

**Minutes of the Meeting of Frilsham Parish Council held on  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in the Clubroom at 7.30pm.**

Present

Cllr. M. Allum (Chairman)  
Cllr. A. Arnold  
Cllr. G. Barber  
Cllr. D. Benning  
Cllr. B. Lyon  
Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk)

**1. To receive Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from District Cllr. Culver and Mr. David Slack.

**2. To receive Declaration of Interest.**

**2.1 Declarations of Interest for the Register.**

Some councillors were reminded that their Declarations of Interest forms need to be completed.

**2.2 Declaration of Interest in Agenda Items.**

There were no declarations of interest in any items on the agenda.

**3. Approval of minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019.**

The minutes of the Frilsham Parish Council (FPC) meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were ratified and signed by the Chairman.

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

**4.1 Parking at the top of Beechfield.**

Parking on the grass at the top of Beechfield has generally not been occurring so much, however it was felt that the principal used by Sovereign Housing whereby the garages have been sold off and the properties they own don't possess parking is wrong. There are five houses in Beechfield which belong to Sovereign Housing and there is sufficient space within the curtilage of each to provide parking. It was agreed that this would be an agenda item for the next meeting in January 2020.

**4.2 Churchyard maintenance.**

Cllr. Allum will talk to John Craig, treasurer of Yattendon and Frilsham PCC about the cost of the churchyard maintenance for St. Frideswide's church.

**5. Report from Yattendon Estate.**

Mr. Slack reported that the shop is doing well and gearing up for Christmas. Farming has been heavy going with all the rain and the Estate is very behind in the winter cropping programme as the fields have been too waterlogged to get onto. The Estate will be extracting around 95,000 Christmas trees this year, so the roads through Yattendon Village are likely to be a little busier than usual. The Christmas Market is returning on the weekends of 30<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> December, and 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December with new stall holders, brass bands, bell ringers, a School Choir and a Rock Choir. The Café will be open with a Hog Roast and Father Christmas will be in attendance to give presents out to the children.

## 6. Planning

### 6.1 Planning Decisions made by WBC:

#### 6.1.1 19/01675/HOUSE - Frilsham Mill House.

*Conversion of existing garages into habitable rooms. Single storey front extension to form sun room, porch and disabled WC. Erection of a car port.*

FPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

Following on from the WBC conservation officers comments on this application there was a discussion about what may be worthy of potentially being locally listed; it was agreed that this should be on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### 6.1.2 19/02247/AGRIC - Homerstead House, Hawkridge Hill.

*Timber framed building extension measuring 8.8m wide x 12m long x 2.750m to eaves and 4.050m to ridge. Proposed cladding and timber stock walling to infill open areas on existing building.*

FPC **objected** to this application which WBC has determined as **not requiring an application**.

### 6.2 Acknowledgement of CIL Money.

A sum of CIL money has been received for the development of Yealand. This needs to be used on one or more capital projects for the benefit of parishioners.

CIL money is payable on self-built homes if they are sold within three years of completion.

Options on how the CIL money could be spent included improving the path down to St.

Frideswide's well and the possibility of making a donation to the Beechfield Lane

Residents' Association for improvements to the surface of Beechfield Lane. The Clerk will check with the CIL team that this option is legal.

## 7. Report from West Berkshire District Councillor.

District Cllr. Culver submitted the following report:

On Monday 28 October 2019 West Berkshire Council held its first climate conference, a public forum to discuss how it can meet its target to become carbon neutral by 2030. In mid-November the council will publish a draft environment strategy and a six week period of public consultation will begin.

We are creating a community orchard in East Ilsley and hope to begin planting in late November, early December. One of the WBC tree officers is advising us about the mixture of trees we should plant. If you are interested in coming to visit and find out more about the project please contact me.

The general election is on Thursday 12 December and some council meetings have been postponed as a result.

WBC are about to embark on an appraisal of all conservation areas, including public consultations. I noticed of the six villages in 'my' ward Frilsham is the only one not on the list. Are you not a conservation area? If not, do you know why not?

## 8. Playground and Facilities around the Club Room.

### 8.1 Safety issues noted during visual checks.

Cllr Lyon reported that Cllr. Allum has repaired or replaced the latches on the gates. Cllr. Lyon has contacted the manufacturer about replacement caps to cover the bolt heads and nuts and is awaiting a response.

The zip wire needs adjustment; Cllr. Lyon and Cllr. Allum need to look at this together.

A plank in the seat of one of the benches has split; whilst it is very firm it still needs to be monitored.

Cllr. Barber will carry out the inspections until the next meeting.

## **8.2 The Cradle Swings.**

Agricultural Estate Services in Beenham have submitted a quote to replace the rotten support post of the swing, including repairing the safety surfacing for a total of £565 plus VAT. There was a discussion about what course of action to take and it was agreed that Cllr. Lyon would contact Evans, the manufacturer and see if he could persuade them to honour the guarantee on the timber.

## **9. The Clubroom.**

Cllr. Lyon reported that he had met with Graham Bell from Beech Hill Memorial Hall, which has recently been demolished and rebuilt. The experience at Beech Hill was very positive and they are willing to share their knowledge and experience. There will be further meetings to help inform those working on the Clubroom.

Demolishing and rebuilding the Clubroom is now being seriously considered.

## **10. Frilsham Futures Implementation Group (FFIG).**

The work on the CCTV installation is now complete. Cllr. Lyon and the clerk will work on a CCTV policy.

## **11. Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.**

Cllr. Lyon reported that all the grant applications made to the Trust had been agreed and would be met in full.

## **12. Clerk's Report.**

### **12.1 Appointing a new councillor.**

The Clerk reported that following the advertisement of the vacancy, FPC was now able to co-opt a new councillor. There was a discussion about possible candidates.

### **12.2 Update on assets (bus shelter and millennium bench).**

Cllr. Allum will replace the felt on the bus shelter roof over the Christmas period.

After a number of discussions about the millennium bench, it transpires that there are actually two: one is adjacent to the football pitch on the field and the second is in the new part of the church yard backing onto the hedge against Brocks Lane.

### **12.3 Grit bins.**

The Clerk reported that once the other parishes are ready, Willis and Ainsworth will be asked to refill all of the grit bins.

### **12.4 Items for the Broadsheet.**

A report on the meeting and a request for anyone interested in the being on FPC to contact the Clerk will be placed in the Broadsheet.

## **13. Finance.**

### **13.1 Financial Statement.**

The Clerk presented a financial statement dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 showing a balance of £35,510.55 once all transactions have cleared. The bank statement dated the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 showed a balance of £31,640.89. Of these funds, £15,000 is ring fenced for the Clubroom refurbishment/rebuild.

### **13.2 Report on six monthly spending against budget.**

The Clerk circulated a report on the spending against budget prior to the meeting. The budget was based on an expenditure of £11,601.88; based on current spending, it is likely that only £9,508.65 will be spent.

In addition, CIL money of £5,075.16 has been received.

**14. Round Table Comments**

**14.1 Kissing Gate at junction of FRIL 11/1 and School Lane.**

The ground under this kissing gate has dropped significantly and requires some hardcore. It was agreed this would be reported to WBC.

**14.2 Water on Rectory Hill.**

Thames Water have commented that the water on Rectory Hill is surface water and not a leak in the mains. It has also been stated that it is not sewage, but it is certainly more than just run-off. There is enough water that the edge of the road is being eroded away. This will be reported to WBC.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Dates of future meetings:      Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 –7.30pm.