

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Freeland Village Hall in the Newell Room at 19:30 on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Members Present:**

Cllr R Faulkner (RF), Cllr M O'Callaghan (MO), Cllr B Phillips (BP), Cllr P Foster (PF), Cllr P Holt (PH), District Cllr A Al-Yousuf, District Cllr L Arciszewska and Clerk Fay Friend (FF). Additionally 2 members of the public were in attendance.

- 1. To receive apologies for absence** – Apologies have been received from Cllr A Bird (AB), Cllr M Canning (MAC) and County Cllr L Walker
- 2. To receive Declaration of interest in agenda items** – nothing to be added.
- 3. To approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council also held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023** – It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of both meetings be signed as a true record.
- 4. Public Participation session**  
No members of public wished to speak
- 5. To discuss and agree any actions for urgent business**  
Co-Option to the Council- It was **RESOLVED** to Co-Opt Robert Crocker. Welcome back Robert.
- 6. Matters arising from the minutes.**  
(a) Additional noticeboard– expected arrival August. Freeland Fencing has been contacted to erect.

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

**New applications**

<b>23/01576/HHD</b>	89 Broadmarsh Lane	No objection on the assumption it is a like for like
<b>23/01077/HHD</b>	4 Parklands	No comments to be submitted

**Inspired villages-** the high court appeal is ongoing - an update will be provided once received.

**Botley West Solar Farm** – we are still unaware of the second round of consultation. To draft a possible objection to be considered at the July meeting.

**Salt Cross-** awaiting confirmation of the action plan

**Spitfire Homes** – The application was heard at the Uplands Committee meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April. The application was unanimously refused. It is likely that Spitfire Homes will be appealing the decision. Ashley Farmer, Chair of Witney Town Charity (owner of the proposed site) has been in touch with the Parish Council and is aware of the objections that the council have submitted. He is going to go back to Spitfire Homes suggesting a revised application rather than appealing the decision of WODC.

**8. To discuss the possibility of establishing Conservation Area Status**

In the absence of MAC this has been deferred to next month's agenda.

**9. Traffic Calming**

Liam Walker arranged a public meeting regarding Pigeon House Lane on 22<sup>nd</sup> May during which local residents discussed numerous traffic calming ideas.

The new no parking signs are now put out and collected by the school on a daily basis.

**10. To receive updates from District and County Councillors.**

**Lidia:** there are 2 areas where air pollution is a concern: Witney (Bridge street) and Chipping Norton. There is currently a consultation running online..

**Alaa:** County Council have approved the Shore Green proposal on the A40. The vegetation on the A4095 needs addressing as it is now near impossible for pedestrians and cyclists.

**Action:** MO and PH to draft a letter to Oxford County Council. Can Liam help put the pressure on. Lidia to check it isn't covered under WODC. Clerk to email Hanborough Parish Council

**11. Working Groups update**

We require at least 1 or 2 councillors on each of the 2 new groups.

Community group- To hold Freeland Fete, coinciding with the farmers market and a movable feast.

The following invoices are requested to be approved for payment:			
BACS Ref Number	To whom paid	Details	Amount (£)
BACS 24	Fay Friend	Salary	
BACS 25	HMRC	NI payment	£53.19
BACS 26	rendell gardens	mowing	£80.00
BACS 27	Arthur	repairs to the play equipment	£35.00
BACS 28	Freeland Village hall	hall hire	£12.50
BACS 29	Allied Westminster	Village hall insurance renewal	£1,375.09
BACS 30	unity trust bank	bank charges	£23.10
BACS 31	Rachel Brown	internal Audit	£275.00
BACS 32	Nigel Green	mowing	£615.00
BACS 33	lawn science	village hall lawn treatment	£46.25
		Total:	2,515.13

Proposed dates: 2<sup>nd</sup> September for quiz evening in the village hall to raise funds for activities.

8<sup>th</sup> June 2024 to hold the fete.

Awaiting an update for the Cinema. Council to underwrite it for 6 months with the plan to start in October.

**Action: Clerk to update notice board with the Annual meeting of the Parish Council**

## 12. To discuss and approve financial matters.

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

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

(c) To review the financial reports. Reports were circulated and presented.

(d) Approval of the external audit and update on internal audit- the council are aware that the risk assessment needs to be carried out and will be presented in the July meeting. Notification of public rights 27<sup>th</sup> June- 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023

(e) Any other financial business. There was no other financial business.- the cricket club have a possible grant for solar panels on the roof of the shed. The panels need to be discrete. An alarm system to be considered. **Action: Clerk to contact cricket club.**

## 13. PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ITEMS:

(a) Play Areas/Playing Field/Play Equipment Book. – use of the playing field by Witney Mills Cricket Club. Agreed fee £150 per day **Action: RF to speak to Cricket Club**

Safety service under basket swing being completed 21<sup>st</sup> June.

(b) Village Maintenance- bridle path is currently blocked by a fallen tree. **Action: Robert to remove tree.**

Garden of remembrance- S106 Art funds- awaiting 3 quotes - deferred to next meeting. Plot request from non resident approved

White gates- awaiting an update from Eynsham Estates.

Allotment association- to change their constitution has been approved.

Gate by the cricket nets is broken - **Action: Clerk to contact Freeland Fencing.**

Mud left over by works on the Cricket nets – **Action: RF to contact Cricket club**

(c) Village Hall- booking availability was raised as an issue. Meeting rooms availability in the Convent Guest House. Donation for one off meeting of £20 **Action: Clerk and RF to explore this further - potential for September meeting to be held there**

(d) Defibrillator and First aid Training- to be confirmed at next meeting

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

There was nothing to be reported

## 15. To note the date of next meeting: 10<sup>th</sup> July in the Newell Room.

**Meeting Closed at 21:48**