

**Minutes of Frilsham Parish Council meeting held in the Clubroom on
Wednesday 10th January 2018 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

1. To receive Apologies for Absence.

Mr. Slack sent his apologies due to prior engagements.

2. To receive Declaration of Interest.

2.1 Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

There were no declarations of interest in any 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 previous meetings:

3.1 Wednesday 8th November 2017.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8th November 2017 were ratified and signed by the Chairman.

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

4.1 Drainage.

Cllr. Allum commented that he has reported the flooding by the Pot Kiln to WBC.

Cllr. Benning understands from an email from Roger Morley that he would like the issue of drainage to remain on the agenda until the problem of the water which runs down Beechfield Lane from the road between Hatchets Gate and the top of Beechfield Lane is resolved.

5. Yattendon Estate.

Mr. Slack has responded to a resident who raised safety concerns about trees swaying in the wind. Yattendon Estate carries out inspections on all trees adjacent to roads and footpaths at regular intervals; inspections are due to take place next year. Whilst this doesn't guarantee that trees will not fall down, it does mean that any with obvious or predictable defects can be dealt with.

Councillors raised concern about the tree, opposite the entrance to Eling Dairy, which is leaning over the road. It is understood that this has been reported to WBC.

6. **Playground.**
Cllr. Allum reported that he had found no problems with the playground. Cllr. Benning will inspect the playground until the meeting in March.
7. **Planning**
- 7.1 **To review decisions of WBC:**
No planning application decisions have been received from WBC.
- 7.2 **Hard copies of Planning Applications.**
After 31st March 2018, WBC will no longer be distributing paper or hard copies of planning applications to parishes for consultation. Parish councils will be consulted and then have access to the copies of the applications on the WBC website.
8. **Report from West Berkshire District Councillors.**
WBC has been chosen as a pilot authority to manage a further two million pounds of funding received from business rates. In previous years WBC has only kept 18% of business rates and therefore doesn't see the full benefit of encouraging new business to the area. Cllr. Benning asked what is happening with the redevelopment of the gas works site in Newbury; it has been reported in the Newbury Weekly News that there are delays with the development due to more contamination of the site than had been expected. In particular, Cllr. Benning asked about the delays this may have on the building of the new road. District Councillors commented that contamination of the site was known about before the contract with the developer was signed.
A question was raised about whether there are plans for the location of garages/car show rooms in the area. District councillors commented that broadly there are plans, but it is up to commercial companies to identify their preferred sites.
9. **WBC Consultation on the FY18/19 Budget.**
- Charges to the garden waste collection service.**
WBC is proposing to charge residents £50.00 for emptying green wheelie bins. It was felt that this was a tax on people who live in the countryside and would encourage people to have more bonfires. Councillors were against this proposal.
- Changes to the funding for Newbury CAB**
Newbury CAB is a valued, independent charity. Previously WBC have supported them with a contribution of £160,000, the proposal is to reduce this to £40,000. This was viewed as monstrous. District Cllr. Webb commented that WBC is trying to work with them to reduce their overheads.
- How to encourage more recycling in the parish.**
Whilst comments were made that the existing waste contractor is the best to date and that recycling rates have improved, WBC does not compare well against neighbouring authorities in terms of the products which can be recycled. District Cllr. Webb commented that when the waste contract was signed, it was viewed as being very good and would now be very costly to change.

10. Assets.

10.1 Repairs to the telephone box.

The telephone box has been repaired. David Cullip has undercoated the repairs and Cllr. Kettlewell will check that there is some of the red top coat left from the last time it was painted.

It was unanimously approved that the Clerk will order 2 replacement glass panels with “DEFIBRILLATOR” on them.

10.2 The War Memorial.

It was agreed that the Clerk will obtain a quote for a stone tablet to be fixed to the war memorial with the names of those lost in WW1 inscribed on it.

11. Frilsham Future Implementation Group (FFIG).

Frilsham PC congratulated Bob Lyon on being awarded the WBC Community Volunteer of the Year award for 2017.

The best route for the GigaClear connection from the road to the Clubroom and the location for the router have been determined.

The website is proving very effective; hall bookings are now being made via the website from new sources who have found it using the website.

The garden around the Clubroom has been attended by David and Caroline Cullip, who had a big bonfire to clear some of the debris. A large crab apple tree still needs to be removed.

The new CCTV system has been delivered, with 90 pages of instructions. This will be installed soon.

Repairs need to be made to the gutters and downpipe of the Clubroom; Bob Lyon has the necessary bits and will make the repairs.

On Saturday evening (6th January) there was a party in Frilsham; the Clubroom was not booked, but a number of young people gathered around the Clubroom and on the football pitch. As a result of the gathering, a huge amount of litter was left in the carpark and on the field. The light in the porch of the Clubroom was vandalised and is damaged beyond repair.

Mr. Lyon reported that he had tried to report the problem to Thames Valley Police on 101 but couldn't get an answer; the Clerk suggested it be reported via the website. Cllr. Kettlewell was thanked for clearing up the rubbish.

12. Clerk's Report.

12.1 Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 23rd May 2018.

Several suggestions were made about possible speakers for the Parish meeting. It was agreed that this would be resolved over the next few weeks. There was the suggestion that Bob Lyon had forwarded an email recommending a speaker.

12.2 Assets for inspections/cleaning.

The following arrangements were made for the cleaning and inspection of assets:

Defibrillator: Cllr. Benning will inspect.

Telephone Box: Cllr. Benning will clean and inspect.

Bus Shelter: Cllr. Kettlewell will clean and inspect the bus shelter and the map on the end of the shelter.

Noticeboard: Cllr. Kettlewell and Cllr. Allum will clean this.

Bins around the Clubroom: Cllr. Barber will clean and inspect these.

Play equipment: Cllr. Allum will clean and inspect all the equipment.

7 benches around the Clubroom and the Millennium bench in the Churchyard: Cllr. Ward will clean and inspect all the benches.

Grit bins: Cllr. Allum will inspect the grit bins and check how full they are.
The Well: Cllr. Benning will inspect the well.
Any points of concern should be raised at the parish council meeting in March.

12.3 Grant to WBC for Library usage.

WBC sent usage figures for the libraries by parishioners of Frilsham. These figures showed that use of the library has increased year on year for the last three years. WBC had suggested a donation of £260, based on the population of the parish. Given the usage of the library and the current amount of \$137 spending, it was agreed that a contribution of £237 would be commensurate to the benefit obtained.

12.4 Items for the Broadsheet.

The Clerk will submit an article for the Broadsheet about the damage to the Clubroom and suggesting that parents of teenage children should be aware of where they are and what they are doing.

12.4 Correspondence.

12.4.1 **District Parish Conference – Thursday 15th March 6pm for 6.30pm.**

The Clerk advised councillors of the District Parish Conference on Thursday 15th March which is being run by the Wellbeing board.

13. **Finance.**

13.1 Budget for FY18/19.

A contribution to the improvements to the Clubroom was discussed. The Parish Council currently holds £12,000 for the improvements (including a donation of £3,000 in FY17/18). To date there has been little progress with the improvements. It was agreed to make a donation of £1,500 with a further £1,500 if plans are in place.
The budget for FY18/19 was unanimously approved (see end of minutes).

13.2 Precept for FY18/19.

It was unanimously agreed to raise a precept of £9,000 for FY18/19, this being the same as FY17/18.

13.3 Financial Statement.

The Clerk had circulated a financial statement prior to the meeting showing a balance once all payments and receipts have been cleared of £22,552.90 (including £12,000 for the Clubroom improvements). This statement was approved.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Dates of future meetings:

Wednesday 14th February 2018 at 7.30pm (Planning if required).

Wednesday 14th March 2018 at 7.30pm.

