

**Minutes of a Meeting of Frilsham Parish Council held on
Wednesday 13th March 2019 in the Clubroom at 7.30pm.**

Present

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

1. To receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Kettlewell.

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 9th January 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th January 2019 were ratified and signed by the Chairman.

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

4.1 Patient Participation Groups (PPG).

The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Chapel Row Doctor's Surgery. Frilsham is within the area covered by the Chapel Row Surgery. Members of Frilsham Parish Council would be welcome to attend PPG meetings, the full minutes of which are available on their website.

4.2 Latches on the Playground Gates.

Cllr. Allum and Mr. Lyon will look at the latches on the playground gates. Some had been identified, but they are likely to be too big.

5. Yattendon Estate.

Mr. Slack reported that the work at the Royal Oak is almost complete; there are only a few small pieces of work outstanding.

Work at the Pot Kiln is going well; the kitchens and bathrooms are being installed and the internal walls are being put back into Applestore Cottage. The aim is to reopen in early June. The Village Store in Yattendon is still increasing trade on a month on month basis. A retail expert from another estate visited recently and was very complimentary on the range of stock and the staff.

Drainage work is ongoing at the brewery. Planning consultants have been consulted about parking in the old silage clamps and the beer garden.

Approximately 30,000 mixed trees have been planted on the estate. Trees are being felled on Ashampstead Common which will not be replanted; originally this would have been common.

6. Planning

6.1 Planning Decisions made by WBC:

6.1.1 19/00379/HOUSE – The Coach House, Hawkridge Hill.

Proposed outbuilding.

It was unanimously agreed that Frilsham Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds that it is not in keeping with the surroundings.

6.1.2 19/00489/FUL – The Coach House, Hawkridge Hill.

Demolish existing dwelling and erect new dwelling.

It was unanimously agreed that Frilsham Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds that it is out of keeping with the surroundings.

6.1.3 18/03031/FUL – Land adjacent to Motorway.

Installation of 35m high lattice mast (height including antenna supporting 3 no. antennas and 2 no. 600mm dia. Dish antennas associated 2 no. equipment cabinets and ancillary apparatus within a fenced compound).

Frilsham Parish Council agreed to object to this application on the grounds of the design of the mast.

6.2 Planning Decisions made by WBC:

No planning decisions have been made by WBC since the last meeting.

6.2.1 18/03367/FUL – Manderley.

Creation of an all-weather 20m x 30.8m outdoor riding arena.

Frilsham Parish Council had no objection to this application, but a significant number of letters of objection were received by WBC; the application will be considered by the Eastern Area Planning Committee on 21st March. A site meeting was held on Wednesday 13th March, which was attended by Cllr. Benning.

6.3 External Lighting in the Parish.

There was a discussion about external lighting and whether anything can be done about sites where external lighting is used excessively.

It was decided that a letter would be drafted to send to residents who use excessive external lighting on a regular basis.

7. Report from West Berkshire District Councillors.

7.1 It was noted that this will be the last meeting with District Councillors from the Bucklebury Ward. After the elections, Frilsham will be part of the Ridgeway Ward with a new councillor. Cllr. Allum thanked District Cllr. Pask and District Cllr. Webb for their work in Frilsham.

WBC has had a full council meeting and approved the budget for the next financial year. Council buildings will now have solar panels.

Padworth recycling plant will be open from 8am till 6pm from the 1st April and will take household rubbish as well as materials for recycling. The village shop in Hampstead Norreys is collecting materials which are recyclable, but not recyclable at the roadside in West Berkshire.

Signage on road closures and diversions has generally been much improved. However, some roads are still being closed with no notice and insufficient signage.

8. Playground and Facilities around the Club Room.

8.1 Safety issues noted during visual checks.

It was reported that the chain cover on the zip wire appears to be falling apart. It was also felt to need oil.

Cllr. Ward will inspect the area until the next meeting.

Since the last meeting, there has been vandalism in which someone has attempted to cut some of the ropes. The metal core of the rope is intact, and the damage is believed to be superficial. The incident has been reported to the police.

The RoSPA inspection will be carried out in April. The inspector has been asked to specifically look in detail at the toddler and disability swing seats.

8.2 Warranty on the timber of the Playpark.

No progress has been made with timber, which was reported to be rotting in last year's RoSPA inspection report. It was agreed to wait for the findings of this year's RoSPA inspection.

8.3 To organise a cleaning party.

It was agreed that the playground was generally in good condition and didn't need a cleaning party, although there are one or two items which need to be washed.

9. The Club Room /FFIG.

Mr. Lyon reported that there is a meeting planned for next week to discuss the comments from the consultation morning in more detail. Further investigations are taking place into a complete rebuild of the Club Room; this is as a result of the consultation.

A meeting has been arranged with representatives of the National Lottery Fund to learn how extra funding may be achieved.

In the budget last autumn, three million pounds were allocated to Village Halls across England; whether some of this might be available for Frilsham is being explored.

The Club Room AGM will take place on Wednesday 27th March; all are welcome to attend.

No progress has been made on the next stage of the CCTV installation due to illness.

However, progress has been made with the Gigaclear broadband connection which enables the cameras to be viewed remotely.

11. Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.

The Sports and Social Trust are starting to organise work parties to carry out jobs around Yattendon and Frilsham. One of the jobs they will be doing is painting the reception area of Yattendon School. Initial planning is taking place for tidying up the cricket pitch.

The first meeting of the fete committee has taken place. The fete is held on the late May bank holiday each year. Helpers are needed and anyone interested was asked to contact Mr. Lyon or Alison Gillespie.

12. Thames Water.

The Clerk wrote to Thames Water and reported the incident in January of planned work requiring the water supply to be turned off. Kay Lacey from the Consumer Council for Water was copied on the correspondence.

There have been a number of conversations, which have culminated in an email from Kayleigh Uzzell (Thames Water), which indicates that if less than 250 households will be impacted and there are no priority customers, residents do not have to be notified of planned work affecting their water supply.

On a number of occasions, there has been low pressure in Frilsham, followed by a burst of the pipe in the valley, generally on land farmed by Parsonage Farm; it is understood that ideally this pipe should be replaced. The Clerk requested log numbers from parishioners for the recent water outage as evidence of the problems, before contacting Thames Water.

The Pang Valley Flood Forum has organised a day on flooding in the Pang Valley, in the past, present and future. Thames Water will be present at the event.

12. Clerk's Report.

12.1 Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 22nd May 2019.

The Clerk reported that Dick Greenaway has agreed to speak on the people, places and practicalities of life with information from historic records recently catalogued from Yatendon Estate.

The Clerk will print flyers advertising the event once the elections have taken place and details of the new council are known.

12.2 Asset inspection report.

Cllr. Ward has inspected the millennium bench in the churchyard.

It was agreed that the grit bins would be refilled in the autumn. Cllr. Allum asked whether the grit bin between the Everington crossroads and Hermitage is within Frilsham Parish; the Clerk will check, but it is believed to be in Yattendon or Hermitage.

12.3 Nominations.

The Clerk reminded all councillors that anyone (including existing councillors) who is interested in standing as a parish councillor must complete a nomination form (circulated to current councillors). Frilsham will be part of the Ridgeway Ward.

12.4 Correspondence

12.4.1 Licensing of the new team rector – Thursday 21st March.

Cllr. Ward and Cllr. Barber will be attending the licensing service, albeit in other capacities.

12.4.2 District Parish Conference – Thursday 14th March.

Cllr. Allum will attend the District Parish Conference.

12.4.3 Club Room bins.

An email has been received advising Frilsham Parish Council of the cost of emptying the bins, on a weekly basis, around the Club Room for the last year. The total cost including VAT is £93.79.

12.2 Items for the Broadsheet.

It was agreed that parishioners should be discouraged from having unnecessary external lighting in the Broadsheet. The Annual Parish Meeting should also be included.

13. Finance.

13.1 Financial Statement.

The financial statement dated 13th March 2019, showed a balance of £25,022.32 once all credits and debits have cleared. This was considered and approved. Of the balance, £15,000 is ringfenced for building work at the Club Room, including a contribution of £3,000 for this financial year.

14. Round Table Comments

14.1 Flooding in the road by the Pot Kiln.

Whilst this has been reported to WBC, nothing has been done and flooding still occurs whenever there is heavy rain. It was agreed the Clerk would contact David Slack as the land adjacent to the flooding belongs to Yattendon Estate.

14.2 Flooding at the Bottom of Coach Hill.

In heavy rain, the bottom of Coach Hill is flooded. The cause is believed to be a blocked gully.

14.3 Water at the bottom of Dragon Hill/Brocks Lane.

In heavy rain, excessive amounts of water are still running down Dragon Hill and depositing silt on the cross roads.

14.4 Retiring Councillors.

Cllr. Goodenough and Cllr. Ward have decided to retire from the council at the election.

Cllr. Allum thanked both Cllr. Goodenough and Cllr. Ward for their work and dedication to the parish over the many years over whilst they have been parish councillors.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Dates of future meetings:

Wednesday 10th April 2019 at 7.30pm – Planning meeting if required.

Wednesday 8th May (Annual meeting of the Council) 2019 at 7.30pm

Wednesday 22nd May 2019 – Annual Parish Meeting 7.30pm.