



DRAFT

FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 7th DECEMBER 2021 AT 7.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
MEMORIAL HALL, FRESHWATER**

PRESENT: Councillors: D James (Chairman) A Bamford, C Bray, G Cameron, B Hobbs, G Kennett, C Jarman, and J Medland.

Members of the public: 3 including Cllr P Skink.

Clerk: H Rowell

1. APOLOGIES

Councillors E Cox, B Hinton MBE and N Thomas

**2. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON THE 2nd NOVEMBER 2021 AND THE EXTRAORDINARY
MEETING ON THE 16th NOVEMBER 2021.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November (having been circulated) were agreed (CB/CJ). The minutes of the meeting held on 16th November (having been circulated) were agreed (BH/CB)

**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)**

Members of the public asked questions about how to join the Parish Council. The forthcoming process as detailed in the Clerk's Report (item 6) was explained.

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

Reports received see Appendix 1

6. CLERK'S REPORT (CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS)

Parish Office

An air conditioning and heating unit is being fitted in the parish office this month which will provide heating or air conditioning and provide a cost-effective solution for efficient heating and ventilation.

Parish Councillor Vacancies

Following recent councillor resignations (Cllr Locke, Cllr Murphy) and the death of Cllr Young a notice will be published on Friday in the County Press about the vacancies in Colwell Ward and Freshwater South War. This will provide the opportunity for residents to request an election is held, as long as they notify the Isle of Wight Council by the 4th January 2022. If an election isn't called then invitations for co-option will be published in January 2022, with a view to interviewing candidates at the February Parish Council meeting.

Bench on the green by Spinfish

A resident has contacted us about the bench on the green by Spinfish, opposite London House Cottages, asking if it would be possible to have it removed. Apparently, groups of people are meeting in the evenings, there is drug use and it is quite noisy. The resident has reported it to the police. The resident suggests that if the bench was removed it could dissuade nightly gatherings. We will raise this with the police at our monthly meetings.

Memorial Hall

The damp work at the rear of the Memorial Hall has been completed, along with patch pointing to the side of the courtyard wall.

All Saints School Site

The Clerk contacted the Chair of Yarmouth C/E School to invite them to provide an update to councillors. This was the reply received "Thank you very much for getting in touch with us and taking an interest in the progress of the new school project in Freshwater. It is very much appreciated.

You may be aware of the press release from the Local Authority on 17th November confirming that the work on the new school would start soon. I add the link here for your information:

<https://iow-newsroom.prgloo.com/news/west-wight-school>. The project is expected to take over a year.

I trust this is helpful."

Brookside Stream

Following the reports of the pink stream we have been advised that it could have been caused by a drain dye used to trace a possible stormwater line or someone may have washed something down a road gully.

Mental Health Needs Interview

The Clerk has taken part in a mental health needs assessment interview providing information to public health about the impact of the pandemic on Freshwater, and the local response and legacy of the hub.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted.

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

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

9. DRAFT BUDGET AND PRECEPT APPROVAL - CLLR BAMFORD

It was unanimously agreed to move forward to public consultation with a budget of £463,000 for 2022/23 with a proposed precept increase of 5% which equates to an additional £5.57 for a Band D property.

10. PUBLIC CONSULTATION – CLLR CAMERON

It was agreed to hold the public consultation on the 26th January 2022 in the small hall at the Memorial Hall. A morning session and a late afternoon/evening session.

11. ALLOTMENT CHAIRMANSHIP

Cllr Bray was proposed to be the new chair of allotments. Agreed unanimously.

12. FRESHWATER BAY COASTERING BUSINESS PROPOSAL – CLLR BAMFORD

It was agreed to invite Chris Mannion and Adam Barnes of IOW Surf to the next parish meeting to discuss the proposal.

13. COMMUNITY GRANTS – CLLR BAMFORD

A grant of £500 to the West Wight Time Bank was approved.

14. PARISH EMAIL SYSTEM – CLLR COX

It was agreed that all councillors would use the parish email address in all parish council correspondence.

15. LADY OF SHALOTT – CLLR MEDLAND

Still awaiting information about the costs associated with transporting the statue to the Island, and the erection of a plinth. Cllr James will work with Cllr Medland to determine detailed costs and possible location.

16. FRESHWATER BAY RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION AGM/REPORT – CLLR COX

Report noted in Cllr Cox's absence.

17. CHRISTMAS REPORT – CLLR BRAY

There are 15 entries for the window competition, all decorations are in place and thanks were expressed to the Administration Assistant for all her hard work.

18. GATE LANE TOILETS UPDATE – CLLR HOBBS

A meeting has been held with the Stonhams Construction. Conversations are being held with SSE about moving the electricity pole and with Island Roads about placement of the site office.

19. APPROVE MEETING DATES FOR 2022

Meeting dates were unanimously agreed.

20. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

- Presentation from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
- Presentation about the Kick Start Programme
- IWC Assets in Freshwater Meeting

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 of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

21. TO AGREE LAND MANAGEMENT TENDER ADVERTS

The new tender adverts were unanimously approved.

22. TO APPROVE ALLOTMENTS PROPOSAL FOR NEW PATH

The proposal and quote from G Bicheno was unanimously approved.

23. STAFF SALARIES – CLLR KENNETT

The proposal from the Staffing Committee was approved with an agreement for a review in six months.

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The meeting closed at 9.38 pm.