



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 3rd AUGUST 2021 AT 7.50 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
MEMORIAL HALL, FRESHWATER**

PRESENT: Councillors: D James (Chairman) A Bamford, G Cameron, B Hobbs, B Hinton MBE, C Jarman (left after item 20), G Kennett, M Locke, J Medland (left after item 20), T Murphy, and J Young
Councillor E Cox following her co-option at Item 5.

Members of the public: Cllr P Spink was in attendance

Clerk: H Rowell

- 1. APOLOGIES**
Councillors C Bray and N Thomas
- 2. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 6th JULY 2021**
The minutes of the meetings held on 6th July (having been circulated) were agreed (GK/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. APPLICATIONS FOR CO-OPTION TO FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL**
One application was received, and Emma Cox was unanimously co-opted on to the Parish Council and took her seat for the rest of the meeting.
- 6. TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNCILLORS.**
Reports received see Appendix 1

7. CLERK'S REPORT

Stroud Coppice

The Tree Survey for Stroud Coppice has been completed and Cllr Bray and Cllr Murphy are looking at the work that needs to be done.

Flooding

After the recent flooding in Freshwater village the following actions have been taken:

- a) Part of the contract with Brighstone Landscaping is a bi-annually clearing of the debris from Spin Fish and this work does not appear to have been done and therefore could have contributed to the problem. Brighstone Landscaping have been contacted requesting that this is dealt with as a matter of urgency.
- b) Jamie from Reno Drain helped with clearing the drains during the flooding for free and has been officially thanked by the Parish Council.
- c) The Administration Assistant has sourced 70 sandbags from Island Roads for use by residents.

Facilities Officer

The rubbish is being gradually cleared from the Ambulance Station and taken to the tip at no cost. Some repairs have been done to the Skate Park (replacing Skate Lite) to keep it safe.

Spin fish

The gabions as agreed have been installed by Brighstone Landscaping to protect the bank.

Gate Lane Toilets Tender

The tender for the toilets has been advertised

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted.

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

Payments (having been circulated) were agreed (GC/GK)– see appendix 2.

10. TO SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ON ITS ENFORCEMENT OF THE PLEASURE BOATS BYLAW FROM NEEDLES POINT TO FORT VICTORA, AND IN FRESHWATER BAY – CLLR JAMES

It was agreed to seek information from the Isle of Wight Council about clarification of the enforcement of this bylaw and find out who to report issues and concerns to.

11. BEACH SAFETY UPDATE – CLLR JAMES

One quote has been received to remove the buoys this year, maintain them, provide winter storage and put them back into the water next year. It was agreed to get further quotes and report back to the parish council.

12. TENDERING PROCESS FOR GATE LANE TOILETS

Following the completion of the determining of the evaluation process with the support of Cllr Locke it was agreed that the Gate Lane Toilets Committee (Cllrs Hobbs, Bamford, and Hinton MBE,) along with Cllrs Cox, Jarman, Locke, the Chairman (Cllr James) and Vice Chairman (Cllr Cameron), would evaluate the tenders and then make recommendations to the full council.

13. SKATE PARK UPDATE – CLLR LOCKE

A pre-planning application meeting is booked for Thursday 5th August.

A Skate Jam is planned for August 21st which is being supported by Rapanui, Wight Trash, Canopy Skate Park, Craft Vegan Pizzas, Don't Rain Skateboarding, Reaper Surf Company, Emo Skates, West Wood Signs and Designs, Steve Miles the artist and others in the community. It was unanimously agreed to support the event with £200 towards prizes.

Hose Rhodes have provided sponsorship of £5,000 for this year, and there has been a press release.

14. WARNING FLAG FOR COLWELL – CLLR JAMES

Following concerns about water safety due to sewage out flow, would it be useful to consider a warning flag? Cllr Locke informed Cllrs that the IW Council does provide warning signs on the notice board at Colwell, as required by the Environment Agency. Cllr Jarman agreed to raise the proposal of a flag with the IW Council.

15. PROPOSAL TO ELECT CLLR KENNETT ON TO THE STAFFING COMMITTEE – CLLR BAMFORD

It was unanimously agreed to elect Cllr Kennett on to the staffing committee.

16. TO ASK FOR A VOLUNTEER FO REPRESENT THE PARISH COUNCIL AT THE MEETINGS OF THE AGE FRIENDLY ISLAND PUBLIC FORUM WEST WIGHT

Cllr Cameron offered to take on this role and was duly elected as the parish council representative.

17. GREEN TEAM VOLUNTEER EQUIPMENT – CLLR MURPHY

Cllr Murphy requested approval for the purchase of equipment for the volunteers to use when working for the parish as part of this community project. It was agreed that this would go forward as a project and be funded as such. Cllr Jarman offered some tools to support this work which was gratefully accepted.

18. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING EXTERNAL MEETINGS:

The following reports were received:

- Yarmouth Harbour Advisory Committee - Cllr Bamford
- FYT Bus Trustees – Cllr Cameron

19. IWC ASSETS IN FRESHWATER PARISH – CLLR MEDLAND

It was agreed to arrange a separate meeting to discuss this in more detail.

20. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

- Christmas 2021
- Community Resilience

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm.

Freshwater Parish Council Meeting July 5th 2021 – Appendix 1

IW Councillor's Report to Freshwater Parish Council

IW Cllr John Medland, Freshwater South Ward

July 5th 2021

Dear members

You will be pleased to know that there is some creeping progress on the Causeway. The reason for the impasse is that Island Roads resurfaced the Causeway three years ago considering it as an engineering problem, but they did not realise that it was part of the conservation area. Their work was halted by the IWC and IWC's conservation officer argued that they remove the new resurfacing to reduce the heightened level of the road surface. Island Roads argued that they would not do this as it would leave the bridge structurally at risk. They also wanted modern barriers that meet the specifications of stopping a vehicle direct collision.

Thankfully since the election and kicking up a fuss the various staff are now talking to one another to find a solution. The next step will be to dig some experimental holes to consider how to treat the verges, which are now at a level below the road surface and in some cases eroding.

Personally, I see a final compromise being an acceptance of the IR engineering that has already happened but IR compromising to IWC over the new barriers, so that they are like for like post and rail. Finally, there will be the usual haggle over money.

This could all be assisted by the IWC reducing the speed of traffic on the Causeway to 20MPH, adopting a 'Quiet Lane' status and/or making it one way. This would make it easier for IR to accept the post and rail replacement. It would also address safety concerns that were repeatedly raised with me during the election campaign. The new Newport to Freshwater Bay 'Greenway' crossing the road here will further increase the potential for accidents.

I would like to hear your opinions on this. As a non-driver I need to be informed by motorists on the implications of a 'quiet lane' status which is my preferred option or one way system which is less preferred.

On a related theme I carried out a survey of Afton Road residents a week ago asking them for yes no answers on six issues which came up during the election campaign; their opinion on the road being used for motor-cycle racing, whether Afton Road should be all 30 MPH rather than almost all 40MPH, whether their properties are affected by flooding since the Island Roads resurfacing, whether cyclists should be diverted onto a new cycleway across the Marsh to Blackbridge Road, whether there should be a kerb to prevent drivers parking on the footway, and whether the footway from the garage to the supermarket should be improved. I'm hoping to publish the completed results soon, but the obvious outcome is that reducing speed on Afton Road is most resident's clear priority, with 36 responses in favour of a 30MPH limit with just 4 preferring the status quo. One attractive alternative to kerbing is a combination of water gully and more white wooden posts. I will let you all have a link to the full report when it is done.

Best wishes.

Cllr Chris Jarman JP – Totland and Colwell

**IWC Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Strategic Finance, Transformational Change,
Resources**

Chair Investigation & Disciplinary Committee

Chair Pension Fund

Member Planning Committee

Member Harbours Committee

The last month has concentrated on reviews of IWC Finances, Debt, Borrowing and Investments. In the spirit of the Alliance policy on being open and transparent, we have already released publicly our inheritance of a £400m debt and confirmation that all of the IWC c.£35 capital investments had previously been placed off-Island.

Detailed financial analysis continues in relation to the impact of Covid-19. The results to date this year reflect the reductions from parking and use of social and health facilities, coupled with additional expenditures that have only partly (approximately 1/6th) been reimbursed by HM Government. The remaining a.5/6ths needs to be found from IWC existing budgets.

Council has initiated reviews of IWC assets and is now commencing local discussions regarding their best use going forward. These include dialogue with Parish and Town Councils.

The Alliance has defined the 50 aims for this administration over the next 4 years and these are being fleshed out to provide an updated IWC plan. Key is to substantially increase transparency and to open the work of the IWC to residents.

Individual Portfolio holders have initiated many of these aims including reviews of portfolio budgets and operational challenges including Island Roads, Waste Management and Floating Bridge.

Particular emphasis is currently focussed on our Island Plan incorporating finance, housing need, planning and transport.

For clarification, IWC Chief Executive has issued advice to staff confirming that the IWC does not have a ‘Shadow Cabinet’ within its constitution. It has been clarified that, although this term has been used in the press, it is purely an internal matter for the Conservative Party and has no bearing on the internal work of IWC. Similar confirmation has been issued by the IWC Leader.

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Peter Spink, IoW Council Member for Freshwater North and Yarmouth.

Since my last report the Conservatives have formed a Shadow Cabinet and I hold the portfolio for Housing and Planning. I am also a member of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, The Appeals Committee, and the Licensing Committee.

I am able to update the Committee re the following matters that were contained in my previous report:

1. **Felling of trees at Silver Glades Caravan Park Cranmore and Lockett's Farm, Yarmouth:** Both matters are still under investigation and I am continuing to monitor the situation.
2. Yesterday I attended a briefing on the **Council's Draft Housing Plan**. The briefing was by way of a summary and a copy of the Plan will be made available to me soon; I will report the contents to you at the next Meeting. The Plan will be going out for consultation this month.
3. With regard to enquiries from residents (referred to in my last report), I understand that the parking problems/obstruction to bus-stops in Heathfield Road have eased: unfortunately the fencing/bollards on Bouldnor Road (near to the junction with Thorley Road) were the result of land movement, the precise cause of which is still being ascertained.
4. I have objected to the application by West-Bay for the variation of conditions and requested that the matter be heard by the Planning Committee. However, my objection has not yet appeared on the Planning site; I will contact the Planning Department in this regard.

Best wishes,

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Freshwater Parish Council

Transaction Detail by Account

August 2021

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Administration Expenses	
Admin, Training & Office Costs	
Admin Other Costs	£25
Bookkeeping	£30
Communications	£60
Office Costs	£302
Stationery	£764
Total for Admin, Training & Office Costs	£1,181
Other Administration Expenses	
Bank charges	£7
Photocopier	£166
Total for Other Administration Expenses	£173
Total for Staff Salaries	£7,653
Total for Administration Expenses	£9,007
Grants & Projects	
Current Grants & Projects	
Community Connector	£16
Heritage Centre	£25
Total for Current Grants & Projects	£40
Future Grants & Projects	
Skatepark and Pump Track	£250
Total for Future Grants & Projects	£250
Total for Grants & Projects	£290
Services Expenses	
Allotments	£52
Land Management & Trees	
Committed Contracts	£2,696
Land Management	£1,750
Total for Land Management & Trees	£4,446
Library	£787
Motor vehicle Expenditure	£50
Old Ambulance Station	£3,787
Parish Facilities Officer	£1,005
Public Toilets	£1,970
Stroud Coppice	£187
Total for Services Expenses	£12,285
Youth Expenses	
Skatepark & MUGA	



Freshwater Parish Council

Transaction Detail by Account

August 2021

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
MUGA Expenses	£70
Total for Skatepark & MUGA	£70
Total for Youth Expenses	£70