

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Freeland Village Hall in the Newell Room at 7:30PM on Monday 9th January 2023.

Members Present:

Cllr R Faulkner, Cllr M Canning, Cllr A Bird, Cllr B Phillips, Cllr A Jackson, Cllr M O'Callaghan, District Cllr L Arciszewska, Clerk Fay Friend. Additionally 3 members of the public were in attendance.

1. **To receive apologies for absence** – Apologies have been received from Cllr P Foster, County Cllr Liam Walker and District Cllr A Al-Yousuf
2. **To receive Declaration of interest in agenda items** – nothing to be added.
3. **To approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th December 2022** – It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes were signed as a true record.
4. **Public Participation session**

A resident from Church Hanborough wished to speak about Botley West Solar Farm proposals. Representatives from surrounding villages are meeting on 10th January and both the Parish Council and residents of Freeland were encouraged to express their opposition to the proposal.

5. **To discuss and agree any actions for urgent business.**

Nothing to be added.

6. **Matters arising from the minutes.**

(a) It was agreed that a creation of a councillor induction pack would be carried out in the summer break.

(b) To add an additional noticeboard up the northern end of the village. The council have contacted Highways and have sent a chasing email. Clerk will update council once Highways has come back with a decision.

(c) To buy microphone and speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting.- this is still to be arranged and Amy is looking into this and will provide the council with a proposal.

(d) Amy is currently preparing for the a working group to meet for the first time to talk about community, traffic, sustainability and amenities. The date booked with the Village Hall is the 3rd of March at 7pm. Final arrangements will be published in the Grapevine in March.

7. **To note the meeting for Inspired Villages inquiry.**

The council are still yet to hear the inspectors verdict. The council will be updated once the decision has been received.

In the December Grapevine we reported that the proposed development by Inspired Villages was on the grounds of Freeland House. This is incorrect. An apology has been sent to the manager and there will be a correction in the February Grapevine.

8. **To discuss and receive update on new/existing planning applications.**

New application: 21 Parklands – No comments to be submitted.

Spitfire Homes- have now submitted their planning application which is awaiting validation by WODC. This process can take up to 8 weeks before the Parish Council might receive notification, at which point a public meeting needs to be organised with haste. If the proposal was to eventually be approved, FPC would need to engage in the process over benefits to the village, and with that in mind, should be involved in the S106 process as soon as possible.

Freeland Gate Footpath – awaiting comments from WODC.

Botley West Solar Farm- Freeland isn't directly involved as it does not border our parish and we have not had any feedback from residents other than one representation at the last meeting. Mary-Ann proposed that FPC should join with the other local villages in opposing Botley West Solar Farm, so that the villages feel supported. This was seconded by Bill. The vote was 2 for, 3 against with 1 abstention. Amy proposed an alternative – that we acknowledge the strong feelings in other villages and encourage Freeland residents to engage with the proposals and express their views to District and County Councillors, but to also make their views known to the Parish Council so that these could be taken into account with regard to the FPC position. FPC would then reconsider whether to engage further depending on the feedback from residents. The vote was 4 in favour and 2 abstained, and so this was agreed. A short notice explaining this was to be submitted for the February Grapevine.

9. To receive updates from District and County Councillors.

Lidia Arciszewska – Due to the Christmas period break there has been limited activity. There has been no update on the Government's 5 year land supply removal. There has been some progression with Thames Water with the potential new system by which all developers will have to submit a sewage capacity, network, pumping station and water supply in depth analysis prior to planning application submission.

10. To discuss and approve financial matters.

(a) To approve invoices for payment.- It was **RESOLVED** to pay the account presented proposed by Mary-Ann, seconded by Mark and all in favour.

The following invoices are requested to be approved for payment:			
BACS Ref Number	To whom paid	Details	Amount (£)
BACS 137	Fay Friend	Salary	
BACS 138	Rendall Graden Services	mowing	£60.00
BACS 139	HMRC	Jan payments	£32.19
BACS 140	Arthur	GOR -tap repairs	£36.00
BACS 141	Bill Phillips	Litter Collecting	£250.00
BACS 142	Freeland Village hall	Hall hire	£12.50
BACS 143	ubico	extra bin	£261.14
		Total:	651.83

(b) To approve bank reconciliation. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation. This was signed by Bill.

(c) To review the income and expenditure for the year to date.- Reports were noted including a possible new format in presenting the financial report at Council meetings.

(d) Any other financial business- none to be noted

11. PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ITEMS:

(a) Play Areas/Playing Field/Play Equipment Book – the play park annual report has been confirmed it will be carried out this week. Clerk to look into the inspection requirements of the play park and to suggest a different company to carry out the annual inspections.

(b) Village Maintenance- the tap in the garden of remembrance had a leak over the winter period. Repairs have been carried out. The Graveyard at St Mary's Church once filled to capacity should become the responsibility of the District Council.

(c) A list of the various Fixed Assets of the Council was distributed for information purposes.

(d) Defibrillator missing- Clerk to contact insurance about claiming for the missing Defibrillator. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a new defibrillator if necessary.

12. To receive reports from councillors representing the Council on outside meetings.

The village hall flooring work has been completed.

13. To note the date of next Parish Council meeting 13th February 2023

The meeting closed at 9:36PM