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MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5TH MAY 2026 AT 6.30PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MEMORIAL HALL, FRESHWATER

Present: Councillors Turan, Bamford, Betts, Cameron, Hinton, Hobbs, Jarman, Pakel, Sealy, Whistance, Whyte

Clerk: K Gibson

Minutes: M Gardiner

Finance Officer: Paul Blackley

Agenda Item 10 (ii) – it should be noted that Papers now listed as E1-7 were previously listed as papers K1-7 on the agenda (PAPER E) but have been amended for clarity.

1. **APOLOGIES** To receive any apologies for absence.
Councillors Armstrong & Chaucer

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**
To receive any declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary (personal) interests relating to items on the agenda.
Councillors Whyte, Hobbs, Hinton and Bamford declared an interest in agenda item 10(ii) (III) as they are trustees of the Memorial Hall Arts and Leisure Company.

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 7th April 2026 (**PAPER A**).
It was proposed to agree the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 7th April 2026 (**CJ/CP**) **AGREED**

5. **WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT**
No reports will be issued due to the upcoming election.

6. OFFICER REPORTS

To receive a written update from the Clerk (**PAPER B**)

Councillor Resignation

As you are aware the Chair received the resignation from Councillor Cox. The office has notified Election Services at Isle of Wight Council. The process is to advertise the vacancy until the 12th May to give electors the chance to request an election. After the 12th May, if no election is called, we will then advertise the vacancy for Co-option.

Policy Reviews

It is that time of the year when we need to review the current FPC policies so that they can be reaffirmed at the Annual Meeting on the 19th May 2026. In this meeting's agenda there are policies that have been amended and need to be reviewed and approved. These amendments have been made to make the wording more succinct and up to date with any new statutory information. If there are any other policies, you would like to review please let me know.

Memorial Hall Exit Doors

The new emergency exit doors that were approved in April have been ordered and will be fitted in the next 2 months. The delay is because they need to be made to order as they are not the standard size.

Stroud Playing Field Play Equipment

All of the play equipment in Stroud Playing Field will be inspected by ROSPA this month. Any issues of safety on any of the equipment will be reported in the June Full Council Meeting. MUGA and the current Skate Park will also be inspected.

7. CHAIRS REPORT

To receive a report from the Chair, Cllr Frances Turan (**PAPER C**).

On the day of the last full council meeting, the skatepark committee plus Kirsty and Paul worked together setting up the launch event.

The event itself was a great success with lots of interested visitors and positive feedback.

The stands created by Men in Sheds were simple sturdy and easy to manoeuvre. They were given an extremely short deadline but stepped up and did a brilliant job.

The skateboards have now been distributed across the island for viewing until we gather them together once again for the final auction at the Yarmouth Yacht Club.

Of course, you are all aware that the IOW Council elections are just around the corner and many of us are busy supporting the various candidates.

Monday 13th I attended the skatepark committee where we discussed the final stages of the skateboard art project. The general feeling was very positive and enthusiastic. Unfortunately, Sandra Knowles a valuable team player has had to take a step back as her mother is ill in hospital. My thoughts and prayers are with

her at this time.

Monday 13th at 5pm I attended a Business Association meeting which was held by Cllr Pakel at her home. This was the first meeting and was attended by Cllr Cameron and representatives from The Bikery and Octopus. The object of the meeting was to discuss the problems facing our traders and coming up with suggestions for possible solutions. This was an interesting exercise with everything from small practical ideas to unbounded dreams and aspirations. Obviously, this has started small and there is a need to encourage more interest from the business community, but it is a start and I wish them well.

Friday 17th At the school reading with the children. Getting to know my way around and feeling accepted by everybody. Really pleased to be involved.

Monday 20th I received an email from Councillor Cox simply saying "I resign." I replied, accepting her resignation and proceeded to inform the clerk. I am sure that Kirsty will inform us of the proper procedures that need to be followed.

Tuesday 21st I attended the finance meeting which was presented very efficiently. Tara was present and unfortunately the next finance meeting will be her last as the RFO.

Thursday 23rd 10.30am skatepark meeting. Finalising details of auction, numbers, invitations, entertainment etc. Everything coming together nicely, what a team.

Saturday 25th as chair and vice chair of land management, Becca and I visited a resident who was having a problem with an invasive tree which she believed to be on council land. We promised to make enquiries.

Sunday 26th I went to see The Lady Vanishes at the Memorial Hall. It was a very enjoyable experience, and I will certainly be sure to look out for any future productions. I must mention the scenery and props which were built by men in sheds. I have taken part in amateur dramatics in the past, and the scenery was always a bit wobbly. When you closed a door the whole set shook. Not so with this scenery, it was very professionally designed and solid as a rock.

Monday 27th True to our word, Becca and I went to the office to clarify the situation re Stroud Copse. We were advised that the issue had been raised previously and Carol Bray had been dealing with the issue of ownership.

We then had a very positive meeting with Dawn who is on the Horticultural Society committee. She was very enthusiastic about Becca's suggestion to join forces and give the community the summer event they have been asking for.

Hopefully, we can agree to support this and raise the profile of Freshwater for the benefit of our residents, traders, and the tourist experience.

We then stopped at Colmans Carpets who agreed to put several large skateboard posters in the windows.

In the evening, I rang Carol Bray to clarify the position regarding Stroud Copse.

I hope to attend the FBRA meeting at 7pm Thursday 30th at which Adam Tucker is to give a presentation.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

One item of correspondence from CTWW thanking the Council for the grant funding received. (See attached).

9. UPDATE FROM THE SKATE PARK WORKING PARTY.

Councillor Pakel gave a verbal update including an update on the successful launch night of the skateboard display and details of the auction event to be held on 9th May 2026 at the Royal Solent Yatch Club, Yarmouth. Thanks are given to the Wightlink team for their generous donation of £2000 and Rapanui who have donated £1000.

10. FINANCE

- i. To review and approve the payments list (**PAPER D**).
It was proposed to approve the payments list (**CJ/DW**) **AGREED**
- ii. To review and approve the recommendations from the Finance Committee (**PAPER E**).

It should be noted that the following papers were previously listed as papers K1-7 on the issued agenda.

PAPER E1& 2 – NOTED (CJ/FT) AGREED

PAPER E3 – It was proposed to agree the recommendation of the Finance Committee – (FT/CJ) AGREED

PAPER E4 – (FT/CJ) AGREED

PAPER E5 & E6 – NOTED

PAPER E7 – subject to the amendment ‘within the agreed budget category’ to section Delegated Authority (item 3). (BS/CJ) AGREED

11. POLICY REVISIONS

To review and agree the following policy amendments.

- i. Standing Orders (**PAPER F**)
It was proposed to accept the standing orders subject to amendments:
 - To define the Principle Authority as the Isle of Wight Council
 - To remove any gender specific terms.
 - To amend item 1(u) - Rules of Debate (late arrivals) to include ‘at the discretion of the Chair’ (**CJ/CP**) **AGREED**
 - To amend item 3(s) to ‘or if 3 members so request, by secret ballot’
- ii. General Policies:
 - Anti-Harrassment and Bullying Policy (**PAPER G**) – (**DW/BC**) **AGREED**
 - Website Accessibility Statement (**PAPER H**) – (**CJ/DW**) **AGREED**
- iii. Terms of Reference Policy (**PAPER I**) – (**CP/BS**) **AGREED**
- iv. Terms of Reference for the following committees:
 - Planning Committee (**PAPER J**) – (**DW/CP**) **AGREED**

- Land Management and Assets Committee (**PAPER K**) – (**BC/BH**) **AGREED**
- Library Committee (**PAPER L**) – (**BH/CP**) **AGREED**
- Personnel Committee (**PAPER M**) – (**CP/CJ**) **AGREED**

12. FRESHWATER SPEEDWATCH OFFICER REPORT

To review and approve the attached request (**PAPER N**).

It was proposed to approve the request. (**BC/CP**) **AGREED**

13. MOA PLACE TRIANGLE

To approve the proposal by Councillor Cameron to reuse a small boat that has washed up at Freshwater Bay as a decorative planter. The boat would be painted in FPC colours and the horticulture society will plant flowers and bulbs within. An example of what it would look like is attached (**PAPER O**).

It was proposed to approve the proposal subject to social media consultation regarding siting area and costings. Once complete the matter will return to full council to agree legal responsibilities and financial details. (**BH/CJ**) **AGREED**

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Summer Event

Youth Hub

Public petition for a controlled crossing at Colwell Road (opposite Green Meadows)

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 2nd June 2026

Meeting ends at: 20.09pm