



FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 2nd AUGUST 2022 AT 7.04 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
MEMORIAL HALL, FRESHWATER**

PRESENT: Councillors: D James (Chairman) C Bray, G Cameron, E Cox, C Jarman, G Kennett, J Medland, D Hicklin, B Hinton MBE, B Hobbs, L Becker, K Fosbury (until 8.37pm), and N Thomas

Members of the public: 1

Clerk: H Rowell

1. **APOLOGIES**
Councillors D Hicklin and J Medland
2. **TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 5th JULY 2022.**
The minutes of the meeting held on 5th July (having been circulated) were agreed (EC/GC).
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. **TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNCILLORS.**
Reports received see Appendix 1.
6. **CLERK'S REPORT (CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS)**

Gate Lane Toilets

Portaloos are now in situation at Gate Lane, to help with the demand. The contractors are still waiting for Southern Electric to remove the pole.

Benches

All the new benches are now in place at Freshwater Bay and we have received a great deal of positive comments.

Trees

The tree work is starting in Spinfish next week as required by the tree survey, and we have notified residents through social media. Southern Electric have done the work on the trees that were interfering with the cables.

Hose Pipe Ban

Notices have been put up at the Allotments, advising holders about the hosepipe ban commencing on Friday

MUGA

All the glass fronts of the floodlights at the MUGA were smashed on Monday 1st August.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted.

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

Payments (having been circulated) were agreed (EC/KF)– see appendix 2.

9. FRESHWATER BOAT PARK – CLLR KENNETT

There was a discussion about the use of boat spaces in the Boat Park and in particular the siting of the Coasteering Business Trailer. Freshwater Inshore Lifeboat are happy to site the trailer on their land. It was agreed to check previous Minutes to determine the decisions that have been made, in relation to the Coasteering Trailer on the Boat Park for the 2022 season. It was proposed and seconded that we review the existing Terms of Reference for the Boat Park that 'Trailers mean Boat Trailers'.

10. WEST WIGHT FOOD PANTRY – CLLR THOMAS

The following draft business plan was proposed:

The Project: Under the Isle of Wight Council, Connect4 Communities have commissioned organisations to set up and deliver a Community Pantry for at least 6 months. The funding would be for 6 months only.

Project Partners: Freshwater Parish Council, West Wight Timebank, Real Junk Food Project. Freshwater and Totland *United Charities Trust (TBC), Churches Together (TBC)*

Benefit and Outcomes: Unlike a Food Bank, members who wish to access the Food Pantry will be allowed the choice to of their own items. Often in a Food Bank, a volunteer will pick items at random for the individual. Allowing Pantry members, choice allows them to have

dignity. The pantry will also allow the community's most vulnerable members the chance to purchase their own items for potentially the first time.

A Food Pantry enables members to have the chance to learn how to budget more efficiently and meet other people who may be in similar situations. The West Wight Community Food Pantry will be a place which will promote positive mental health awareness. Often people on a low income will struggle to maintain their mental health due to financial constraints which often hinder how much money can be allocated to their weekly food shop.

The West Wight Community Pantry will operate in a 'Trauma informed manner' which will mean a non-judgemental environment which is there to signpost members to further services if they require additional support.

The Nature of the Community:

Below is an example of our demographic composition from Freshwater South Ward 2011, as data for the 2021 census is still being finalised.

Freshwater South Ward (as of 2011)			
Age Count		%	
All usual residents	2,903	100.0	
Age 0 to 4	103	3.5	
Age 5 to 7	69	2.4	
Age 8 to 9	45	1.6	
Age 10 to 14	147	5.1	
Age 15	29	1.0	
Age 16 to 17	67	2.3	
Age 18 to 19	40	1.4	
Age 20 to 24	122	4.2	
Age 25 to 29	98	3.4	
Age 30 to 44	370	12.7	
Age 45 to 59	580	20.0	
Age 60 to 64	300	10.3	
Age 65 to 74	461	15.9	
Age 75 to 84	329	11.3	

Freshwater South Ward (as of 2011)			
Age Count	%		
Age 85 to 89	93	3.2	
Age 90 and over	50	1.7	
Mean Age	49.6	-	
Median Age	54	-	

Source: ONS - 2011 Census
(KS102EW)

-These figures are missing.
In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas. Some counts will be affected, particularly small counts at the lowest geographies

Freshwater South has a high proportion of people of retirement age which means the obvious source of employment is Care related often paid at the National Minimum Wage or just a few pence above.

Research and Community Support: There is no shortage of Community Support within the West Wight. The key reason why it is important for Freshwater Parish Council to be the main project driver is because it is vital in our ever-changing world to take the Parish Council out into the local community.

Pantry Overview: The main West Wight Pantry will operate from the Freshwater Parish Hall (Times/Date TBC) which will serve the southern parts of Freshwater and a "Pop Up" Pantry will operate from Green Meadows, Residential Village operated by Southern Housing Group which will serve the northern parts of Freshwater and Colwell. (Times/Date TBC)

Delivery: As both locations are low rent, and some support will be provided by volunteers this will ensure that the running costs are small. If members in the future requested specific items like baby items or ones for a specific diet, then the cost of delivery could increase. We would like to offer delivery to those vulnerable and disabled members of the community who may not be able to access the pantry in person. The delivery would be something which the Timebank would coordinate depending on how many people require this. We acknowledge that our geographical location may mean it is hard for people to access services.

As the cost of fuel is steadily increasing, we may have to in the future re consider whether a small charge is made to drop off items to members homes.

Governance and Management – Due to the nature of the project it is important that the Project Manager has the relevant qualifications to manage the project effectively.

- Food Hygiene Certificate
- DBS Check
- First Aid Certificate
- Understanding of Dignity and Safeguarding

Dignity and Safeguarding are especially important for the ‘‘ Pop Up’’ Pantry which will operate in the Residential Village setting of Green Meadows. For the volunteers who support the Green Meadows ‘‘ Pop up’’ it is favourable that they have been DBS Checked as there could be encounters with vulnerable adults.

Eligibility of Members – A Food Pantry operates very differently to a Food Bank. Individuals who are looking to purchase food can access the Food Pantry. There are no set criteria from Connect4Communities which require that they must be in receipt of a specific benefit to access the service. If the Pantry was to break away from Connect4communities in the future, then setting membership criteria could be explored.

Staffing and Resources

Pantry Manager (Part -time) – Due to the nature of the project a Pantry Manager will be required to oversee the operation of the Community Pantry project. The Pantry Manager will be responsible for ensuring the dignity and safeguarding of all pantry members is maintained at all times. The Pantry Manager will be the face and main lead of the project in the West Wight, and they will be responsible for meeting with stakeholders, council members and other key organisations involved in the project.

Key Pantry ‘‘- Volunteer Roles’’ – To ensure the overall success of the Project. The following roles will need to be recruited/

- Pantry Project Treasurer – This role will involve the individual collecting the membership fees and banking them accordingly.

- Pantry Project Marketing – This role will involve the individual overseeing the overall marketing and PR of the Food Pantry.
- Pantry Project Fundraising – This role will involve leading a team of volunteers in fundraising incentives to ensure the long-term financial stability of the Food Pantry.

Sally Gaeta from the West Wight Timebank has offered support to find volunteers. Cllr Natalie Thomas will explore opportunities from Churches Together West Wight to see if volunteers can be recruited from there.

Opening Hours:

Freshwater Village Hall – Dates/Times TBC

Freshwater Green Meadows – Dates/Times TBC

Marketing Strategy: Posters and leaflets will be designed to reach local residents who are not online. A series of press releases will announce and develop the story of the Pantry in the local media. A dedicated Social Media page will be created for the West Wight Pantry. Due to the demographics of the West Wight, Facebook and Instagram will be explored to ensure that the correct “reach” can be obtained. Social media could be an important tool moving forward because it might be one way of communicating with the wider West Wight community.

Initially our brand marketing will come under the Isle of Wight Connect4Communities umbrella but as the project moves forward to ensure long term financial stability and viability, we might adapt our own brand marketing.

The 5 Key principles of our Marketing Strategy will be as follows:

Product -This will be following a similar model used in the East Cowes Pantry which will be 10 items of which 2 of them will be “Gold” valued items which may be Sausages, Mince etc the other 8 items would be cheaper valued items like Tins.

Price – This will be following the Connect4Communities model of £5 a week for £15 worth of items for the initial six month funded period.

Promotion – The West Wight Community Pantry will be promoted in local newsletters and promoted through the community network which is already established in the West Wight.

Place – The West Wight Community Pantry will have 2 locations initially – Freshwater Parish Hall and Freshwater Green Meadows.

People – Anyone who is looking for affordable food. This is not necessarily those who are in a crisis.

Funding Opportunities – Grants from government, local councils, third-party charities, private donations of food and cash. Events run by the fundraising team.

Financial Model – Aiming to be self-sustaining within six months after launch.

Project Financial Projections: Building a financial reserve from twelve months after launch.

Project is in developmental stage – NT 8/22

11. WIGHTFIBRE IN QUEENS ROAD - CLLR FOSBURY

Concerns were raised about the siting of some of the new white cabinets, and damage to Memorial Land. Cllr Bray and the Clerk are meeting with the contractors on Thursday 4th August 2022. It was unanimously agreed to write to Wightfibre about the infrastructure parish land and the conservation areas.

12. IWALC AGM REPORT – CLLR BAMFORD

Cllr Bamford reported that she was elected as Vice Chair of IWALC at the AGM on the 28th July 2022. The AGM was well attended by 25 out of the 28 member councils. Cllr Bamford was congratulated on her appointment.

13. MEMORIAL HALL UPDATE

Some research has been undertaken so far with the help of FATAG, to uncover the ownership details. A letter has been received from Totland Parish Council with a proposed valuation and offer of sale. Further research is ongoing including making contact with Eldridges. It was agreed to respond to Totland Parish Council explaining that a decision cannot be made until ownership has been established.

14. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS

- Update on the Ukrainian families in the West Wight – Cllr Jarman
- Strategy Group – Cllr Becker

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 because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

15. TO ADOPT A STATEMENT ON THE DRAFT ISLAND PLANNING STRATEGY – CLLR FOSBURY.

A meeting was held via zoom following a request from Bembridge Parish Council to meet and discuss a possible press release in connection with the Draft Island Planning Strategy. It was agreed that any press release should not be issued jointly with political groups, and activist groups, as had been suggested at the meeting with Bembridge Parish Council. The Clerk raised concerns and suggested in light of this that it would be helpful to adopt a media policy to protect the parish council. A draft will be shared with councillors. The Chairman will draft a revised version and share it with councillors for their views. Cllr Fosbury left the meeting during this item.

16. THE FUTURE OF WEST WIGHT HERITAGE CENTRE PROPOSAL – CLLR MEDLAND

This item was deferred until the next meeting due to Cllr Medland sending his apologies.

**17. HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD (HAF) GRANT PROGRAMME –
SIGNPOSTING – CLLRS JAMES AND THOMAS.**

The Parish Council have been awarded a grant of £4,500 from Hampshire County Council, to provide signposting to local families who meet certain criteria, for holiday activities during the summer. We have engaged with West Wight Nursery to work closely with them in delivery this project.

18. ALLOTMENT FOOTPATH QUOTES -CLLR BRAY

It was previously approved to improve the footpath to the allotments. The approved contractor has been unable to undertake the work. Three further quotes were presented, and it was agreed to award the contract to Mark Adams Maintenance Services.

The meeting closed at 8.56pm.

Cllr Chris Jarman's Report – Totland and Colwell

My Ward Surgeries continue every Thursday and provide a regular drop-in facility for local residents with issues or concerns.

Key local issues over the past month have been parking of camper vans in passing places and turn-around areas, height of hedges and the continuing saga of Wightfibre disruption.

A petition from residents of Colwell was submitted on the parking issue and passed on to the Cabinet member for Highways to add to the submissions to the update of the islandwide traffic consultation.

The designated bird nesting period is far from over but some hedge cutting has now resumed to alleviate the more severe problem areas.

Wightfibre remain 'on report' but our influence seems limited to ensuring that they abide by the regulations on road closures and diversions and that they do a reasonable job of restoration after their installation. Many will now be aware that Openreach have announced they will be following hot on the heels of Wightfibre with their own £13.5 million implementation of fibre upgrades to start soon and run through until December 2026 - another 4 years of major works.

A new policy was passed at IWCouncil Cabinet with regard to Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs). Previously there had been considerable confusion regarding the different application routes for these and the process by which they were managed. There were also numerous examples of TROs being added to planning applications on the presumption that they would be allowed. The new policy clarifies the IWC position on when TROs may be applicable and the differing protocols for dealing with concerns depending on the level of objections. It also clarifies some communication issues and the involvement of local elected representatives, the Cabinet member for Highways and Infrastructure and of the Cabinet themselves.

The Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) consultation regarding potential yellow lines/no waiting-parking on Colwell Road and Birch closed with around 60 objections. The matter is expected to come before the IWCouncil Cabinet later this year.

A substantial new cross party working group has been formed by IWC named Transformational Change Working Group. It was formally announced at a recent Cabinet meeting after many months of internal discussions and advice from the LGA. Its purpose is to review the organisation, processes and procedures of the IWC and to determine which model would best suit moving forward, how this should be implemented and any consequential updates to the Constitution and Code of Conduct. A number of sub-groups have also been formed under TCWG to deal with specific topics and also to ensure that other existing business analysis is aligned with the broader work. Key stakeholders in this work are the IW Town, Parish and Community Councils. First discussions have been held with IWALC and will rapidly be expanded to include all such bodies.

I have attended various community discussions regarding the draft Island Planning Strategy. These have continued to demonstrate the very significant concerns of local residents on overdevelopment, second homes, AirBnB properties, sewage, lack of local infrastructure including doctors, dentists and the care sector. They have also been a sounding board for

what is needed locally regarding infrastructure upgrades, full time employment opportunities and 1-2 bedroom rental properties affordable to islanders.



Freshwater Parish Council

Transaction Detail by Account

July 2022

DATE	ACCOUNT	SUPPLIER	MEMO/DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	A/P PAID
Administration Expenses					
Admin, Training & Office Costs					
	Bookkeeping			£32.00	
	Communications			£347.52	
	Office Rent			£1,030.42	
Total for Admin, Training & Office Costs				£1,409.94	
Other Administration Expenses					
	Bank charges			£11.50	
	Photocopier			£172.88	
Total for Other Administration Expenses				£184.38	
	Staff Salaries			£15,546.80	
Total for Administration Expenses				£17,141.12	
Grants & Projects					
Current Projects					
	New Gate Lane toilets			£246.00	
Total for Current Projects				£246.00	
Grants					
Current Grants					
	Community Connector			£16.95	
	Heritage Centre			£86.31	
Total for Current Grants				£103.26	
Total for Grants				£103.26	
Total for Grants & Projects				£349.26	
Services Expenses					
Events					
	Platinum Jubilee Event			£4,160.57	
Total for Events				£4,160.57	
	Freshwater Bay Boat Park			£1,660.00	
Land Management & Trees					
	Committed Contracts			£52.83	
	Jubilee Field			£58.33	
Total for Land Management & Trees				£111.16	
Library					
	Library General Costs			£1,528.23	
Total for Library				£1,528.23	
	Motor vehicle Expenditure			£75.78	
	Old Ambulance Station			£119.10	
	Parish Facilities Officer			£945.00	
	Public Toilets			£1,706.77	
	Stroud Coppice			£420.00	
	Stroud Playing Fields			£345.00	
Total for Services Expenses				£11,071.61	
Youth Expenses					
Skatepark & MUGA					
	Skatepark Expenses			£105.29	
Total for Skatepark & MUGA				£105.29	
Total for Youth Expenses				£105.29	