

**Minutes of Frilsham Parish Council meeting held in the Clubroom on
Wednesday 8th November 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 (for the District Councillor's report only)

Mr. B. Lyon

Mr. D. Slack

1. To receive Apologies for Absence.

District Cllr. Pask and District Cllr. Webb sent their apologies because they were at an Eastern Area Planning meeting.

2. To receive Declaration of Interest.

2.1 Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

Cllr. Allum declared an interest in agenda item 9: Drainage, as the outfall from a drainage ditch flows through his land.

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 12th July 2017.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th July 2017 were ratified and signed by the Chairman.

3.2 Wednesday 13th September 2017.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th September 2017 were ratified as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Lyon commented that recordings from the proposed CCTV solution for the Clubroom will hold 36 days of recordings rather than 18 as had originally been suggested.

5. Report from Yattendon Estate.

Mr. Slack reported that Yattendon Estate now own the Pot Kiln and are working through the planning conditions associated with the approved planning application.

Hedge cutting will start imminently. WBC has passed the hedge and trees opposite the bus shelter to Yattendon Estate to deal with.

The annual Christmas market will be open on the weekends of the 2nd/3rd December and 9th/10th December. Harvesting of Christmas trees has already begun.

Fly tipping has been an issue during the last week with a number of complete bathroom suites (including tiles and grout) being dumped.

The planning application for a new car park in Yattendon has been withdrawn and

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alternatives are being considered.

Cllr. Allum asked for clarification on whether there was an electrical charging point for vehicles at the Royal Oak; Mr. Slack confirmed that there is.

6. Playground.

- 6.1 Cllr. Barber reported that the playground is in good order, but the grass is rather long. Mr. Lyon commented that it was possible it may get another trim. No safety issues were raised.

7. Planning

7.1 To review decisions of WBC:

- 7.1.1 17/02126/HOUSE Gardeners Cottage.
Side and rear single storey extension and redesign of the front hipped roof, internal alterations, replacement of existing deer proof fence with a 2.6m fence on the Northern and Western boundary.
Frilsham PC **objected** to the extension, but not the fence. The fence component of the application was withdrawn, and the extension was **approved** by WBC.
- 7.1.2 17/02365/HOUSE 4 Beechfield.
Single storey side and rear extension.
Frilsham PC had **no objection** to this application which was **approved** by the Eastern Area Planning Committee.
- 7.1.3 17/02165/FULD Yealand, School Lane.
Section 73A: Variation of condition (2) Approved plans, of planning permission reference 16/0941/FULD.
Frilsham PC **objected** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- 7.1.4 17/01101/COMIND Frilsham Home Farm Dairy.
S73A. Variation of Condition 5: Approved use of approved application 16/01690/COMIND.
Frilsham PC had **no objection** to this application which has been **withdrawn.**
- 7.2 Trees.
Cllr. Kettlewell reported that one of the two oak trees in the Old School which would have partially concealed and softened the extension to the garage and the new garden room when viewed from the allotment had been felled. The planning application included a significant arboricultural report and a condition was put on the permission granted that the roots of the tree should be protected during development; this however did not protect the tree itself. WBC were informed. But there was nothing which could be done.
- 7.3 The Quarry.
Cllr. Goodenough reported that he had received information about plans which are expected to be submitted for the site of the old quarry. The quarry opened in 1940 and produced lime until 15 to 20 years ago. Since then it has been sold to a consultant who is proposing to build a single dwelling with staff accommodation under paragraph 55 of planning policy.
- 7.4 To consider a Parish Design Statement for Frilsham.
There had been some interest in producing a Parish Design Statement for Frilsham which could be used by Planning Officers to assist in determining planning applications. However, for such a document to be approved by WBC there must have been consultation

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with the parish. It was agreed that parishioners who may be interested or may have time and expertise in this be sought via "The Broadsheet".

8. Report from West Berkshire District Councillors.

District Cllr. Pask raised the consultations being carried out by the Boundary Commission on the West Berkshire Ward arrangements (which close on the 13th November) and the Constituency arrangements for the South East (which close on the 11th December). Both of these items were discussed elsewhere in the meeting.

9. Drainage.

During the flooding of 2007, three properties in the Beechfield Lane / School Lane area of Frilsham were affected. A large drainage pipe was put in which should prevent the situation arising again should the same or similar weather conditions occur. The ditch to the north of Nutwood has also been cleared.

There is no storm water drainage on the Beechfield Lane side of the main road. In addition to the water that runs down Beechfield Lane, water rises to the rear of Five Oaks and runs south towards the bungalows. There are storm water drains in the cul-de-sac which are thought to belong to Sovereign Housing Association; however, they are not believed to have been maintained or cleaned. Whilst the verges in the cul-de-sac belong to WBC, the road itself belongs to Sovereign Housing Association. The Clerk will write to Sovereign Housing Association and request that the storm drain be cleaned.

After heavy rainfall, the road to the north of the Pot Kiln floods; Mr. Slack confirmed that Yattendon Estate own the land to the south of road and will request that the tenants re dig the ditch in the field, which should resolve the problem.

10. Hedges in the Parish.

10.1 The Hedge, Bank and Verge between the bush shelter and Nutwood.

This item is covered under agenda item 5: Report from Yattendon Estate.

10.2 Other Hedges giving rise for concern.

The Clerk received an email response about the hedge on Dragon Hill, referring to the fact that the road is currently closed and questioning whether the hedge needed cutting back.

Cllr. Allum has taken photographs of the hedge, with a view to reporting it to WBC.

It was noted that in several places along School Lane hedges are overgrown, as a result, it was agreed that the Clerk would mention the cutting of hedges in an article for The Broadsheet.

11. Assets.

11.1 Grit Bin at the Top of Dragon Hill.

The Clerk reported that a new 100 litre grit bin would cost in the region of £70 (excluding VAT). It was agreed that funds for a new grit bin should be included in the budget for next year, but that the bin wouldn't be replaced until all of the wood had been removed from the adjacent land.

11.2 Repairs to the Telephone Box.

Cllr. Goodenough reported that Eddy Scurr had quoted approximately £200 for the repairs to the door of the telephone box. It was suggested that a gap between the bottom of the door and the ground or a piece of weatherboard should prevent rotting at the bottom of the door in the future. It was ratified that Cllr. Goodenough would instruct Mr. Scurr to carry out the repairs.

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The Clerk reported that the cost of each pane of glass with the word “DEFIBRILLATOR” on it for the top of the telephone box would cost £20.30 (ex VAT). It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Thatcham Glass and obtain a second quote.

11.3 War Memorial.

The Clerk has spoken to John Lloyd of Bedwyn who has previously carried out work on the war memorial. He is now semi-retired, but agreed to look at photographs showing the problem. He suggested that the easiest solution may be to add a plaque with the names of those who gave their lives in the second World War.

Cllr. Ward reported that the brick work and the gate posts have been replaced around the churchyard (where the chestnut tree fell earlier in the year). The railings will be reinstated early next year.

12. Frilsham Future Implementation Group (FFIG).

12.1 Broadband.

The monthly residential cost of the Broadband connection to the Clubroom would be £34.42 (excluding VAT). This will go on the 1st January to a maximum of £36.31 (excluding VAT).

Gigaclear are currently offering free installation, but the cable is only buried 2” deep. It was suggested that it may be better to dig a deeper trench for the cable and carry out the installation ourselves.

The minimum contract is for 15 months and one month’s notice is required to terminate the contract.

It was ratified that Frilsham Parish Council would undertake the ongoing cost of the connection. FFIG will make a donation to the Parish Council for any cost involved in the installation.

12.2 CCTV.

A detailed list of items required for the CCTV system has now been drawn up and an order set up. The cost is £1,665.30 (excluding VAT). FFIG will make a donation of this amount to the Parish Council; funds have been raised via the Parish Plan and a donation from Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.

12.3 Website.

Mr. Lyon reported that the Parish Council information is being regularly put on the website.

13. Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.

At the meeting where grant money was allocated, Frilsham Clubroom was awarded an additional grant of £3,000 to match that of Frilsham Parish Council.

Mr. Lyon reported that virtually all of the grant requests were approved.

14. Clerk’s Report.

14.1 Boundary Commission – Changes to the ward boundaries.

The Clerk circulated a letter in response to the consultation prior to the meeting. The letter will be sent with two small additions giving examples of the parishes in question.

14.2 Boundary Commissions proposal for Parliamentary Constituencies.

It is being proposed that the existing Bucklebury Ward be incorporated into the Reading West Constituency. It was agreed that the Clerk would draft a letter of objection stating that the people of Frilsham look to Thatcham and Newbury rather than Reading. The draft letter would be circulated and then sent to the Boundary Commission.

14.3 Items for the Broadsheet.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write an article for The Broadsheet and raise the point

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that residents are responsible for their own hedges when against rights of way. In addition, parishioners will be reminded that to be neighbourly Christmas lights should be turned off at a reasonable hour.

14.4 Correspondence.

14.4.1 **BALC AGM – Tuesday 28th November, 7pm for 7.45pm – Woodley Town Council.**

15. Finance.

15.1 Financial Statement.

The Clerk circulated a financial report prior to the meeting, showing a balance of £23,312.95 once all cheques and lodgements have cleared. The Council resolved to approve the report.

15.2 Spending Against Budget for the first six months of FY17/18.

The Clerk circulated a report on the spending for the first six months of the financial year and included the expected end of year spending. There have been no significant overspends.

15.3 Draft Budget for FY18/19.

The Clerk circulated a draft budget totalling £7,111 excluding any donation to the Clubroom. The figures were based on the expected spend for the end of this financial year.

16. Round Table Comments.

16.1 Allotment Field.

Cllr. Benning asked if anyone had been into the allotment field from Thames Water.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Dates of future meetings:

Wednesday 13th December 2017 at 7.30pm (Planning if required).

Wednesday 10th January 2018 at 7.30pm.