

# FROXFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY IN THE MEMORIAL HALL AT 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Cllr Pat Adams (Chair) Cllr Vanya Body (Vice Chair), Cllr Claire Wilson, Cllr Steve Heppenstall, Cllr Alex Montague-Smith, Cllr Sally Smith, Sarah Whatley (Clerk)

The Parish Meeting began at 7.30pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Till did not attend
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Smith, Cllr Adams (planning Green Farmhouse)
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019:** Cllr Adams approved and signed.
4. **Matters Outstanding:** None
5. **Planning:**  
**19/10983/DOC** – Discharge of Condition 6 relating to sewage disposal. Concerns raised that this should have been signed off prior to tenants moving in and will be brought to the attention of WCC - SH
6. **Finance:** Councillors reviewed the invoices recently paid and raised no objections. Chairman Adams approved the bank reconciliation for both accounts. All Councillors agreed invoices for payment:
7. **Budget & Precept:** The budget prepared for 2020/21 was scrutinised and discussions had over forecasted amounts for various projects, especially relating to the CATG projects. Cllr Heppenstall raised the issue of the contribution that has been made in previous years to the church grass cutting and discussion was had as to whether FPC should still contribute as the Church Committee now use the cheaper option of the Community Payback although there are issues with them needing access to the village hall for the toilet which need to be addressed. It was agreed by all that there was insufficient justification to increase the precept and it would remain at £7,500. This was proposed by Chairman Adams and seconded by Cllr Smith.
8. **CATG:** Cllr Body and Cllr Heppenstall reported that they are still no further forward in getting an idea of a date when the Eastern end traffic island and white gates might be installed. Steve Hind of Wiltshire Council Highways department continues to be extremely evasive and vague and the Council is very concerned that the 2<sup>nd</sup> island will drop off the list, especially as Froxfield will no longer be part of Marlborough Area Board in 2021. Cllr Body stated that Steve Hind has confirmed he hasn't even started the plans for the 2<sup>nd</sup> island yet despite Froxfield PC paying a contribution to the 3 topographic surveys more than a year ago. Cllr Body has sent an email listing the long delays we have experienced to Steve Hind stating that this project was first started back in 2016 and pressing again for some idea of a date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> island.
9. **Community Speedwatch/SIDS:** Clerk Sarah Whatley stated she was no further forward getting the group up and running as the one and only CSW Co-ordinator at Wiltshire Police was again off sick

and had cancelled the collection of the speedwatch device which she was due to pick up on 9<sup>th</sup> January and there has been no new date set as yet.

With regards to speed indicator devices (SID's), a few quotes have been obtained but FPC would be looking at £3500 - £4500 per device. A small discount was possible if we purchased in bulk with other local Parishes. The Councillors felt it would be more prudent to wait and see what effect both the traffic island(s) and the speed watch group might have in slowing the traffic speeds before purchasing a SID.

10. **Update on Water Meadow:** Cllr Adams was pleased to report the sapling hedge plants had now been planted and the boardwalk was being designed and quotes are being obtained for it's installation by Anna Forbes from ARK. There will be further opportunity to plant more hedge saplings in the coming months.
11. **Resignation of Cllr Montague-Smith and proposed new election of Lis Mercer:** Cllr Montague-Smith has regretfully tendered his resignation as he will shortly be moving out of Froxfield. Chairman Adams said she spoke for everyone in thanking him for his contribution and advice during his time on the Council and wished him well for the future. Lis Mercer, a resident from The College has expressed interest in becoming a Councillor and submitted her previous experience. The Councillors all agreed she would be an asset and proposed that she be invited along to the next meeting in March.
12. **Play equipment quotes:** Clerk Sarah Whatley stated she had received 3 quotes for the repairs highlighted in the recent inspection which were discussed. It was agreed by all to ask S. J. Aplin to do the work at a price of £548.00+vat. This was proposed by Chairman Adams and seconded by Cllr Wilson.
13. **Any other business:** Cllr Heppenstall said that there has been a leak at the sewage works and was concerned about leaking effluent into the stream. He explained that Thames Water had been working round the clock to repair the leak but felt ARK ought to be made aware. Clerk Whatley said she would contact Anna Forbes. **SW**  
Chairman Adams mentioned a flyer that had been received about a forthcoming WALC seminar on Neighbourhood Planning, but it was felt it would not be of use for our small Parish.
14. **Public Forum** – Nothing raised

**The dates of the next meetings are:**  
**Monday 9th March 2020**  
**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020**  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020**  
**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

*There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.*

**Note: All initials in Bold Type require Action**

Signed..... Chairman      Date.....