

**Minutes of a Meeting of Frilsham Parish Council held on
Wednesday 10th November 2021 in Frilsham Clubroom.**

Present

Cllr. M. Allum (Chairman)
Cllr. A. Arnold
Cllr. G. Barber
Cllr. D. Benning
Cllr. M. Goodenough
Cllr. B. Lyon
District Cllr. Culver
Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk)
Ian Coxhead (Chairman of Frilsham Allotment Association)

1 Public Session.

There were no matters raised during the public session.

2 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies of absence were received from Mr. Hole.

3 To receive declarations of interest.

Cllr. Lyon declared an interest in Connecting Communities in Berkshire (CCB) as a trustee of the organisation. There were no changes to the register of interests.

4 To approve minutes of meetings:

4.1 Wednesday 1st September 2021.

The minutes of the meeting of Frilsham Parish Council (FPC) held on Wednesday 1st September 2021 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by Cllr. Allum.

4.2 Matters arising from the minutes.

4.2.1 Culvert next to the Clubroom.

The Clerk reported that having spoken to Stuart Clark at WBC, the repairs to the broken head walls on the culvert under the road between the Clubroom and the track to Nutwood need to be reported to WBC via their website.

4.2.2 Letter to Dick Greenaway.

The Clerk will write to Dick Greenaway thanking him for the time and effort he put into producing the updated footpath leaflet.

5 Report from Yattendon Estate.

Whilst Mr. Hole was not at the meeting, it was noted that there was a comprehensive report from the Estate in the most recent edition of The Broadsheet.

6 Planning.

6.1 Planning applications which WBC has consulted FPC on:

6.1.1 21/02482/HOUSE – Sunnyside.

Erection of 1.5m storey rear extension. External alterations including removal of 3 dormers and front porch. Addition of new gabled dormer.

It was agreed that FPC has **no objection** to this application subject to conditions on external lighting and construction vehicles parking within the curtilage of Sunnyside and not obstructing the track.

6.1.2 21/02680/HOUSE – Frideswide, School Lane.

Move and extend doors to garage and erect cycle and bin store.

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

6.2 Planning decisions made by WBC:

6.2.1 **21/01832/HOUSE – Forge Cottage, Hatchets Lane.**

Erection of single storey rear extension with replacement of roof over existing rear extension and replacement of existing brick finish with cladding to match new extension; installation of 2 rooflights.

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

6.2.2 **21/01478/HOUSE – 11 Beechfield.**

Conversion of outbuilding to garden room.

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

6.2.3 **21/01248/HOUSE – Manderley**

Construction of a domestic swimming pool, pool pump room and associated ground works.

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

6.3 Other Planning Matters.

6.3.1 **Frilsham Lime Quarry (21/01224/FULMAJ).**

It is understood that the hub building is to be removed from the application.

6.3.2 **The Coach House, Hawkridge Hill.**

Comments were made about the impact of the internal lighting at The Coach House, after dark, on the surrounding countryside. The Clerk will check the conditions of the planning permission.

7 Update on the Licensing Application for The Breeze Drinks Company.

The licensing application for The Breeze Drinks Company was considered by the WBC Licensing Committee at a meeting on Wednesday 29th September. Whilst the committee did not limit the number of events which could be held at Hawkridge House, they did restrict the hours during which events may be held to between 10am and midnight.

The license is only likely to be reviewed if there are complaints to the WBC Environmental Health team.

8 Report from West Berkshire District.

8.1 COVID Cases.

The number of COVID cases in the area before half term was very high. The highest rate in West Berkshire is currently in the Ridgeway Ward.

8.2 Adult Social Care Consultation.

A consultation on Adult Social Care is taking place until the 3rd January 2022.

8.3 River Pollution caused by legal Sewage Outfall.

District Cllr. Culver reported that Thames Water can legally allow raw sewage to flow into rivers in some circumstances. A petition was circulated in order to try and prevent water authorities from being allowed to let any raw sewage flow into rivers.

8.4 Parking in Beechfield.

The issue of residents parking their cars on grass which should be cut by WBC was raised. It was noted that some of the Sovereign properties do not have any parking. District Cllr. Culver asked for photographs showing examples of the parking problems which Cllr. Allum agreed to supply.

9 Playground facilities and area around the Club Room.

9.1 Safety Issues noted on visual safety checks.

Cllr. Lyon reported that another cap has gone missing from over a bolt. Several branches, which have come down as a result of the storms, have been tidied up. It was agreed that Cllr. Lyon, Cllr. Allum and Cllr. Goodenough would have a site meeting in the playground and would carry out a visual inspection of the trees. There are a few new mole hills. The grass will be cut one last time before winter.

9.2 Progress with levelling the surface of the playground.

Cllr. Lyon reported that he has obtained a quote to level and replace the matting beneath the basket swings, the zip wire and the original swings (this being the areas suffering most from an uneven surface). The quote was in excess of £6,000. The replacement mats are 1m square and cost £13.00 each.

It was proposed that the option to purchase matting and topsoil be explored and a working party be organised to carry out the work. This was agreed and Cllr. Lyon, Cllr. Allum and Cllr. Goodenough will review the task when they look at the trees.

9.3 Bin emptying.

The bins have been emptied this week and were last emptied two weeks ago. Whilst this is not what is contracted, for this time of year, it is acceptable.

10 The Clubroom.

Cllr. Lyon has met with two members of the, recently rebuilt, Beech Hill Village Hall Committee. They are very interested in the Clubroom project and very happy to share their story. The responsibilities were split into fundraising and the build. The build involves a brick plinth, a cladded timber frame and a slate roof. The building is well insulated. They have identified that a porch/hallway is needed to prevent too much heat loss. It is hoped to actively start the Frilsham Clubroom project in January 2022.

11 Environment.

11.1 Rights of Way.

Footpath FRIL11 from the top of Dragon Hill to the Pot Kiln is almost impassable since the tenant dug a ditch perpendicular to the footpath and destroyed the existing drainage.

Historically there has been a proposal to move this footpath south, outside of the field into the woodland, but not all the land belongs to Yattendon Estate. Cllr. Allum has raised this issue with Yattendon Estate and with WBC.

Footpath FRIL5 runs along the north side of the M4, before changing direction and coming out in Yattendon. When this footpath enters the copse, it becomes difficult to determine where the path is.

The Clerk will contact Sallie Jennings, Rights of Way Officer at WBC for advice on how to proceed with both issues.

11.2 Community Orchard.

Cllr. Allum and Mr. Coxhead have carried out a site visit and discussed work. A gate has been donated and there is a telegraph pole to serve as a gatepost. The area needs to be flailed and cleared of rubbish.

Cllr. Lyon reported that he has twenty tree guards for the project.

There was a general discussion about signage for donations towards the trees, the possibility of establishing a quiet area and whether something could be tied in with the Platinum Jubilee. Mrs. Allum will write an article for The Broadsheet, inviting people to help plant the trees. The Clerk has applied for three cherry trees under the "Blossom into Spring" project being run by WBC to remember those who have died as a result of COVID. There was a brief discussion about where these trees will be planted.

11.3 3-Phase Power Supply to Frilsham.

The majority of Frilsham is currently only served by a two-phase power supply, which is insufficient for fast EV charging points. There was a discussion about how to apply pressure to the power companies to provide a three-phase supply.

District Cllr. Culver agreed to explore what WBC might be doing to encourage the power companies to provide a three-phase supply to rural areas.

12 Frilsham Future Implementation Group (FFIG).

FFIG will be involved with fundraising for the Clubroom after Christmas.

13 Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.

The cake store in May and the various stores at the Yattendon Classic Vehicle Day raised a total of £2,596 for the Trust (approximately 10% of the profit from the average Fete). A donation of £100 has been made to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance, the remainder will be held by the Trust. It is hoped to hold a fete in 2022. No discretionary grants have been made for the last 2 years.

14 Clerk's Report

14.1 West Berkshire Climate Forum.

There will be a Zoom Climate forum on the 24th November at 12.30pm.

14.2 CCB AGM – Thursday 11th November.

Cllr. Lyon will attend the CCB AGM on Thursday 11th November at 10.30am.

14.3 Berkshire Association of Local Councils (BALC) AGM.

The AGM of the BALC will be held on Wednesday 17th November in Woodley at 7.30pm. It will be followed by a presentation on Climate change.

14.4 The following dates were agreed for meetings until May 2023:

12th January 2022
9th March 2022
11th May 2022
13th July 2022
14th September 2022
9th November 2022
11th January 2023
8th March 2023
10th May 2023

The 18th May 2022 was suggested for the Annual Parish Meeting.

14.5 Items for The Broadsheet.

The Clerk will write a summary of the meeting for The Broadsheet. Any parishioners considering installing a EV charging point will be asked to contact FPC, so that evidence can be gathered on the need for a three-phase supply.

15 Finances.

15.1 Banking arrangements.

Lloyds bank has turned down the application for a new current account on the grounds that FPC already has a current account.

HSBC are imposing charges from 1st November of £8.00 per month plus £1.00 per cheque. It was agreed to explore moving to online banking with HSBC which is still provided free.

15.2 Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement was circulated to those present prior to the meeting and showed a balance of £43,293.22 once all payments and credits have cleared.

Payments since the last meeting:

Gigaclear (September, October and November Broadband)	£105.00
Salaries (August to October 2021)	£640.47
Website hosting	£17.99
Post Office Ltd (SSE 11/8/2021 – 23/10/2021)	£34.36
Frilsham Clubroom (rent for meetings)	£42.00

A bank reconciliation to the last statement dated the 15th October 2021 with a balance of £43,636.24 was circulated prior to the meeting. A sum of £22,500 is ringfenced as a donation to the Clubroom for the refurbishment/rebuild project, up until 31st March 2022.

15.3 Six monthly spending against budget.

The Clerk circulated a summary of spending for the first six months of the year.

It was agreed to make the following donations:

CCB Membership	£40.00
West Berkshire Countryside Society	£100.00
Frilsham PCC	£650.00
WBC Libraries	£300.00

16 Any other business.

16.1 Platinum Jubilee.

There was a discussion about what parishioners might like to do to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee; a picnic was suggested.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Next meeting of Frilsham Parish Council: Wednesday 12th January 2022 at 7.30pm.