

# FROXFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

## Clerk to the council

Esther Cope  
Ground Floor Annexe, Oakhill Farmhouse  
Upper Oakhill, Nr Marlborough, Wiltshire  
SN8 3JT

## Contact information

Telephone: 07876 114588  
email: [clerk@froxford.org](mailto:clerk@froxford.org)

## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at The Memorial Hall 17 May 2021 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Cllr Vanya Body (Chair), Cllr Steve Heppenstall (Vice-Chair), Cllr Rob Smith, Esther Cope (Clerk)  
Eleven members of the public

The Annual Parish Meeting began at 7.05pm

**1) Apologies:**

Cllr Claire Wilson  
Cllr Arran Miles  
Cllr Toby Till

**2) Minutes of previous Annual Parish meeting:**

Not held in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions

**3) Chairwomans Report:**

1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Chair, Vanya Body, reported on the difficulties of working due to Covid-19, with Parish Council meetings being held virtually via Zoom. However despite the challenges much progress was made on the main A4 Eastern traffic Island with work commencing at the beginning of May 21.

Investigations continue for slowing traffic into the village from the B' roads namely Brewhouse Hill, Church Lane and Littlecote Road.

Work continues with the watermeadow and boardwalk project, ARK and the Parish Council are encouraging wild planting, to improve water quality and attract and support wildlife. Tree works, grass cutting, inspections for play equipment all went ahead as normal during the year.

**4) Financial Report:**

1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Clerk, Esther Cope presented the unaudited accounts as prepared by Sarah Whatley, Councillors reviewed the accounts and approved them. Proposed by Cllr Heppenstall and seconded by Cllr Body.

Councillors also reviewed and approved the invoices received since the previous meeting and the present financial position for both accounts.

Cllr Body explained the CATG contribution towards the West A4 traffic Island.

**5) Representatives of Parish Organisations to provide brief report of their work**

**5.1 Lorraine Saville - Froxfield History Society**

The society started in 2020 and held two meetings prior to Covid-19 lockdown, it's aim to archive the historic photographs and information, currently held by Lorraine.

The project has already gathered many stories and memories from the Parish, which it is hoped can be recorded for future generations to enjoy.

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### 5.2 Pat Adams - Froxfield Social Committee

The committee began with eight members, now reduced to two but with a strong group of volunteers, successful events include quiz and race nights, the beer and music festival and the Froxfield festival weekend. Funds raised have been used within the Parish, for items such as play equipment, picnic benches, music stands for the Pheonix brass band and a donation has also been made to the Memorial Hall.

### 5.3 Other village representatives as may declare themselves on the night

#### **Chris Carlon - Froxfield Morris Dancers (The Pelicans) and U3A**

The side as they are known comprise currently of nine members and are affiliated to The Morris Association. With costumes designed using the colours of the Duchess of Somerset heraldic shield, they have toured sucessfully within the local area.

The dancing is seen as fun way to keep fit and make new friends.

U3A. was set up to encourage retired people to try new things, Lorraine Saville is the secretary and meetings will resume shortly.

#### **Richard Fradgley - Pheonix Brass Band**

Currently 30 + playing members from West Berkshire, Wiltshire, Hampshire and Gloucestershire with an additional 20 players in the training band. Age range from 7 to 80+ years. Formed in May 1993, it's aim to provide a fun and friendly environment in which to enjoy playing music.

#### **Richard Fradgley - Froxfield War Memorial Hall**

Closed due to Covid-19 with no hire or income since December 2019. The hall is fully compliant with ACAR and Wiltshire Council Covid-19 policies

Continuing maintenance work mainly by band members, allows Parish residents use of a superb hall at low cost. Upgrades to the Kitchen and toilets, including baby changing facilities have all been made possible with the help of the Parish Council, also the new floor in the main hall.

Cllr Body, thanked the village groups for their input, work to promote Parish groups via the website and mailing list were approved by the Cllrs.

### 6) **Public Forum:**

Cllr Body asked the public for any questions

Update requested on the A4 speed monitoring. Cllr Body confirmed that Sarah Whatley was being trained to use the equipment, it was agreed by all to wait until work on the Eastern traffic Island was completed.

The date of the next meeting is to be decided

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.20pm

Signed:.......... Chairwoman

Date.....26/7/21.....