be subject to a legal S.106 agreement, meaning that it cannot be used for any other purpose other than the manager's accommodation.
- Cty Cllr S Davies left the meeting at 19:30**
- 070224 Planning Application - none**

Planning Decision
Application Number: S.24/0132/TCA Alma Cottage, High Street, Saul, Gloucester.
Description: Willow tree - Pollard and remove at least 4 branches.
Decision: Awaiting decision

Application Number: S.24/0007/HHOLD 1 Garden Cottages, Framilode Passage, Saul, Gloucester.



Description: Erection of single storey rear & double storey side extension. (Resubmission of S.23/0684/HHOLD - extend the permitted single storey side extension).

Decision: Awaiting decision

Application Number: S.24/0033/HHOLD Field View, 6 Sandfield Crescent, Church Lane, Saul.

Description: Erection of 3 storey side extension. Alterations to permitted application - S.23/1321/HHOLD.

Decision: Awaiting decision

Application Number: S.23/2348/FUL Land To The Rear Of 7 Sandfield Crescent, Church Lane, Saul, Gloucestershire.

Description: Erection of a tractor and implement shed and straw store

Decision: Awaiting decision

080224

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

Supporting documents have already been sent to councillors.

Payee	For	Amount
Play Inspection Company	Inspection of equipment on the Memorial Hall Play Field	£270.00
Clerk	Black Cartridge for Printer	£97.66
Memorial Hall	Use of the Memorial Hall for meetings July – Dec	£210.00
Wold Vale Tree Consultants	Survey of the trees on Parish Council land	£420.00

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

To ratify payments made and income received between meetings –

Water Plus	Allotment water supply Jan 2024	£26.32
Water Plus	Allotment water supply Feb 2024	£38.22
Clerk	February Pay	£441.02
Birketts LLP	Re-issuing of High Court Writs	£142.00
Birketts LLP	payment	£871.20

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

To review and approve February 2024 bank reconciliation and accounting spreadsheet.

These have already been circulated to the Councillors.

Proposed, seconded with all in favour

090224

To begin discussion and set a date for the Christmas on the Pound Event 2024

To set a date for Christmas on the Pound 2024, what that will include

- Refreshments
- Music
- Competitions
- Lighting

Following what is considered to be a successful Christmas on the Pound in December 2023, the Councillors will hold another Christmas on the Pound on 7th December 2024. There will be music, children's competition winner announcement and festive refreshments. Preparation for the event will begin the previous Sunday, 1st December when the trees will be decorated.

Action: Clerk to research the cost hot drink containers for optional hot drinks and to look into additional and improved lighting for the Christmas tree, other trees on Saul and Upper Framilode Pound.

100224

To discuss Play Inspection Company's report on the play equipment at the Memorial Hall playing field.

The report has been circulated to the Councillors for their consideration. It has also been passed to the Memorial Hall for their consideration as to the equipment they own. Cllr Jeffries and the Clerk have reviewed the Parish Council owned equipment against the report findings and the work carried out last year. **Cllr Jeffries to update the Councillors on the findings.**

The report was initially confusing to follow, it was agreed that for the Parish Council owned equipment that the information was recommendations only. After inspection, it was felt the zip wire tensioner, which was repaired last year, needed to be referred back to GB Sport & Leisure. Play Inspection Company have asked if the Parish Council would like to be added to the calendar for next years inspection.

Action: Clerk to contact GB Sport & Leisure about the zip wire tensioner. To confirm with Play Inspection Company that they approve being added to 2025's schedule.

110224

Responsible Financial Officer to confirm the list of signatories is correct and up to date

This is ongoing as there have been ongoing issues with the online banking app.

There are still issues with the online service, hard copy of the documents have now been printed and signed to remove exiting councillors and adding to the signatories.

120224

To discuss Councillors training courses and individual needs

The Clerk has circulated details of upcoming training courses being held by Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC), Councillors to consider attending courses either as a training guide or as a refresher.

Signed / Date

Whilst there are some interesting courses on GAPTC's calendar for March, none of the Councillors present can attend.

Action: Clerk to further update the Council on training courses when the April onwards months are posted on GAPTC training calendar.

- 130224** To review the tree survey carried out by Wold Vale Tree Consultancy for trees on Parish Council owned land – Saul Allotments, Saul Pound, Upper Framilode Pound and the North and South towpaths of the disused section of the Stroudwater Canal.
Councillors to discuss the survey which has already been circulated to them, review the findings and agree any work that is recommended to be carried out and in what timescale.
The survey was found to be very informative. No urgent work was identified in the report. However, since the report was created, high winds have caused concerns with trees at the allotments and adjacent to Upper Framilode Pound. An initial budget of £500 was approved for any work needed.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour
Action: Clerk to get advice and quotes for the trees at the end of the allotments and adjacent to Upper Framilode Pound.
- 140224** To approve the following policies:
The Councillors have reviewed these prior to the meeting.
- Appraisal Policy
 - Publication Scheme
 - Zero Tolerance Policy
 - Equality Policy
- The Councillors resolved the policies were fit for purpose.**
- 150224** 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. Wild Service carried out a survey in October and the report has been received; the Parish Council have considered the report, raised questions and have considered the response. **Cllr Bierer to provide update.**
A discussion as to releasing the report to the Volunteer Group and how best to move forward with work on the canal, proposal of work to be carried out and decision making process involved took place. It was approved that the report be released to the Volunteer Group with a covering letter requesting that the group identify the work they are proposing to carry out, prioritising repairing the dam, to be submitted to the Parish Council for approval.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour
Action: Cllr Bierer to write the covering letter and, with the Councillors approval, send it to the Volunteer Group Chairman.
- 160224** To discuss the work to repair and reinstate the drains along the disused section of the Stroudwater Canal tow path. To consider the quotes submitted and approve the work and timescales.
A quote to repair and reinstate a further ten drainage gullies across the towpath of the canal was submitted, it is considered that with the repair and reinstating of the gullies, the need to hire equipment later in the year to pump water from the River Frome into the canal will be alleviated. The quote was considered and approved.
Councillors resolved the quote from Mr M Davies to repair and reinstate the towpath drains for £3475.00
- 170224** Further to discussion at the Severn Voice meeting in November 2023, it has been proposed that the Parish Council by resolution approve that, providing the cost on the received invoice does not differ from the amount stated on the list, the clerk is authorised to pay the invoice on receipt. This is to avoid the Contractor suffering lengthy delays in the payment of invoices as has been experienced.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour
- 180224** To agree a date for the Annual Parish Council meeting which must be held on or within fourteen days after the day that Councillors take office following the Parish Elections being held on Thursday 2nd May 2024. The meeting must be held between 7th and 20th May 2024. To also consider holding the April meeting on an earlier date to guarantee the Council is Quorate.
After discussion, the Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on 15th May 2024. The Annual Parish Meeting and the monthly Parish Council Meeting will also be held on 15th May 2024.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour
- 190224** 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
1. To consider the Village Grass Cutting and Maintenance Tenders which have been submitted and approve which is accepted.
Two Tenders were submitted, considered and the contract was awarded to Severn Grass Services.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour
 2. To discuss and approve the response to the recent communication further to the FOI request and response
The recent communication was discussed, a response was approved.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour

Signed / Date



200224 Date of next meeting is 27th March 2024

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:45

Signed: Kay Brown 22nd February 2024

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 handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Kay Brown', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.