



Draft

FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office 01983 752000

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 4th JULY AT 7.24 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MEMORIAL
HALL, FRESHWATER**

PRESENT: Councillors: G Kennett (Chair), A Bamford, C Bray, E Cox, B Hinton MBE, D James, C Jarman, J Medland, N Thomas (until 9pm) and E Roberts.

Members of the public: 2 including Cllr Peter Spink (for the early part of the meeting to give his report).

Clerk: H Rowell

Adam Tucker gave a presentation of the work of the Community Connector in the West Wight.

1. **APOLOGIES:**
Councillor K Fosbury, B Hobbs and D Hicklin.
2. **TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE FRESHWATER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 6th JUNE 2023.**
The minutes of the meeting held on 6th June (having been circulated) were agreed (EC/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. **TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS FROM FRESHWATER WARD COUNCILLORS.**
Reports received see Appendix 1.
6. **CLERK'S REPORT (CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS).**
Library Meeting
A positive meeting was held at the library between the PC, FOFL and IWC Library Services on 13th June. The discussion included security of the building, the gardens the lighting of the

library steps and how we can improve communications. Quarterly meetings have been agreed.

Co-option

An election wasn't requested by residents so a co-option notice will be put up this week with candidates invited to the August meeting of the Parish Council.

IWALC

The IWALC AGM was held last week, and Cllr Bamford has been elected Chair and Cllr Cox elected to be the IWC Planning Committee representative.

Picnic Benches

The benches that were vandalised on the Stroud and School Green Road have been mended.



Gate Lane Toilets

The electric meter has now been fitted, the electrician is booked to test and commission the installation, the plumber will follow to test the boilers and commission the plumbing, and on Thursday 6th July the building inspector will be making his final inspection and hopefully signing off.

So, assuming all that goes to plan, we will be picking up the keys on Friday morning.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

Noted.

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

Payments for June were presented and agreed see Appendix 2 (EC/CB).

9. POLICE BEAT SURGERY REPORT AND THE ROLE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – CLLR JARMAN.

The report focussed on issues relating to reporting incidents either via the website or by phone and the meetings held with the Inspector at County Hall, and locally at the WWSCC. A coordinated list has been collated for effective reporting.

10. TO RATIFY THE AGAR SUBMISSION.

The AGAR submission for the year 2022/23 was ratified. ((EC/JM).

11. FINANCE MEETING REPORT AND RECOMENDATIONS – CLLR THOMAS.

The following grant applications were approved and ratified following recommendations from the Finance Meeting:

- Action for Support - £250.00.
- All Saints Church Parish Hall - £1,920.00 with a plaque noting the donation from the Parish Council.
- Colwell Baptist Church - £800.00.
- Community Connector - £10,000.00
- Freshwater and Yarmouth CofE Primary School - £1,000.00 to support the costs for a piano, with a plaque donated by the parish council.

It was proposed to bring an updated Grant Policy for consideration to a future Parish Council Meeting.

12. TO APPROVE ACTION IN RESPECT OF THE STROUD COPPICE REPORT (CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS) – CLLR BRAY.

It was agreed to accept the quote from Wayne Isaacson Consultancy to complete a Woodland Management Plan for the Coppice. Once the plan has been produced it will form part of the public consultation in January 2024.

13. WEST WIGHT HERITAGE CENTRE – CLLR MEDLAND

It was agreed that Cllr Medland will come back to the Council with a fully costed proposal. It was agreed to let the landlord know that we intend to exercise the break clause in the lease that is effective in July 2024.

14. SKATE PARK REPORT – CLLR JAMES

A meeting of the Skate Park Committee was held by Zoom and it was agreed that the Skate Park budget of £2000 will be used to repair the current Skate Park, to enable it to reopen as soon as possible.

15. PARISH COUNCIL STRATEGY – CLLR MEDLAND

The following proposal was presented to consider the following:

Aim: What are the Parish's strategic priorities in the next 5 years?

- What are the key challenges currently facing our community? Consider current JSNA social data indicating social need, employment and training and housing/accommodation bottlenecks.
- What resources do we have to meet these challenges? Current Parish Plan, Village Design Statement and Neighbourhood Plan, FPC budget and staffing, our current limits.
- What potential opportunities do we have to develop socio-economically. Community assets such as the WWSCC Trust, and our networks of NGO's and local businesses.

The process I have often seen used is to create a mixed group of three people and ask them to brainstorm around a particular question posed by the trainer and then rotating to different questions on different tables or working in larger groups until all the still agreed ideas are proposed to the whole meeting and agreed as a collective vision.

I feel we should also use a technique similar to this to enliven our Annual Parish meetings to make them an educational experience for anyone wanting to know what the parish council is for, what it wants to achieve and how it plans to get there. It would be good to include a range of community stakeholders in this wider process of definition of our public community priorities.

It was agreed to explore with IWALC who has a current Strategy that the council could learn from and look for a date in October for a combined staff and councillor workshop.

16. YOUTH SHELTER – CLLR HICKLIN

In Cllr Hicklin's absence this item was deferred until a future meeting.

17. TO AGREE PROPOSED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS.

- Committee Terms of Reference
- Collection bins in Moa Place Car Park
- Proposal about the intensity of emailing.

- Invite PC Gunter to future meetings.
- West Wight Town and Parish Councils Association Feedback – Minutes to be circulated.

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.

18. STAFFING COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr James was elected Chair and Cllr Cox Vice- Chair. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 5th June 2023 will be circulated to all councillors.

The meeting closed at 9.14 pm.

Cllr Chris Jarman's Report – Ward Councillor Totland and Colwell

I was away for 10 days of the month attending the graduations of my son in Los Angeles. I have also the past month been called upon to deal with additional matters at IWMagistrates Court. My report is therefore necessarily shorter.

The finance committee meeting was taken in my place by Natalie. We held an online zoom discussion prior to coordinate.

I attended and contributed to the Armed Forces Fund Raiser at Royal Solent Yacht Club on 24th Jun including the presentation of a cheque to the Isle of Wight branch. I also joined in their celebrations on 25th Jun.

Local Police Matters:

Having continued to escalate local ASB youth issues we secured a meeting with Police Insp Matt Gooding on 30th Jun and an additional Police Beat Surgery on 1st Jul.

The session with PInsp Gooding was very productive and focused both on technical issues and the general pattern of crimes.

We covered status reviews of various West Wight complaints, progression of cases through MASH and with CPS, and clarification of the reporting mechanisms available to local residents online, by telephone, in person and anonymously.

With PInsp Gooding, we tried some of the 101 reporting systems from the police UK website which proved to be no longer working.

Pinsp Gooding confirmed that the £5,000 grant for WWSCC had not been submitted. He undertook to progress a 12 month application for £10,000 for a wider programme of events. It was agreed that this meeting between the PInsp and WestWight Councillors would continue fortnightly for as long as necessary.

The Police Beat Surgery was widely advertised, albeit as rather short notice, and was attended by only a few (less than 20?) residents.

Those that did attend were able to discuss their own specific problems, reporting mechanisms and to fill out forms providing much needed intelligence.

I am also supporting a number of local residents that are victims of Adult ASB and Environmental Health Issues by facilitating both the connection into various functions at CH and into our local police.

Accessibility:

Following complaints regarding overgrowth of hedges blocking pedestrian and mobility access on pavements, I have inspected the various sites, filed same with photos and followed up with Island Roads on each issue.

The District Steward was able to attend each of the sites and enforcement letters are to be issued to the associated households.

Cllr Peter Spink's Report – Ward Councillor Yarmouth and Freshwater North

As ever there is a clash of meetings tonight and I am expected to be at both Yarmouth TC and Freshwater PC! My 'solution' is to attend FPC at 6.45 this evening. I hope to be able to give my report together with answering any questions that the Parish Council wishes to ask of me, and to then attend the YTC.

Anti Social Behaviour: I am concerned to hear that the anti-social behaviour is continuing and indeed worsening. Last Friday I attended a meeting with the police, together with Cllrs Medland, Jarman, and Lucioni which was called to consider the way forward. We raised the continuing problem re the lack of response to 101 calls together with 999 services not treating ASB as an emergency. In my view much of what has happened recently exceeds ASB and it is important when reporting such incidents that it is made clear that the conduct is both threatening and taking place at the time of the call; the officer present at the meeting said that incidents that meet this criteria should be made via 999.

The main culprit(s) are being dealt with by the criminal justice system (although for some this is seen as a 'badge of honour') and Officer Gunter has gone above and beyond her duty in order to address the problem.

Claire Griffin continues to work hard to find a 'social solution' by organising extra classes at the sports centre; I was annoyed to hear, however, that the funding for this has yet to materialise. I raised this at the meeting and was assured that funding will be made available asap. I am bound to say that I find the delay to be unacceptable given the very clear pledges that were given at the public meetings. I will, of course, continue to work with all concerned to address this problem.

I was saddened to hear of the tragic and fatal accident at the junction of Pixley Hill with the main road. This has resulted in a number of residents contacting me requesting a reduction of the speed limit on both roads. I have written to Cllr Jordan about this. He has assured me that very careful consideration will be given to the causes of the accident which will be identified by the police accident report.

A further accident which took place near to the junction with Norton Green has also been reported to me. This involved a car striking a pedestrian. I intend to write to Cllr Jordan re this matter.

I have as ever, been busy in my role on corporate scrutiny, planning committee, the Yarmouth Harbour advisory committee and chair of the planning protocol working group.

Cllr John Medland's Report – Ward Councillor Freshwater North

Dear members

In the face of continuing vandalism and abuse by a group of local youth Cllrs. Jarman, Spink and I met with the Cabinet Member Cllr Lucioni and Inspector Matthew Gooding at County Hall on Friday and Cllr Jarman and I engaged with the police surgery at the WWSCC on Saturday.

The problem as I see it is that although people are trying to report incidents to the police very little of this information is being recorded on the national police systems and reported back to our local police teams. There is widespread confusion over when it is appropriate to use the 999 number. There appears to be a fault with the accessibility of the 101 telephone system in that answer times can be over one hour. Callers are recommended to make a report on the website, but this is very difficult to use, requiring extensive form filling before the incident can be reported. The design of the website is not compatible with telephone screens and is difficult to use.

Even when information is transmitted it is not being recognised with a crime number and therefore is not being reported back to the Island police.

Therefore with Inspector Gooding I am drafting a document which we can publicise to assist local people with all possible means of reporting crime and associated intelligence direct to our local police as well as through the formal systems. This covers all types of communication but does not include e-mail.

For this reason I am suggesting that the Parish Council e-mail be made available for people to report crime and that PC Gunther who is the officer dealing directly with these cases, have a weekly catch up meeting with staff and councillors at the parish office to ensure that all relevant information is being gathered to ensure that we gather as much as possible of the local evidence being generated to ensure the fastest route to prosecution to restore the peace of mind of our disturbed and concerned public.



Freshwater Parish Council

Transaction Detail by Account

June 2023

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Administration Expenses	
Admin, Training & Office Costs	
Bank charges	£9
Bookkeeping	£34
IT Software & Support	£156
Just Ask	
Just Ask Other Costs	£148
Total for Just Ask	£148
Total for Admin, Training & Office Costs	£346
Staff Salaries & PAYE/Ni & Pension Contributions	
Employer Pension Contributions	£269
PAYE/Ni	£2,375
Staff Salaries	£9,012
Total for Staff Salaries & PAYE/Ni & Pension Contributions	£11,656
Total for Administration Expenses	£12,002
Community Investment	
Current Grants & Projects	
Current Grants	
Community Connector	£19
Heritage Centre	£217
Total for Current Grants	£236
Current Projects	
Colwell Bay Buoys	£675
Household Support Project	£35
New Gate Lane toilets	£91,478
Total for Current Projects	£92,189
Total for Current Grants & Projects	£92,425
Total for Community Investment	£92,425
Memorial Hall Expenses	
MHALCo Maint & Other Costs	£356
Total for Memorial Hall Expenses	£356
Services Expenses	
Allotments	£75
Land Management & Trees	
Committed Contracts	£757
Land Management	£310
Seats, Bridges & Woodwork	£560
Stroud Playing Fields	
Play equipment	£255
Total for Stroud Playing Fields	£255
Trees	£1,540
Total for Land Management & Trees	£3,422
Library	



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Transaction Detail by Account

June 2023

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Library General Costs	£1,096
Total for Library	£1,096
Motor vehicle Expenditure	£80
Old Ambulance Station	£147
Parish Facilities Officer	£990
Public Toilets	
Services Expenses:Public Toilets	1,465
Total for Public Toilets	£1,465
Gate Lane	£668
Moa Place	£143
Total for Public Toilets with sub-accounts	£2,276
Total for Services Expenses	£8,086
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense	£0
Youth Expenses	
Skatepark & MUGA	
Youth Expenses:Skatepark & MUGA	150
Total for Skatepark & MUGA	£150
MUGA Expenses	£81
Skatepark Expenses	
Skatepark General Expenses	£143
Total for Skatepark Expenses	£143
Total for Skatepark & MUGA with sub-accounts	£374
Total for Youth Expenses	£374