



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 4th JULY AT 7.24 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MEMORIAL
HALL, FRESHWATER**

PRESENT: Councillors: G Kennett (Chair), A Bamford, C Bray, E Cox, B Hinton MBE, D James, C Jarman, J Medland, N Thomas (until 9pm) and E Roberts.

Members of the public: 2 including Cllr Peter Spink (for the early part of the meeting to give his report).

Clerk: H Rowell

Adam Tucker gave a presentation of the work of the Community Connector in the West Wight.

1. APOLOGIES:

Councillor K Fosbury, B Hobbs and D Hicklin.

**2. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON THE 6th JUNE 2023.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th June (having been circulated) were agreed (EC/BH).

**3. TO INVITE COUNCILLORS TO DECLARE AN INTEREST IN MATTERS ON
THE AGENDA.**

None

**4. TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA FROM MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC (UP TO 15 MINUTES).**

None.

**5. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD
COUNCILLORS.**

Reports received see Appendix 1.

6. CLERK'S REPORT (CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS).

Library Meeting

A positive meeting was held at the library between the PC, FOFL and IWC Library Services on 13th June. The discussion included security of the building, the gardens the lighting of the

library steps and how we can improve communications. Quarterly meetings have been agreed.

Co-option

An election wasn't requested by residents so a co-option notice will be put up this week with candidates invited to the August meeting of the Parish Council.

IWALC

The IWALC AGM was held last week, and Cllr Bamford has been elected Chair and Cllr Cox elected to be the IWC Planning Committee representative.

Picnic Benches

The benches that were vandalised on the Stroud and School Green Road have been mended.



Gate Lane Toilets

The electric meter has now been fitted, the electrician is booked to test and commission the installation, the plumber will follow to test the boilers and commission the plumbing, and on Thursday 6th July the building inspector will be making his final inspection and hopefully signing off.

So, assuming all that goes to plan, we will be picking up the keys on Friday morning.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

Noted.

8. TO AGREE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT - LIST CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION.

Payments for June were presented and agreed see Appendix 2 (EC/CB).

9. POLICE BEAT SURGERY REPORT AND THE ROLE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – CLLR JARMAN.

The report focussed on issues relating to reporting incidents either via the website or by phone and the meetings held with the Inspector at County Hall, and locally at the WWSCC. A coordinated list has been collated for effective reporting.

10. TO RATIFY THE AGAR SUBMISSION.

The AGAR submission for the year 2022/23 was ratified. ((EC/JM).

11. FINANCE MEETING REPORT AND RECOMENDATIONS – CLLR THOMAS.

The following grant applications were approved and ratified following recommendations from the Finance Meeting:

- Action for Support - £250.00.
- All Saints Church Parish Hall - £1,920.00 with a plaque noting the donation from the Parish Council.
- Colwell Baptist Church - £800.00.
- Community Connector - £10,000.00
- Freshwater and Yarmouth CofE Primary School - £1,000.00 to support the costs for a piano, with a plaque donated by the parish council.

It was proposed to bring an updated Grant Policy for consideration to a future Parish Council Meeting.

12. TO APPROVE ACTION IN RESPECT OF THE STROUD COPPICE REPORT (CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS) – CLLR BRAY.

It was agreed to accept the quote from Wayne Isaacson Consultancy to complete a Woodland Management Plan for the Coppice. Once the plan has been produced it will form part of the public consultation in January 2024.

13. WEST WIGHT HERITAGE CENTRE – CLLR MEDLAND

It was agreed that Cllr Medland will come back to the Council with a fully costed proposal. It was agreed to let the landlord know that we intend to exercise the break clause in the lease that is effective in July 2024.

14. SKATE PARK REPORT – CLLR JAMES

A meeting of the Skate Park Committee was held by Zoom and it was agreed that the Skate Park budget of £2000 will be used to repair the current Skate Park, to enable it to reopen as soon as possible.

15. PARISH COUNCIL STRATEGY – CLLR MEDLAND

The following proposal was presented to consider the following:

Aim: What are the Parish's strategic priorities in the next 5 years?

- What are the key challenges currently facing our community? Consider current JSNA social data indicating social need, employment and training and housing/accommodation bottlenecks.
- What resources do we have to meet these challenges? Current Parish Plan, Village Design Statement and Neighbourhood Plan, FPC budget and staffing, our current limits.
- What potential opportunities do we have to develop socio-economically. Community assets such as the WWSCC Trust, and our networks of NGO's and local businesses.

The process I have often seen used is to create a mixed group of three people and ask them to brainstorm around a particular question posed by the trainer and then rotating to different questions on different tables or working in larger groups until all the still agreed ideas are proposed to the whole meeting and agreed as a collective vision.

I feel we should also use a technique similar to this to enliven our Annual Parish meetings to make them an educational experience for anyone wanting to know what the parish council is for, what it wants to achieve and how it plans to get there. It would be good to include a range of community stakeholders in this wider process of definition of our public community priorities.

It was agreed to explore with IWALC who has a current Strategy that the council could learn from and look for a date in October for a combined staff and councillor workshop.

16. YOUTH SHELTER – CLLR HICKLIN

In Cllr Hicklin's absence this item was deferred until a future meeting.

17. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

- Committee Terms of Reference
- Collection bins in Moa Place Car Park
- Proposal about the intensity of emailing.

- Invite PC Gunter to future meetings.
- West Wight Town and Parish Councils Association Feedback – Minutes to be circulated.

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

18. STAFFING COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr James was elected Chair and Cllr Cox Vice- Chair. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 5th June 2023 will be circulated to all councillors.

The meeting closed at 9.14 pm.