

Freshwater Parish Council
Memorial Hall
Freshwater
Isle of Wight
PO40 9UU
Tel: 01983 752000
Email: clerk@freshwater-parish.gov.uk
Website: www.freshwater-parish.org.uk



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 7th OCTOBER 2025 AT 7.10PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MEMORIAL HALL, FRESHWATER

Present: Councillor Turan (Chair), Armstrong, Bamford, Betts, Cameron, Chaucer, Cox, Hinton, Hobbs, Jarman, Pakel, Seely, Whistance.

Clerk: K Gibson

Minutes Secretary: M Gardiner

Finance Officer: P Blackley

Members of the public: 2

1. **APOLOGIES** To receive any apologies for absence.
Councillor Whyte
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** To receive any declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary (personal) interests relating to items on the agenda. **NONE**
3. **REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS** To receive and consider granting any written requests from Members for dispensations in respect of disclosable pecuniary interests. **NONE**
4. **MINUTES** To agree the minutes of the Freshwater Parish Council meeting held on 2nd September 2025 – **(REMOVE TREE REPORT) (EC/CJ) AGREED**
5. **WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT** To receive a written update from Ward Councillors. (Circulated to Councillors). Councillor Spink gave a verbal update on the position at Fort Victoria. **ACCEPTED**
6. **OFFICER REPORTS** To receive a written update from the Clerk

ERMC Grounds Maintenance Contractors

This week the office has received phone calls from two members of the Parish to comment on how great the work ERMC are doing. One was a compliment on the grass cutting on Stroud Playing Field. The other was a compliment on the hedge cutting on Jubilee Field. It is very rare we get compliments for any

of the work carried out in the Parish so this was very nice and was passed onto ERMIC.

Remembrance Parade Wreaths We have ordered two Remembrance Sunday Wreaths as agreed. One wreath will be part of the parade to be held in Yarmouth and laid by the Chair and one wreath will be laid at All Saints Church. We have added an additional £50 charitable donation on top of the £50 cost for the two wreaths.

Library Roof Update Due to the complicated nature of the repair to the Library roof, the Parish Council have appointed the Project Manager Daniel Stimson Surveying Ltd to manage the tender process to appoint a contractor to replace the damaged roof structures and remove the asbestos tiles.

The office has requested quotes for the project management and have had only one quote returned. The fixed cost quote is £1800.00 for the tender process which includes; Out to Tender Coordination, Tender Documents, Quantity Surveying, Construction Design and Management (CDM) advisor and Joint Contracts Tribunal (JCT) contract admin services and Tender analysis report. This company has been recommended by the Engineers that inspected the roof and produced the damage report and have confirmed the level of fee is standard for these works.

Pikes Ltd, who were involved in the Spinfish works, are too busy to take any projects on. PTR Consulting declined to quote. We have contacted other companies with no response as yet.

Due to the urgency of the repair, we continue to have leaks inside the library and need to ensure that the roof does not decline any further, the Chair has signed off on appointing the proposed contractor Daniel Stimson Surveying Ltd.

The tender process will begin in early October for a period of four weeks. We will then receive the tender analysis report and recommendation of the contractor to be approved at Full Council.

Library – it was proposed that the process for tendering is expedited as soon as possible and an extraordinary meeting be held if necessary to approve the repairs. (FT/BS) AGREED

Staff Statutory Pay Increase The Local Government Association (LGA) and the National Joint Council for local government services (NJC) have confirmed the new statutory pay scale rates for local authority employees for 2025/26 financial year. This has been reviewed and agreed by the Personnel Committee at the meeting held on 10th August 2025. As per the advice from NALC employers are encouraged to implement the pay award, effective from 1st April 2025, as soon as possible. If any Councillor wishes to view the pay review please contact the office.

It was proposed to accept the personnel committee recommendation – (CP/DW) AGREED

7. CHAIRS REPORT To receive a report from the Chair, Cllr Frances Turan

This month started slowly with Councillor Cameron and I checking various locations to identify flood risk and possible solutions. This is essential as the incidence of flooding throughout Freshwater is increasing year on year.

I visited the library to plant some non-invasive evergreen ground cover plants. Slowly the front pathway is coming to life.

Caroline Pakel kindly invited me to her home, where I introduced her to Sandra Knowles. Sandra has experience of fund raising and has agreed to lend her skills for the benefit of the skatepark committee. The committee unanimously agreed, and she will attend future meetings as an invited member of the public.

I joined Councillor Cameron as she pitched ideas for the proposed Christmas late shopping evenings. I was delighted by the enthusiasm not only for this event but for future larger events such as a summer carnival and a full-on Christmas festival next year.

I attended an IWALC planning training evening which was refreshingly informative and interactive. Best one yet by far.

The Conservative Club held a MacMillan coffee morning. I was very happy to have an interesting conversation with George Cameron; it is always helpful to see things from another perspective.

We had arranged a small meeting with Tina from Wilder Streets but unfortunately, she was unwell and had to cancel. Hopefully, we will be meeting next week to establish if and how we can collaborate for the benefit of our area.

The Poverty Prevention Workshop was an eye opener. So much good work but not enough communication. We can all learn so much if we raise awareness not only of what is needed, but the many and varied ways community groups are helping. Sharing Information is vital to maximise effectiveness. Just a personal note, one of the attendees lived in the same road as me in Tring Hertfordshire, she is now the new clerk of St Helens council, small world.

I had a meeting with Elizabeth Grainger, head teacher at our wonderful school. She is very easy to connect with and expressed a strong desire to be informed of any local events that she and her pupils could be involved in. I believe that was a positive outcome and will endeavour to maintain a strong positive relationship moving forward.

- 8. CORRESPONDENCE** One item of correspondence from Lizzie Granger, Headteacher – Shalfleet & Freshwater and Yarmouth CE Primary Schools. Councillor Pakel volunteered to attend the school to talk to the children.

One item of correspondence from MHALCO.

One item of correspondence from West Wight Junior Football Club - Requesting four additional cuts of the football field during October at a total cost of £726.68.

It was proposed to accept this request – (BC/BS) **AGREED**

- 9. FREEDOM OF FRESHWATER PARISH REQUEST** To review and approve or deny the attached request for the Freedom of the Freshwater Parish. It was agreed that further time would be taken to consider a response. (EC/TA) **AGREED**

- 10. FINANCE** To review and approve the payments list. It was proposed to approve the payments for September 2025 (EC/BS) **APPROVED**

- 11. TO APPROVE THE REVISED LAND MANAGEMENT AND ASSETS COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE POLICY.** Amended to add the area by Yarmouth Bridge to the scope of accountability and assets (attached). It was proposed to accept the revised Land Management terms of reference (EC/DW) **AGREED**

- 12. UPDATE FROM THE SKATE PARK WORKING PARTY –** Councillor Pakel gave a verbal update.

- 13. UPDATE FROM COUNCILLOR ARMSTRONG – YARMOUTH HARBOUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YHAC) –** Councillor Armstrong gave a verbal update and minutes have been circulated to Councillors.

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Library roof tender update
Christmas plans – progress update
Council Harmonisation – Councillor Pakel

Meeting closed at 8.43pm

Signed:

Date:

Should anyone require a copy of the agenda in a large print format please contact the Parish Council.