

FROXFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Clerk to the council

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Monday 17 May 2021 at the Memorial Hall

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

- 1) **Apologies for absence:**
Cllr Claire Wilson
Cllr Arran Miles
- 2) **Election of the Chair for 2021-2022:**
Cllr Vanya Body stood for re-election as Chairwoman, proposed by Cllr Heppenstall and seconded by Cllr Smith.
- 3) **Election of the Vice-Chairman for 2021-2022:**
Cllr Steve Heppenstall stood for re-election as Vice-Chairman, proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Body.
- 4) **Declaration of Acceptance of office by the Chairman:**
Cllr Body, having been elected declared to fulfil the duties according to her best ability and judgement. Declaration to be completed and signed accordingly.
- 5) **Review and agree minutes of previous meeting:**
Annual Meeting not held during 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions
Previous Parish Council Meetings 8 March 21 and 23 April 21 via Zoom sent to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Minutes approved by Cllr Body and seconded by Cllr Heppenstall.
- 6) **Appointing Committees:**
Planning. Cllr Miles will support Cllr Heppenstall in future planning matters.
- 7) **Reviewing Policy Documents:**
Risk Assessment, Standing Orders, Financial Regulations.
Cllr Body proposed to review all policy documents with Esther Cope within 6 months from today's date. Currently in place are standing orders. Cllr Body deferred to the next meeting.
- 8) **Delarations of interest:**
None.

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9) Matters Outstanding:

9.1 Damage to the village green from residents car parking

Cllr Heppenstall proposed recycled plastic lattice matting, allowing cars to continue parking with minimal damage until a longer term solution could be finalised.

CATG approval will be required for any expansion to the roadway, or addition of parking bays, this could take several months. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

9.2 The requirement for an additional councillor 2021-2022

Cllr Body, confirmed the need for an additional councillor, position to be advertised.

10) New Matters:

10.1 Siting of the new SSE electricity transformer and progress of ongoing investigations by Wiltshire Council

Cllr Heppenstall reported the timeline of events and progress of the ongoing investigation

Cllr Smith suggested it prudent to wait until reports are received from SSE and Wiltshire Council planning. It was agreed that residents would be updated once an official decision had been made

Cllr Till is happy to discuss with residents directly. Cllr Body suggested the problem may need to be escalated to public consultation and that the Parish Council may be unable to participate.

10.2 Condition of the two picnic tables and Queen Elizabeth bench on the village green

Cllr Body, suggested removal and replacement of the old tables and bench, to be discussed at the next meeting.

10.3 Best kept village competition 2021 entry

Cllr Body requested help from the residents to ensure a tidy village.

10.4 Village tidy-up, end May

Clerk Esther Cope to chase up the Parish Steward as job requested for May have not been actioned.

10.5 Next steps to progress the road calming and white gates on minor roads

Cllr Body suggested 'village' gate markers to minor B' roads, to try and reduce speed.

Item agreed to be deferred to the next meeting.

11) Planning Applications since last meeting

PL/2021/04473 - 6 Manor Park - Proposed side extension over garage with two storey extension at rear of garage.

PL/2021/03899 - 12 Church Road - Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area.

Cllr Heppenstall passed copies of the applications for perusal by the Councillors. No objections made.

Cllr Till offered to investigate the application made previously by 22 Church Road and report by email.

12) Finance:

Clerk Esther Cope detailed payments/Receipts since last meeting.

Signatories now in place with Nat West.

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- 14) **Any other business / Correspondance received:**
- 14.1 Cllr Body updated progress of the water meadow and boardwalk project including the possibilty of inviting Witshire Wildlife to assist with ongoing work.
 - 14.2 WALC six training courses for new councillors - It was proposed that Cllrs Smith and Miles look into attending upcoming applicable meetings. Clerk Esther Cope to forward information.
 - 14.3 Cllr Body requested Clerk Esther Cope write a reminder letter to Mr Bailey, of 11 Manor Park formalising the need for the the correct boundary line. Cllrs Till and Smith agreed with necessary step to ensure the formal boundaries of the Parish Council land are recognised and respected.


15) **Public Forum:**

- 15.1 Jean Murray on behalf of Church Lane residents objected to the use of plastic lattice matting on the village green, residents are happy to contribute to the cost of sustainable parking, but not a temporary fix. Cllr Till offered ideas for creating up to 10 parking bays at the Eastern end of the green.

Cllr Body, proposed the Highways Agency should be approached to advise a solution. It was agreed to present a request for assistance, via the Community Area Transport Group in the first instance.

- 15.2 Chris Carlon questioned Cllr Till as to whether a Wayleave agreement was in place for the current site of the new SSE transformer. Cllr Till replied that the site was chosen by SSE and Cllr Till based on previous works carried out by SSE.
- Paul Taylor expressed on behalf of other residents, how upset they were not to have been consulted, there is currently bad feeling and it has become a talking point in the village. A real issue of disapointment due to being visible from nearly all areas of the village.
- Patricia Carlon stated she felt the transformer has created a bad atmosphere and that residents wanted to make a public comment.
- Cllr Body confirmed the Parish Council would continue to investiagte the background to the situation and particularly any planning issuers, with consultation with Wiltshire Council and the officers of North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.30pm

Signed.......... Chairwoman

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