

**Minutes of a virtual Meeting of Frilsham Parish Council held on  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (via Zoom).**

Present

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

**1 To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from District Cllr. C. Culver.

**2 To receive declarations of interest.**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 To approve minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

The minutes of the meeting of Frilsham Parish Council (FPC) held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and will be signed by Cllr. Allum.

**4 Matters arising from the minutes.**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**5 Report from Yattendon Estate.**

The Countryside Stewardship application by the Estate has been approved. This is a huge biodiversity project.

The Estate and businesses based on the Estate are making plans for coming out of the COVID pandemic.

There was a discussion about the possibility of barriers or bollards to prevent quad bikes going along the restricted byways BUCK 18 and 19. Anything installed has to be acceptable to the Rights of Way team at WBC.

Plans are being considered for the weekend on which the Fete would have been held; it is hoped that some small-scale activities including a cake sale and family orienteering may be able to take place. In addition, it is hoped that the Classic Car event will be able to take place in September possibly with the addition of extra activities which might have previously been included in the Fete.

**6 Planning.**

**6.1 21/00441/HOUSE – Oaken House, School Lane (formerly Yealand).**

*Replacement doors and roof to existing rear orangery.*

It was agreed that FPC has **no objection** to this application.

**6.2 Other Planning Matters in the Parish.**

Residents around the old quarry have received notification from the owners of the proposal to build four eco homes in the quarry, possibly in addition to the home for which there is extant planning permission (until 1/5/2021). There are suggestions that if any planning permission is not obtained the site will be offered back to Hazel and Jefferies.

The Clerk added that there is currently an application to fulfil conditions on the extant application. A link to this application will be circulated to councillors.

**7 Report from West Berkshire District Cllr Carolyne Culver.**

District Cllr. Culver submitted a written report in advance of the meeting. WBC has approved its budget for the coming year. Concern has been raised about residents falling foul of the CIL system and as a result they are being charged thousands of pounds for not

completing paperwork fully.

**8 Playpark and Facilities around the Clubroom.**

**8.1 Safety items picked up on weekly checks.**

The mole hills which were reported at the last meeting have largely been flattened by user of the area which is being heavily used. All the equipment is looking in good repair. There are some high tree branches which need to be removed when COVID restrictions allow. Cllr. Allum reported that he has some heavy-duty gate latches which he will put onto the gates before the inspection.

Cllr. Lyon commented that he will continue carrying out the inspections as he needs to check the Clubroom on a regular basis.

**8.2 To receive an update on the Toddler Swings.**

The toddler swing is being monitored on a regular basis and once the COVID restrictions allow, the leg and horizontal beam will be replaced.

**9 The Clubroom and surroundings.**

The Clubroom will open for limited activities on the 12<sup>th</sup> April. Parish Council meetings could take place in the hall, but everyone must be sat 2m apart and wear masks. From the 17<sup>th</sup> May larger meetings can take place, but there is not allowed to be any mingling.

**10 FFIG.**

No progress has taken place with the project for the Clubroom mainly because funding streams have all been COVID related. Funding bodies are now beginning to open up to non COVID projects.

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

Details of activities instead of the annual Fete are minuted in the report from Yattendon Estate.

**12 Mains Water Supply.**

Cllr. Goodenough reported that there was no update. The next meeting of the Pang Valley Flood Forum is on the 25<sup>th</sup> March. It was noted that there had been a water leak between the road from Grimsbury Castle and Wellhouse Lane.

**13 Clerks Report.**

**13.1 Annual Parish Assembly – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021.**

The Clerk reported that Laura Farris MP will be attending the Annual Parish Assembly to answer questions submitted in advance. The Clerk has already asked parishioners for questions in the March edition of The Broadsheet. The Assembly will be more fully advertised in the April edition with a reminder to submit questions. It was agreed that an extra meeting would be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April to confirm the questions to be submitted.

This year, the Annual Assembly will be advertised in the Broadsheet, on Facebook, via the parish WhatsApp groups and on the parish noticeboard.

**13.2 District Parish Conference – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March.**

Cllr. Allum will be attending the District Parish Conference.

**13.3 BALC AGM – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021.**

The Clerk reported that BALC now uses the professional services of HALC and has released the offices it was using in Wyvols Court. As a result, funds are being saved. Some of these funds are being used to provide free training for councillors and clerks (this does not include the CiLCA course the Clerk is just embarking on). The way in which membership costs are calculated is being reviewed, particularly given that there is a bias towards larger councils.

**13.4 Date of Annual Meeting of the Council in May.**

The Annual meeting of the council is currently scheduled for Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May, however as things currently stand, virtual meetings cannot take place after the 6<sup>th</sup> May and face to face meeting cannot start until after the 21<sup>st</sup> June. A change in regulations or advice from NALC

is awaited on how to proceed. The issue has been raised with District Cllr. Culver and Laura Farris MP. It was noted that the Annual meeting of the council could be kept very short and could therefore potentially be held on the field or possibly in the Clubroom if it was raining if held after the 12<sup>th</sup> May; the 19<sup>th</sup> May was considered a possibility.

**13.5** Items for The Broadsheet.

The Clerk will write a summary of this meeting to be included in The Broadsheet.

**14** Finances.

**14.1** Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated to those present prior to the meeting and showed a balance of £37,840.17 once all payments and credits have cleared.

Payments since the last meeting:

SO	Helen Pratt (January salary)	£213.49
DD	Gigaclear (January Broadband)	£35.00
SO	Helen Pratt (February salary)	£213.49
DD	Gigaclear (February Broadband)	£35.00
100854	Helen Pratt (Reimbursement for March 20 to February 21.	£20.76
100855	Post Office Ltd (SSE 13/11/20 – 12/2/21)	£29.91

A VAT claim of £394.36 has been claimed to cover the period up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

A reconciliation to the last bank statement dated 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 with a balance of £38,144.97 was shown. A sum of £21,000 is ringfenced as a donation to the Clubroom for the refurbishment/rebuild project, including funds for FY20/21.

**14.2** Future Projects.

There was a brief discussion on possible future projects. It was suggested that St. Frideswide's well and the area around it needs to be tidied up.

**15** AOB

**15.1** Digital Mapping Training.

Cllr. Lyon reported that he is booked a place on some free digital mapping training being run by Parish Online.

**15.2** Frilsham Millennium Book.

Cllr. Allum reported that he has been given a copy of the Frilsham Millennium Book by Rosemary Bateman. The Frilsham Millennium Book was produced by Frilsham Parish Council and contains water colour paintings by Dorcas Ward of wildflowers found in the parish. Two copies were printed; one is in the Berkshire Records office and the other was for Frilsham parishioners. There is also a CD of the book, but there are currently some technical issues with opening the files. It was suggested that experts could go into the Broadsheet and an electronic version could potentially go on the website. Possible places for the hardcopy of the book included St. Frideswides Church or Newbury Museum. It was agreed that this would be discussed further at the next meeting.

**15.3** Cut Flower Nursery.

A small section of land to the east of Wellhouse Lane is being used to grow cut flowers. It is understood that the project is looking to expand into a larger area.

**15.4** Tree Work.

Mr. Hole commented that tree work is scheduled to take place over the next week on Coach House Hill to remove some dead and dying beech trees.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Extraordinary meeting of the council: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April consideration of questions for the Annual Assembly.

Annual Parish Assembly: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 7.30pm.

Annual meeting of the council: Provisionally Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.30pm.

Frilsham Parish Council  
Signed:

2021/6  
Date: