

**Minutes of the Meeting of Frilsham Parish Council held on
Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 7.30pm in Frilsham Clubroom.**

Present

Cllr. M. Allum (Chairman)
Cllr. M. Goodenough
Cllr. B. Lyon
Cllr. R. Morley
Mr. J. Hole (Yattendon Estate)
Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk)

- 1 **To receive apologies for absence.**
Apologies of absence were received from Cllr. G. Barber, Cllr. I. Coxhead and District Cllr. Culver.
- 2 **Declarations of Interest.**
 - 2.1 **To receive declarations of interest.**
There were no updates to the Register of Interests.
 - 2.2 **Declaration of Interest in Agenda Items.**
Cllr. Allum declared an interest in the allotment fencing.
Cllr. Lyon declared an interest in the Clubroom as Chairman of the Clubroom Committee.
Cllr. Morley declared an interest in the Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.
- 3 **To approve minutes of meeting.**
The minutes of the meeting of FPC held on 8th November 2023 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by Cllr. Allum.
The minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting of FPC held on the 6th December 2023 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by Cllr. Allum
- 4 **Matters arising from the minutes.**
 - 4.1 **Rights of way.**
Cllr. Allum has walked and reported the footpath parallel to the motorway (FRIL 5) to WBC as it was very overgrown. This has already been cut back and is now easily passable.
The footpath through the Renegrade Brewery (FRIL 13) is missing some way markers and this was discussed with Mr. Hole (Yattendon Estate).
The way marker at the back of The Nook, which had fallen over, has been replaced.
 - 4.2 **SID location at top of Beechfield.**
There was no update on WBC approved locations for the speed indicator device.
- 5 **Report from Yattendon Estate.**
Mr. Hole reported that there had been 50% more rain during 2023 than the 50-year average.
The impact of the rain on the roads has been significant and of particular note is the huge pothole in the road at Shockenden, which was filled by WBC the previous day and washed out again today. A cone has been placed in the hole. It was suggested that Mr. Hole contact District Cllr. Culver directly about this pothole.
The Christmas tree harvest was very successful, and the Santa Run raised over £5,000.
The Pot Kiln will be closed for 2 to 3 months for refurbishment, the lease having been taken on by the manager of the Royal Oak in Yattendon.

HP

- 6** **Planning**
- 6.1** Planning Decisions made by WBC:
- 6.1.1** **23/02160/LBC & 23/02161/HOUSE - The Cottage, Magpie Farm**
Proposed kitchen door canopy, HV oil tank on brick plinth and fluepipe additions to rear elevation, replacement entrance door and alterations to two window openings, replacement windows, and internal works.
 FPC had **no objection** to these applications which have been **approved** by WBC.
- 7** **West Berkshire District Councillors Report.**
 One of the ash trees from Frilsham Quarry, overhanging Dragon Hill, recently fell and blocked the road. A number of other ash trees are growing on the boundary of the quarry, and it was suggested that they be raised with District Cllr. Culver.
 It was questioned whether there was a timescale for remedial works to rebuild the collapsed wall on Dragon Hill.
- 8** **Playground and Facilities around the Club Room.**
- 8.1** Installation of the replacement timbers.
 Both the replacement platform floor and the replacement leg have been delivered from A.E. Evans. The invoice for delivery will come from Awberry Precision.
 Cllr. Allum reported that he has replaced the platform floor on the multi-play unit, but that two more sections are showing signs of wear. One of the uprights on the same unit is very rotten at the very top.
 The leg of the basket swing will be replaced when the weather is better.
- 8.2** An update on the surfacing.
 Cllr. Lyon will obtain quotes for Tiger Mulch over a larger area of the playground.
- 8.3** Other matters in the Playground and around the Clubroom.
 Moving the contract for emptying the bins to Tactical Facilities Management has led to a much-improved service.
 Work has been carried out on the carpark of the Clubroom, which revealed that the Gigaclear cable, supplying the broadband connection to the Clubroom was only installed an inch below the surface. This has resulted in the cable being damaged during the works. Gigaclear engineers have come out and made a temporary fix by splicing in a new piece of cable. The repair is protected by a strategically placed cone, whilst a permanent repair is awaited.
- 9** **Environment.**
- 9.1** WBC Proposed Cuts.
 WBC is proposing to reduce funding for the clearing of gullies and bridge maintenance, and bin emptying. In terms of bin emptying WBC is proposing to stop emptying the bins at the top of Beechfield Lane and at the entrance to the Clubroom.
 FPC objects to the reduction in funding to maintain gullies and bridges and feels that the bins at the top of Beechfield Lane and at the entrance to the Clubroom should be maintained.
After the meeting, WBC reviewed comments on the proposed cuts and will not be cutting funding on gullies or on bin emptying.
- 9.2** Parking around the garages behind Beechfield Lane.
 Details of two vehicles, which appear to have been abandoned have been reported to WBC.
 The three IBCs (Intermediate Bulk Containers) have been reported to WBC as flytipping.
 In total, there are now four essentially abandoned vehicles, one abandoned trailer and three IBCs.

MA

BL

9.3	<u>Deer fencing on the School Lane Allotment.</u> It was agreed that the materials for the fencing would be collected from Cllr. Goodenough's on Friday 19 th January.	MA						
9.4	<u>Further enhancements to the Orchard on the Pot Kiln Lane Allotment site.</u> Three more trees have been donated and planted in the orchard. A lot of hedging has also been planted. Trees, resulting from of an application to the Woodland Trust are due to be delivered and will need planting. Cllr. Allum will stabilise the bench in the orchard.	MA						
10	<u>The Clubroom.</u> The Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust, the owner of the Clubroom, continue to need convincing on the merits of The Clubroom redevelopment.	BL						
11	<u>Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.</u> Cllr. Lyon reported that it has been suggested that the Yattendon and Frilsham War Memorial Trust be incorporated into the Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust. Both charities are for the benefit of the community and individuals. The War Memorial Trust has an income of approximately £3,400 based on interest from investments. The lease on the cricket ground is currently being renewed. The AGM of the Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust will be held on 26 th March in Yattendon Village Hall. The first meeting has already taken place to plan the annual fete and the next meeting is scheduled for the week beginning 15 th January.							
12	<u>Clerk's Report.</u>							
12.1	<u>Correspondence.</u>							
12.1.1	District Parish Conference – 30th January 2- 4.30pm Shaw House (hybrid meeting). Cllr. Allum and the Clerk will attend this event.							
12.2	Electricity Supply for the phone box. It was agreed that Cllr.Allum would seek an alternative contract for the electricity supply to the phone box, as soon as possible. There was a discussion about the possibility of moving the defibrillator to the Clubroom, where the Clubroom electricity supply could be used, rather than it needing its own supply. The Clerk raised concerns that the ambulance service has a maximum distance that it will send someone for a defibrillator (if the need arises) and that some of the main parts of Frilsham may be more than this distance from the Clubroom, but not from the current location; the Clerk will seek confirmation from South Central Ambulance Service.	MA						
12.3	<u>Items for The Broadsheet.</u> The Clerk will write up a summary of the meeting for the Broadsheet.	HP						
12.4	<u>Annual Parish Meeting.</u> It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 15 th May at 7.30pm in the Clubroom. There was a discussion about possible subjects for a speaker and the Clerk will pursue one possibility.	HP						
13	<u>Finances.</u>							
13.1	<u>Financial Statement.</u> The Financial Statement was circulated to those present prior to the meeting and showed a balance of £44,248.90, after all payments and credits have cleared. Payments since the last meeting: <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Gigaclear (December 2023 and January 2024Broadband)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£74.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Salaries (November and Dcember 2023)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£426.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bank Charges (15/10/23 to 14/12/23)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£21.00</td> </tr> </table>	Gigaclear (December 2023 and January 2024Broadband)	£74.00	Salaries (November and Dcember 2023)	£426.98	Bank Charges (15/10/23 to 14/12/23)	£21.00	
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Bin emptying (November & December 2023)	£77.38
West Berkshire Countryside Society	£100.00
Yattendon & Frilsham PCC (Churchyard maintenance)	£650.00

The Financial Statement reconciled the balance to the last statement dated 15th December 2023 which showed a balance of £45,156.77. The sum of £22,500 is ringfenced as a donation to the Clubroom refurbishment/rebuild and £3,500 for the Play area.

13.2 Verification of the Financial Statement.

Cllr. Morley verified the financial statement against the bank statement.

13.3 Budget for FY24/25.

It was resolved to approve the draft budget for FY24/25 with an expenditure of £16,000, including improvements to the playground of £6,500 from ring fenced funds.

13.4 Precept for FY24/25.

It was agreed that FPC would request a precept of £9,500 to fund expenditure for the year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Date of next meeting:

Frilsham Parish Council: Wednesday 13th March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Clubroom.