

**Minutes of Frilsham Parish Council meeting held in the Clubroom on
Wednesday 13th September 2017 at 7.30pm.**

Present

Cllr. M. Allum (Chairman)
Cllr. G. Barber
Cllr. D. Benning
Cllr. J. Goodenough
Cllr. C. Kettlewell
Cllr. D. Ward
Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk)
District Cllr. G. Pask
District Cllr. Q. Webb
Mr. B. Lyon
Mr. D. Slack

Mr. J. Burgoyne Probyn

Public Session.

Cllr. Allum commented that he wished to thank all of those who have worked so hard on the website which has now been launched.

1. To receive Apologies for Absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2. To receive Declaration of Interest.

2.1 Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

There were no declarations of interest in Agenda items.

2.2 Changes to the Register of Interests.

There were no changes to the Register of Interests.

3. Approval of minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 12th July 2017.

Some comments had been made on the minutes about emptying of the bins which the Clerk had not received. It was agreed to have a corrected copy of the minutes for signing at the next meeting.

4. Matters arising from the minutes (not mentioned elsewhere and for information only).

4.1 Cllr. Benning questioned what had happened at the meeting on the 12th July, when he was on holiday. Cllr. Benning commented that Cllr. Allum was aware that an inspection of the drains was being carried out prior to the work taking place and therefore the council as a body was aware of the work. Cllr. Allum commented that he had only been made aware the evening before and then only because access was required to his land; this did not constitute Frilsham Parish Council being aware of the work.

Cllr. Benning has a report produced by WBC on the drainage in the area to the north of Beechfield Lane. It was agreed that this should be circulated to councillors and on the agenda for the next meeting.

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5. Report from Yattendon Estate.

Mr. Slack reported that the harvest is now finished.

The Estate is considering what to do about the proposed change of use application on the Dairy site which was withdrawn on advice from WBC.

A number of trees have been blown down in the recent winds. The Estate will begin cutting Christmas trees on the 5th November. Plans are in place for a Christmas market to take place on the first two weekends of December.

6. Playground.

6.1 **Safety Issues noted during the Visual Safety Check.**

Cllr. Barber reported that the Play Area was in good order. The moles are making the surface very uneven and their hills need to be flattened out. There is some litter around including aerosol cans. It was felt the area would benefit from a mow before the autumn. The Clerk recommended that a sign warning of uneven ground due to moles should be put up, as suggested by the insurers, however there was a view that this type of warning can lead to too many signs. A discussion then followed on who's insurance would cover any accident due to the surface being uneven as only the Playground equipment belongs to the Parish Council and not the ground itself. The Clerk will make enquiries with the insurance company.

6.2 **Update on emptying of bins.**

Veolia have generally been emptying the bins they are responsible for without any problems. ISS, who are paid by Frilsham Parish Council via WBC to empty the dog bin and two litter bins, didn't empty any bins for two weeks and then emptied them all on a Monday. Emptying now appears to be happening as it is supposed to.

7. Planning

7.1 **To consider planning applications submitted to WBC:**

7.1.1 17/01888/AGRIC – Land at Bluebell Wood Barns.

Proposed agricultural timber framed building.

Frilsham Parish Council agreed to **object** to this application.

7.1.2 17/02165/FULD – Yealand, School Lane.

Section 73A: Variation of Condition (2) Approved plans, of planning permission reference 16/00941/FULD.

Frilsham Parish Council agreed to **object** to this application.

7.1.3 17/02365/HOUSE – 4 Beechfield.

Single storey side and rear extension.

It was noted that there are three letters of objection on the WBC website from neighbours to this application. District Cllr. Pask commented that if a planning application is to be considered by the Area Planning Committee, the ten letters of objection (which are required) must all come from different addresses.

Frilsham Parish Council voted narrowly in favour of having **no objection** to this application.

7.1.4 17/02260/FULD – Fifield Farm (Adjacent Parish).

Section 73A Removal of Condition 7 – sustainable drainage, condition 9 – Landscape, condition 10 – protection of trees, Condition 11 – spoil and Condition 12 – external lighting of previously approved application 16/01363/FULD: Demolition of existing outbuildings and barn and replacement by proposed erection of a new dwelling, as already approved by West Berkshire Council reference number 15/02340/FULD, but to include

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basement.

Frilsham Parish Council agreed to **object** to this application.

7.1.5 17/02126/HOUSE – Gardeners Cottage.

Single storey side and two storey rear extension with internal re-order.

Frilsham Parish Council agreed to **object** to this application on the grounds of the extension to the dwelling; there is no objection to the deer fence.

7.2 **To review decisions of WBC:**

7.2.1 17/01888/AGRIC – Land at Bluebell Wood Barns.

Proposed agricultural timber framed building.

Frilsham Parish Council agreed to **objected** to this application. WBC has determined that this proposal doesn't require a full planning application.

7.2.2 17/01608/HOUSE – 4 Beechfield.

Single storey side and two storey rear extension with internal re-order.

Frilsham Parish Council had **no objection** to this application which has been **refused** by WBC.

7.2.3 17/01101/COMIND – Frilsham Home Farm Dairy (Adjacent Parish).

S73A Variation of Condition 5: Approved use of approved application 16/01690/COMIND.

Frilsham Parish Council had **no objection** to this application which has been **withdrawn**.

8. **Report from West Berkshire District Councillors.**

Councillors were reminded of the Community Champion awards, the closing date for which is the 27th October.

The Siege Cross development and the development behind the Regency Hotel, both in Thatcham have been refused by the Secretary of State after the developer requested that they be considered by the Secretary of State rather than a Planning Inspector. The Secretary of State determined that WBC has in excess of a five-year land supply and as a result several appeals have already been withdrawn and one development has been refused.

WBC submitted its proposals for the ward boundary review in which Frilsham would have been in a ward with Cold Ash and Hermitage. The Boundary Commission have now considered the proposal and are now consulting on a different proposal whereby Frilsham would remain with Bucklebury, Standford Dingley and Bradfield, but would be joined by an additional 11 parishes spanning both sides of the A4 and therefore some in and some out of the AONB. Frilsham Parish Council were agreed that they were against this proposal and that they felt they should be in a ward with Yattendon Parish because they have many things in common. The Clerk will draft a response to the Boundary Commission which will be discussed at the next meeting.

9. **Hedge and Bank between Nutwood Cottage and Bus Shelter.**

Cllr. Allum has sent a photograph to Mr. Slack showing a lorry struggling to get under one of the trees growing from within the hedge, which also drags on the bus shelter roof when it is wet. Mr. Slack agreed to do some work on the trees in question, but commented that he currently has a long list of tree work which has to be prioritised, and this assumes that the tree/trees belong to the Estate.

It was agreed that the Clerk will write to WBC and request that the hedge is cut right back and the side of the run cleared of debris back to its original position.

Concern was raised about the overgrown hedge opposite Hill Cottage in School Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to Mr. Meadows at Hawkrigge Farm asking him to cut back the hedge. It was also agreed that the grit bin at the entrance to the woods which was damaged whilst his contractors were accessing the site should be mentioned.

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10. Assets.

10.1 Grit Bins.

Cllr. Allum has inspected all the grit bins except the one at the top of Beechfield Lane. Except for the one at the top of Dragon Hill (mentioned in minute 9) he found them all in good order with grit in them. It was agreed that a quote should be obtained for a replacement bin at the top of Dragon Hill which will be discussed at the next meeting.

10.2 Telephone Box.

Cllr. Allum has looked at the phone box more closely and it is only the bottom of the door which has rotted. Cllr. Goodenough agreed that he would ask Eddy Skurr, a local carpenter to consider the repairs. It was agreed that the price of the paint and glass 'DEFIBRILLATOR' signs for the top of the phone box would be considered at the next meeting.

10.3 War Memorial.

The War Memorial Trust has received a comment that the inscription on the war memorial to commemorate those lost in WW2 cannot be read.

Cllr. Ward commented that the war memorial was erected with monies raised by public subscription. When work was last carried out on the Memorial, the Parish Council commissioned the work and it was paid for using donations from the Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust and the War Memorials Trust.

The Clerk will contact the stone mason in Bedwyn who carried out the previous work for advice on what work may be necessary.

11. Frilsham Futures Implementation Group (FFIG).

11.1 Website.

Mr. Lyon commented that if anyone has anything they think should go on the website or any problems with it, to let him know.

11.2 CCTV.

Good progress is being made with the plans for the CCTV around the Clubroom. The company the Clubroom has chosen give plans showing the range and area each of the cameras will cover. The proposal is for eight cameras around the hall and will cost in the region of £1,600 to £1,700. It was resolved that Frilsham Parish Council would purchase the system with a donation from FFIG. If the cameras are set to record 6 frames a second, with 8 cameras running 24 hours per day, 18 days of recordings can be held. All of the cameras will be in a fixed position.

11.3 Internet Connection to the Clubroom.

When the budget for the Parish Council was set, the sum of £650 was allowed for an internet connection to the Clubroom. It wasn't clear at the time whether this was for installation or ongoing costs of the connection. The Clubroom are willing to cover the installation costs, but the sum from the Parish Council would be for the ongoing costs which are expected to be in the region of £500 per year. Mr. Lyon agreed to get a firm price for the ongoing charges for the next year. This was with the view that the Council would take on the running costs of the connection for the time being.

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12. Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.

A grant application has been made by Frilsham Clubroom to the Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust to match the additional funds Frilsham Parish Council has allocated for the project. The meeting when this grant will be considered has been moved to 25th September.

13. Clerk's Report.

13.1 Fly-tipping.

There have been two significant incidents of fly-tipping at the junction of Brocks Lane and footpath FRIL 15/1; one of which involved asbestos. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to Mr. Fleming who owns the land and encourage him to put some posts into the entrance to the footpath making it more difficult for vehicles to reverse into the footpath.

13.2 Website.

As minuted else where the new Frilsham website has now been launched. Agendas, minutes and financial reports are on the site for meetings held in this calendar year. Information on planning applications has been added. Information about end of year accounts and assets will be added shortly.

13.3 Correspondence.

13.3.1 BALC Training Opportunities.

BALC are running a number of training courses which have been circulated to members. The Clerk will attend a session on meeting the new external auditor and on the new General Data Protection Regulations which come into effect in May 2018.

14. Finance.

The Clerk circulated a financial report prior to the meeting, showing a balance of £20,038.90 once all cheques and lodgements have cleared. The Council resolved to approve the report.

14.1 External Audit.

The External Auditor has now returned the audit with no issues raising concern. The Clerk will notify the parish of the conclusion of the audit on the noticeboard and via the website.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Dates of future meetings:

Wednesday 11th October 2017 at 7.30pm (Planning if required).

Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 7.30pm.

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