

Minutes of Frilsham Annual Parish Meeting
held in the Clubroom on Wednesday 17th May 2023 at 7.30pm.

In attendance at the meeting were approximately 32 parishioners together with members of the Parish Council and the Clerk.

Cllr. Allum, Chairman of Frilsham Parish Council welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting.

1. Apologies.

Apologies of absence were received from Robert and Georgie Woods.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18th May 2022.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 18th May 2022 having been circulated, were approved as a correct record of the meeting, and signed by the Chairman.

3. Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council: Marcus Allum.

Cllr. Allum reported that it has generally been a quiet year for Frilsham. With most of the country, Frilsham paid its respects after the passing of the late Queen. Following covid, many indoor events didn't return until Christmas 2022. It was good to see St. Frideswide church bursting at the seams for the Christmas Eve carol service.

The date of the Frilsham barbecue was moved to coincide with "The Big Lunch" to celebrate the crowning of King Charles III. The Parish Council was happy to make a donation towards the cost of the barbecue. All those who helped organise the event including Jules, Shirley, Sandra and Lynne were thanked for their hard work, and for bringing the community together. Luckily the weather was good, and everyone had a great time.

Parish council meetings have been held every other month with the usual topics under discussion. This includes all the planning applications applied for in Frilsham and within 200m of the parish boundary that may cause issues to the community. The major one for Frilsham this year has been the development of the old lime quarry with the construction of two luxury houses. After a great deal of discussion, the Parish council decided to return decision of No Objection on the grounds that we would rather see two houses on the site than many more, or worse the site being used for other activities. To date West Berkshire Council has not made a decision.

WBC district councillors were up for re-election this year and Carolyne Culver of the Green Party was re-elected for Ridgeway Ward. The Parish Council looks forward to working with her as it has done for the past four years. Carolyne works tirelessly for the parish, and nothing is ever too much trouble. She was thanked for all the work she carries out.

There were also Parish Council elections this year, although in Frilsham it was an uncontested election. Two of the Parish Councillors decided not to stand for re-election: David Benning who has been on the council for many years and over time has spent many hours working on various projects on your behalf. Andrea Arnold has not been with the Council so long, but her knowledge of planning has helped greatly. They were both thanked for the dedication that they have given to Frilsham Parish Council over their time in office.

There are now two vacancies. Anyone interested was asked to speak to a member of the Parish Council who would love to hear from them.

Lastly, the rest of the team were thanked for their input during the last year and of course the clerk Helen for all that she does and the wealth of knowledge and experience that she brings to the PC meetings.

4. Report from West Berkshire Councillor: District Cllr.Carolyn Culver.

District Cllr. Culver reported that she was at the meeting and the subsequent refreshments to answer anyone's questions.

5. Report on proposals for the Clubroom - Bob Lyon.

The Clubroom committee had prepared displays of proposals for the Clubroom and a form to help determine the direction to take with refurbishment or rebuild of the Clubroom and what the requirements might be. Following the meeting, those present were asked to look at the displays and to complete the form.

6. Questions from the floor.

There were no questions from the floor.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

During viewing of the proposals for the Clubroom, over refreshments, the following reports were available for parishioners to read.

Reports:

Frilsham Allotment Trust (Ian Coxhead)

It is with pleasure that I present this report from Frilsham Allotment Trust, the first since we formally adopted our constitution.

As a result we have managed to open a new bank account with the Co-Op and the monies are being transferred into the new account. Thanks go to Wendy Grogan for her help in getting this through. As a result of the change notification of the subscriptions due and the new account details were delayed but have now been sent.

In the last financial year we received £829.00 of income from rental of the plots and spent £476 Main outgoings were for insurance, water rates and bank charges.

We have 3 vacant plots available on School Lane and these are planned to be advertised in the broadsheet if we cannot find any more tenants in Frilsham.

We are pleased to announce we have a new tenant, and youngest by far. A young lad, still at school who wants to grow his own food. We put him next to Tim who is our most experienced allotmenteer and who can hopefully impart some wise words.

Materials for the new fence have been sourced and FAT's contribution is ready and waiting to be paid. In order to keep costs down the fence is being installed by volunteers and we are eagerly awaiting a date to start.

The 3 decorative cherry trees donated by WBC have established themselves in an area along Pot Kiln Lane and we hope to further enhance that area by adding a bench where people can sit for some quiet contemplation, relaxation or just have a natter whilst admiring the plants around.

Of the 16 fruit trees planted in Frilsham's community orchard most have survived. 2 have possibly not made it but we are keeping an eye on them just in case they do show blossom. Hopefully we can get our first crop of fruit this summer.

Stephen Waite has donated some rhubarb which has been planted under the shade of the original apple tree. It will take a while for them to re-establish their roots but next spring should see some

free rhubarb for your crumbles.

If anyone wishes to donate a fruit or nut trees or bushes please contact me via fat.chairman@gmail.com.

Parochial Charities, incorporating the Haywards Educational Donation (Robert Morley)

The Frilsham and Yattendon Parochial Charities is a very small local charity founded in the 17th century to provide support to those in particular need in our two villages. Historically we gave coal, clothing, or food parcels to those identified to need support. We now give a small cash grant to around 20 residents, mostly the elderly at Christmas time. In times of need we can also make a special grant. Our income of just over £2000 per annum comes from investments that the founders of the charity originally set up.

We also give a small amount of money each year to Yattendon School to buy books and we can also help with small grants so that children from the school who might not otherwise be able to afford it can attend residential camps which the school organises every other year.

The Trustees (Rob Morley, Georgie Woods, Shirley Lyon, Dorcas Ward, Phil Gent, and Wendy Mole) are always interested hear of those that the charity needs to support.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (Tessa Allum)

Reported crime in Frilsham remains comparatively low, although individual events cause great distress to those affected.

In the 15 months Jan 2022 – March 2023, 11 offences were reported to police*. These were:

Violence & sexual offences	5
Anti-social behaviour	4
Public order	1
Criminal damage/arson	1

I would like to point out that I have no further information on these; police do not discuss details outside those affected.

Sadly, there are also still some incidences of anti-social behaviour that are not reported, but suffered greatly by those affected. Frilsham is on the whole a pleasant and safe place to live, but for some residents it could be more so if greater kindness and respect was shown to neighbours.

*Source: Thames Valley Police via Streetcheck

Beechfield Lane Residents Association (Fiona Miller)

This year we have enjoyed the benefit of the recent resurfacing carried out last year.

No further works are currently planned but we continue to accumulate funds in preparation for any repairs required in the future.

Sovereign Housing has agreed to make the appropriate contributions for their properties.

It was agreed at the AGM no further signage is required beyond what is already in place.