

# FROXFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

### Clerk to the Council

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### **Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15 November 2021 at the Memorial Hall**

**The meeting began at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllr Vanya Body (Chair), Cllr Steve Heppenstall (Vice-Chair), Cllr Rob Smith, Cllr Arran Miles, Cllr Toby Till and Esther Cope (Clerk)

Cllr Stewart Wheeler (Chair, Pewsey Vale East) and 17 members of the public were present.

#### **1) Apologies for absence:**

Cllr Claire Wilson, approved.

#### **2) Declarations of interest:**

Cllr Miles declared an interest as a resident of Church Lane with reference to item 4.1)

#### **3) Review and agree minutes of previous meeting:**

Cllr Body proposed and Cllr Heppenstall seconded.

#### **4) Matters Outstanding:**

**4.1) Church Lane Survey results** – Of the 17 surveys delivered, the council received 12 replies, with the collated results being circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Extensive research into the four viable options has taken place over the summer months. These options including their related costs were discussed at length, the Chair then invited public comment and questions. It was resolved to ‘trial’ recycled plastic matting, with scalping base (which would allow regrowth of grass), with a review in 2-3 years. The approximate cost could be met within the 2022/23 Precept and has been successfully used for many years by neighbouring parishes.

**Action: Cllr Heppenstall to obtain firm quotes and Clerk to prepare final costings and purchase approved materials.**

**4.2) Requirement for an additional Councillor** – Cllr Body invited members of the public to consider joining the Council. Posters have been displayed in two areas of the village and within the College to encourage interest. **Action: Cllr Body to add to upcoming Parish newsletter.**

**4.3) The Blocked Drain outside All Saints Church** – Cllr Heppenstall has secured the services of the Wiltshire Highways contractor, who will attend week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> December. The drain is now being prioritised to avoid flooding of neighbouring properties. Cllr Wheeler offered to assist in finding a prompt resolution. **Action: Clerk to forward correspondence.**

#### **4.4) Celebration plans for the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen – weekend 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022**

It was resolved to support the local community group by assisting with funding of the Annual Beer Festival utilising funds currently within the Parish community account to support a Hog Roast or BBQ type event. The tree planting scheme would be considered as an opportunity to replace a lost tree on the Green. **Action: Clerk to source costings for Hog Roast/BBQ and suitable tree.**

**4.5) Budget and requirements for the Precept application 2022/23** – Cllr Body and the Clerk presented the proposed budget 2022/23. The proposed budget being circulated to all Cllrs by email prior to the meeting. It was resolved to make a final decision for Precept, ready for submission prior to the closing date 18 January 22.

**Action: Clerk and Council to discuss further and agree at January meeting.**

**4.6) Purchase of suitable plants for the water meadow** – It was resolved to move to the January 22 meeting.

**5) New Matters:**

**5.1) Public Rights of Way – Pewsey Vale Area Partnership** – The Clerk has received correspondence from Susie Brew, Co-ordinator for Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership, requesting assistance to ensure local footpaths are well marked and accessible. The local U3A walking group has been approached for assistance and further investigations are planned. Cllr Wheeler suggested speaking to other local walking groups for help and advice.

**Action: Clerk to contact other local walking groups and report progress at the next meeting.**

**5.2) Wiltshire Council's Community Environmental Toolkit, Draft Climate Strategy** – It was resolved that Cllr Smith would read and report on the strategy at the next meeting. **Action: Cllr Smith**

**5.3) British Heart Foundation Defibrillator, training, and management** – Cllr Wilson and the Clerk have kindly agreed to take on the Defibrillator supplied by South Western Ambulance Service and the British Heart Foundation sponsored CPR kit. The overall aim of continuing the annual training previously organised by Pat Adams and Jan Heppenstall. **Action: Clerk and Cllr Wilson.**

**6) Planning Applications:**

Cllr Heppenstall confirmed two applications have now been closed, 22 Church Lane and Rudge Farm track. Cllr Body requested an update on the Green Farm application, it was confirmed that Froxfield Parish Council submitted 4 comments, the application is still under consultation.

**7) Finance:**

**7.1) Clerk to detail payments/receipts since the last meeting 27 September 2021** – See signed report on page 3.

**7.2) Chair to check and approve bank statements** – Statements were sent to the Chair prior to the meeting, originals were checked and signed after meeting close.

**8) Any other business/correspondence received:**

Cllr Heppenstall reported the latest village Speedwatch results, which showed the new Eastern gates were not slowing incoming traffic sufficiently. It was resolved to investigate the purchase of a Solar/Battery powered Speed Indicator Device (SID). Any purchase would need to be budgeted but could be offset by possible financial input from local businesses. The Council would require permission to erect on the current Highways signage.

A resident commented on the poor-quality street lighting within the village boundary, since changing to LED lighting, it is now not safe to use the footpaths adjacent to the main A4. Cllr Wheeler asked to be copied on any correspondence with Wiltshire highways and would assist where possible.

**Action: Clerk to contact Wiltshire Highways and request a review.**

There being no further questions, the Chair called the meeting to a close at 9.00pm

Signed..... (Chair) ..... Date