

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY  
14<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024 AT 6.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors: G Kennett (Chair), T Armstrong, A Bamford, C Bray, E Cox, D James, C Jarman, N Thomas, F Turan and W Whyte

Members of the public: Cllr P Spink

Clerk: H Rowell

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN. Cllr Cox was elected.
2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN. Cllr Whyte was elected.
3. DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE – WERE SIGNED BY THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.
4. APOLOGIES. Apologies were received from Cllr B Hinton MBE and Cllr B Hobbs.
5. APPOINTMENT OF RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER –TO CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CLERK AS THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER. The Clerk was confirmed as the Responsible Financial Officer.
6. TO NOTE THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HOLDS THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE.

It was confirmed that the Parish Council does not hold the General Power of Competence.

7. TO APPROVE AND RE-AFFIRM STANDING ORDERS, CODE OF CONDUCT AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS – COPIES CIRCULATED TO CLLRS. Standing Orders, Code of Conduct and Financial Regulations were approved and reaffirmed.

8. TO REVIEW THE TERMS OF REFERENCE POLICY

The Terms of Reference Policy was agreed.

9. TO REVIEW ALL COMMITTEES' TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the Staffing Committee was agreed.

10. TO REVIEW THE INVENTORY OF LAND AND OTHER ASSETS

A review is currently underway assessing the value of assets, so this was deferred until the review has been completed. This process has been ongoing for some time so it was agreed to explore alternative contractors to complete this work and end the agreement with the current contractor.

11. TO CONFIRM THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR INSURANCE COVER FOR ALL INSURABLE RISKS

The existing arrangements for insurance cover was agreed.

12. TO REVIEW THE COUNCILS' AND STAFF SUBSCRIPTIONS TO OTHER BODIES

The existing subscriptions were agreed with the exception of the West Wight Councils Group as the Clerk of the group has resigned. It was agreed to consult with other member councils to consider the long term plans for the group

13. TO REVIEW THE COUNCILS POLICES AND PROCEDURES

All existing policies and procedures were agreed.

#### 14. APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY COMMITTEES

Appointments were made in accordance with the list attached.

It was agreed to defer the following until the next full council meeting:

- Chair and Vice-Chair of Planning
- Chair and Vice-Chair of the Skate Park and MUGA Committee
- Representatives on the Memorial Arts and Leisure Company.

The following proposals were agreed:

- That the residual functions of the allotments committee are absorbed into the Land Management Committee
- That the Events Committee is dissolved.

The meeting closed at 7.33pm.