

FRESHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9 MARCH 2020 AT 7.00PM AT THE MEMORIAL HALL FRESHFORD.

Present:

Councillors: John Adler (Chairman),
Jean Hawker (Vice Chairman). Nick Stevens, Annabel Batchelor-Wylam, Jonelle Daniels,
Tom Maddicott, Martin Walker and Julian Carpenter.

Apologies for Absence:

Jacob Heatley-Adams

Declarations of Interests and Requests for Dispensations -Cllr ABW signed form as requested and returned to JH.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10 February 2020:

a).Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 10 February 2020 have not been circulated. JA to circulate to be approved at the next PC meeting.

b) Review or Actions from Previous PC meeting.

Discussed and any actions to be carried over to next meeting have been noted by those required to action.

Open Forum:

Gordon Edwards – Spoke to update the PC on the Freshford Train Station. Last year over 53,000 passengers made journey's to and from Freshford train station. 19.3% more passengers are using the station than last year.

-Cllr Walker queried might this be due to the free parking at the station.

-Gordon Edwards continued that punctuality of the service has improved but the number of carriages are not as they should be and there is a failure to provide the correct number of carriages resulting in over crowded trains. Neil Butters has raised this and requested that Gordon Edwards send an email to JA to outline the issues so these can be followed through. **Chairman Adler to action when email received from Gordon Edwards.**

Gordon Edwards also updated the PC on the no.94 bus service. This is contracted by Libra travel who have given notice (4 months notice period) to terminate their contraction the 30 June 2020. This is due to the vehicle not being suitable for the Bath Clean Air Zone and it is also deemed not economical to upgrade the vehicle. This means that the service will be out to tender by Wiltshire council.

Neil Butters suggested it would be good for Wiltshire Council to include and reinstate the Saturday bus service when they put out to tender. Westwood PC have already asked Wiltshire Council to reinstate the Saturday service. Gordon Edwards suggested FPC ask Wiltshire and BANES councils to reinstate the Saturday service as part of the tender process. **Cllr Carpenter to action before consultation period closes on Sunday 15 March.**

<p><u>Planning Applications</u> None to consider although noted by Cllr Walker that there has been a late submission of an application at 9 The Glebe.</p>	<p><u>Action</u> Cllr Heatley-Adams to address and possibly ask for an extension if required so the application can be considered at the next meeting.</p>
<p><u>Tree applications</u> None to consider.</p>	
<p><u>Decision Notifications</u> Accepted.</p>	
<p><u>Finance and Personnel</u> a). February payments: -SSE ad hoc maintenance £240.92 – Paid -SSE ad hoc maintenance £21.18 –Paid -Chloe Alexander Internal Audit £100 – To be signed off at next meeting -Ruth Talboys £472.50 – signed off</p> <p>Chairman Adler noted that SSE have emailed to say that due to an error in their invoicing systems they will be sending an invoice for the last 2 years lighting. FPC agreed to wait to receive the invoice and then address.</p> <p>b) Bank Reconciliation – JA to circulate when home to be approved.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Chairman Adler to circulate to be approved.</p>
<p><u>Recruitment of new Clerk and RFO</u> Chairman Adler and Cllr Hawker have met with two applicants. The job has been offered to one applicant who has asked if FPC can wait until she knows the outcome of another interview before making a decision.</p>	<p><u>Action</u> Chairman to update when answer is given.</p>
<p><u>PC Assets</u> Cemetery Wall – Cllr Walker updated us that two sycamore trees which are damaging the wall will be coming down on either the 24 / 25 / 26 March. With regards to setting up a technical meeting regarding the wall with Tim Jarrett at Curo, he only works for Curo on Thursdays. Therefore Cllr Walker will endeavour to arrange a meeting and the matter should be carried forward to the next meeting.</p> <p>There was a small discussion regarding the idea of replacing the wall with a hedge but this seemed to be an unlikely outcome given that the wall is deemed a Freshford boundary and in the conservation area.</p>	<p><u>Action</u> Cllr Walker and Cllr Daniels to call Tim Jarrett on Thursday.</p>
<p><u>SSE maintenance contract</u></p>	<p><u>Action</u></p>

<p>JA and JHA to approve. Chairman Adler said that ALCA are advising all villages to come before BANES to renegotiate as a group which should result in a lower bill for everyone.</p>	<p>Cllr Heatley-Adams and Chairman Adler to follow up.</p>
<p><u>Communications</u> Corona Virus- Cllr Maddicott suggested we should send out an advisory email to the community. All in agreement.</p> <p>Bulletin – Cllr. Daniels informed the FPC that the absolute deadline for the next bulletin is the 25 March.</p>	<p><u>Action</u> Cllr. Maddicott to prepare and send email.</p>
<p><u>Highways and Transport</u> Rosemary Lane Cllr. Carpenter, ran through his report which had already been circulated to the PC ahead of the meeting, outlining the various options to help solve the problems of increased traffic on Rosemary Lane. Various options have been put forward including a Amazon locker hub, possibly at the Galleries or Browns Field. Closure of the bridge, one way system enforced.</p> <p>Cllr Carpenter stated he felt that we have a legal responsibility to represent the whole village and therefore it is suggested that we consider consulting the village on the issues and options. Believe the logical next step is to put in monitoring at three points over a period of 9 days which will give us an idea of what type of traffic is using the lane as well as the number of vehicles. Nel Butters has offered £225 to contribute towards the cost which is £170 per monitor (£510 total for the three locations).</p> <p>Cllr Stevens proposed and Cllr. Walker seconded that we set up the monitoring within school term time. FPC Voted unanimously in favour. Cllr. Stevens also suggested CIL money be used. Hopefully we will be in a position to review the monitoring data at the June PC meeting followed by a village consultation in July.</p> <p>Cllr Walker suggested we talk to the Galleries and Village Hall committee re the amazon locker idea.</p> <p><u>Freshford Church School Traffic and Parking</u> Cllr Daniels ran through her report which had already been circulated to the PC. Issues highlighted include: -Parents have to leave their car to collect children from the school, the school have to physically release the child to the parent. -Chair of governors raised the issue that there is no pavement outside the school, so even though everyone is on board with walking to school, where possible, the entrance to the school is simply unsafe. -PCSO's to be on hand at school events to assist with the parking. -Is it viable to have Lollipop crossings which would need to be at 2 or 3 locations.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Cllr Carpenter to email Neil Butters regarding the funding of the monitoring. Also to start work on village consultation questions to bring to the next meeting for discussion.</p> <p>Cllr Walker to liaise with the village hall committee re Amazon Lockers and Cllr. Daniels to liaise with Galleries re Amazon locker.</p> <p>Cllr Daniels to continue to look into the various options.</p>

<p>-Pedestrian crossing at the crossroads. Cllr Walker suggested that Cllr. Daniels look at the shared spaces initiative which can be seen in Kingsmead square but also documents on the village website.</p> <p>-Cllr. Batchelor-Wylam asked whether a one way system has been considered for the school drop off and pick up times as an initial and informal way of alleviating the problem.</p> <p>-Cllr. Daniels also noted that the school parking will be reduced when the charging point are installed but in principle are happy for the village to use the spaces out of school time.</p>	
<p><u>Built Environment</u> Village Hall / Surgery</p> <p>Cllr Walker gave a brief report. Beckington Practice has now stated that they no longer see Freshford as a viable option for a surgery location and will be making this recommendation to the CCG on 10 March. The Village Hall Committee are still in discussions with the Combe Down surgery regarding the potential surgery space which would be created by the redevelopment. Discussion about bats habitat surrounding the hall but it has now been proved that they don't commute surrounding the hall and therefore there is no cause for concern.</p>	
<p>Climate Emergency Meeting</p> <p>It is likely that this will not go ahead given the Corona Virus. However, it is still to be advertised for the time being.</p> <p>PC meetings – in light of the Corona Virus. Chairman Adler questioned how FPC should proceed with meetings. FPC agreed to wait for Government to give central direction and legislation and then action.</p>	<p>Cllr Daniels to continue to advertise until any other decision is made.</p>

Date of Next PC Meeting - Monday 6 April at 1900