

**Minutes of the Meeting of Frilsham Parish Council held on
Wednesday 8th January 2020 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)
District Cllr. C. Culver
Mr. David Slack
Mr. Michael Goodenough

1 To receive apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2 To receive declarations of interest.

Cllr. Benning declared an interest in any items relating to Beechfield Lane.

3 To approve minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 13th November 2019.

The minutes of the meeting of Frilsham Parish Council (FPC) held on Wednesday 13th November 2019 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by Cllr. Allum.

4 Matters arising from the minutes.

4.1 Churchyard maintenance.

Cllr. Allum reported that there was some difficulty with finding out about the split in costs of the churchyard maintenance between Frilsham and Yattendon as the work is now carried out under one contract. Cllr. Allum will speak to Robert Morley.

MA

4.2 Bus shelter roof.

The felt on the bus shelter roof has not yet been replaced, but it hasn't been forgotten.

MA

5 Vacancy for a new councillor.

Michael Goodenough from Parsonage Farm is willing to become a councillor. The appointment of a new councillor will be considered at the March meeting of FPC. The Clerk will circulate an updated list of contact information.

6 Parking at the top of Beechfield.

There is an issue with cars parking on the grass and in the layby at the top of Beechfield Lane; not only does it look untidy (and damage the grass), it restricts visibility at the junction.

Bollards were discussed as an option to stop parking on the grass.

It was agreed that FPC would write to Sovereign Housing and ask them to consider making provision for parking within all their properties. If a copy of this letter is sent to District Cllr. Culver, she will obtain support from WBC and get them to encourage Sovereign to carry out this work.

HP

CC

7 Drainage issues.

7.1 Beechfield Lane.

The drains around the cul-de-sac of Beechfield Lane are blocked. The problem has been reported to WBC (reference number 162699), however, WBC has commented that the drains are not theirs because they are in the road which belongs to Sovereign Housing. FPC has a map which clearly shows the areas which WBC carries out grounds maintenance on (generally the grass areas) and are assumed to belong to WBC as opposed to areas which belong to Sovereign Housing which includes the

road in the cul-de-sac.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write a letter to Sovereign Housing, including the map, copy WBC and request a site meeting with both parties to try and resolve the issue.

HP

7.2 Rectory Hill.

WBC is aware of the problem with water running down Rectory Hill. Thames Water has investigated and is of the opinion that the water is not from a leak in the main water supply or the sewer, it is therefore assumed to be a spring. Three of the storm drains are blocked which means the water is running down the side of Rectory Hill causing damage to the side of the road and freezing when the weather is cold.

Questions were asked about how WBC is prioritising work, District Cllr. Culver agreed to investigate this.

CC

8 Report from Yattendon Estate.

Mr. Slack reported that the Christmas trees had had a very successful year. The Estate has received a number of complaints about muddy footpaths; these will improve with some dryer weather.

Work on the Pot Kiln has been hampered by the main contractor going into receiver ship. A project manager has been appointed directly and trades are being taken on as necessary. The project is being hampered by issues with obtaining a 3-phase power supply; one of the landowners of the land over which the cables pass is objecting to the work.

It was noted that Mr. Slack will be leaving Yattendon Estate in the summer.

9 Planning.

There were no new planning applications to be considered and no planning decisions from WBC.

9.1 Local Listing.

The only nationally listed buildings in Frilsham parish are St. Frideswide's church and Parsonage Farm. *Magpie Farm and Birch Farm are also nationally listed.*

There was a discussion about local listing, what benefits it might have and the implications for the owners. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Sue Ellis to get a better understanding of the implications of local listing.

HP

9.2 Expenditure of CIL money.

The Clerk reported that CIL money can be spent by the parish on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure or anything else which is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area. This could include work on the Clubroom. However, the CIL money needs to be spent within five years of being received.

After a discussion, it was agreed that half of the CIL money should be allocated to the Beechfield Lane Residents Association for the improvement of the surface. Projects to be considered for the remainder included the Clubroom, a defibrillator in the valley and improvements to the play area (possibly some levelling to reduce the bumps).

There was the suggestion of a community apple tree in the corner of the allotment field; it is understood that Ian Coxhead already has a suitable tree.

10 Beechfield Lane.

Cllr. Benning reported that the Beechfield Lane Residents Association has started investigating and obtaining quotes for the surface of the lane between the junction at the top and the cul-de-sac. The first quote is for a 10m length of concrete/tarmac for the width of the road. Concrete is approximately half the price of tarmac but still very costly.

There are mixed views amongst residents about contributing to the cost because some

are of the opinion that the drainage issues should be resolved first.

A question was asked about whether this might be eligible for a members bid.

11 Report from West Berkshire District Councillor.

District Cllr. Culver reported that there is a full council meeting on Thursday 9th January which has a very long agenda due to purdah for the general election in December. One of the agenda items is the options for recycling of plastics within West Berkshire. By 2023, Central Government will have determined a strategy, for recycling plastics and WBC is not keen to expand recycling until this strategy is announced.

Textiles, placed on the kerbside for recycling, need to be in clear bags and labelled as such. A feasibility study is to take place on reintroducing small food caddies.

A six-week consultation period on the WBC Environment Strategy will be announced on 9th January 2020. This has the aim of WBC being carbon neutral by 2030. A feasibility study is to take place on a bond scheme for green projects in the local area. A community orchard is to be planted in East Ilsley near the allotments.

Sites for future housing around Newbury are currently being considered. There is the suggestion of WBC having its own housing association which would build new social housing.

12 Playground and facilities around the Clubroom.

12.1 Safety items picked up on weekly checks.

Cllr. Barber reported that all of the equipment is working as designed and that it was well used over the Christmas holidays. There are a few moles, but not enough to warrant any action.

Cllr. Benning will carry out the weekly inspections until the next meeting.

12.2 To receive an update on maintenance.

Cllr. Lyon reported that with Cllr. Allum's help, the zip wire has now been adjusted and tested.

The tube slide was not supplied by A. E. Evans but was manufactured by Ledon of Denmark. The UK distributor appears approachable and may be able to supply spare caps.

Cllr. Lyon is in discussions with A. E. Evans about the post for the cradle swing which has rotted at the base; they may supply a replacement post, but FPC would be responsible for installing it.

13 The Clubroom.

Work is going on to gather information about the possible rebuild of the Clubroom.

14 Frilsham Futures Implementation Group (FFIG).

The annual BBQ held on the first May bank holiday Monday will be held on the Friday bank holiday this year and will have a VE day theme. Parishioners from Yattendon will be invited to join in and there will be tractor and trailer rides from Yattendon to the Clubroom. Lord Iliffe has been contacted about being involved. The organising committee will be meeting during the last week in February. It is planned to have the BBQ later in the day and for it to be followed by a Victory bonfire. It is hoped some people will come in period dress, there will be a space for period vehicles and a display of wartime photographs. Cllr. Allum commented that the insurance must be checked with regard to the bonfire.

15 Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.

There was nothing to report from the Sports and Social Trust.

16 Clerks Report.

16.1.1 Update on Grit bins.

The Clerk reported that Willis and Ainsworth are now making a service charge for

filling each grit bin in addition to the cost of the grit. It was agreed that the grit bin at the bottom of Coach Hill (which is empty) will be filled up and a further 15 bags of grit will be delivered to Holly Cottage to fill up the remainder of the bins.

16.2 Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 20th May 2020.

It was agreed to ask David Slack to speak on Estate Management. The Clerk will confirm this with Mr. Slack.

Refreshments will be organised as in previous years.

16.3 Items for the Broadsheet.

It was agreed that information about fabric recycling should be included along with information about local listing.

17 Finances.

17.1 To ratify the budget for FY20/21.

The budget, circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and attached to these minutes was approved.

17.2 To ratify the precept for FY20/21.

In support of the budget it was resolved to raise a precept of £9,000, remaining the same as the last seven years.

17.3 Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement had been circulated to those present prior to the meeting and showed a balance of £34,858.28 once all payments have cleared. A reconciliation to the last bank statement dated 15th December 2019, with a balance of £35,130.07 was shown. A sum of £18,000 is ringfenced as a donation to the Clubroom for the refurbishment/rebuild project, this includes £3,000 from the current financial year.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th March 2020 –7.30pm.