

**Minutes of the Meeting of Frilsham Parish Council held on
Wednesday 11th September 2024 at 7.30pm in Frilsham Clubroom.**

Present

Cllr. M. Allum (Chairman)

Cllr. G. Barber

Cllr. B. Lyon

Cllr. R. Morley

Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk)

Mr. J. Hole (Yattendon Estates)

1

Public Session.

No matters were raised during the public session.

2

To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Coxhead, Cllr. Goodenough and District Cllr. Culver.

3

Declarations of Interest.

3.1

To receive declarations of interest.

There were no updates to the Register of Interests.

3.2

Declaration of Interest in Agenda Items.

Cllr. Allum declared an interest in the allotments.

4

Minutes

4.1

The meeting of FPC on Wednesday 10th July 2024.

Amendments were made to the minutes of the meeting of FPC which took place on Wednesday 10th July 2024 after which they were approved and will be signed by the Chairman.

4.2

The Extra Ordinary FPC meeting on Wednesday 7th August 2024.

The minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting which took place on Wednesday 7th August 2024 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

5

Matters Arising from the minutes, not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

6

To receive a report on Yattendon Estate from Mr. James Hole.

The summer harvest is now complete, and yields have been acceptable, but approximately 10% down. The crops sown early in the season produced best. As well as yields being down, quality is an issue, and it is likely that millers and brewers will be reducing the quality of the crops they accept.

The shooting season has started this week. The marking of Christmas trees for harvest will start this month, and trees for pot growing will be lifted in October.

Whilst there have been some changes of tenants in the residential properties, there are no vacancies. Commercial tenants have been static.

A question was asked about the restoration of public footpaths across open fields after they have been cultivated. The Estate has a policy for footpath restoration and the tractor is generally driven along footpaths when cultivation has been completed.

Roadside drainage has been reported to WBC and gulleys which were scheduled to be emptied on a two-yearly basis should now be emptied on an annual basis. WBC will be out to empty them between the 9th and 24th October.

7

Planning.

7.1

Planning applications upon which FPC which been consulted by WBC:

7.1.1

24/01658/FUL - Everington Bungalow (Yattendon Parish)

Section 73a: Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of previously approved application 23/01686/FUL: Change of use of the existing building from a day nursery to

a residential dwelling and erection of extensions following the demolition of the existing conservatory.

This application includes additional glazing.

It was agreed that the views of FPC were no different to the original application which was approved. *FPC has not made any comment on this application.*

7.2 Decisions made by WBC and on appeal.

7.2.1 **23/02603/3/FUL & 23/02604/LBC – Barn, Hawkrigge Farm (Bucklebury Parish).**

Internal and external alterations to allow change of use of listed barn to dwelling, including erection of car port and diversion of the definitive footpath.

FPC made **comment** on these applications which were **approved** by the Eastern Area Planning Committee.

7.2.2 **24/00571/FUL – Mallards Haven.**

Retrospective: Partial retention of former bungalow for use as outbuilding, in association with dwelling approved under application no. 18/00409/FULD. External alterations and hard landscaping.

FPC made **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by the Western Area Planning Committee.

7.2.3 **24/01471/HOUSE – Tanglewood, Beechfield Lane.**

Converted roof throughout to provide first floor accommodation space with additional side and rear extension at ground floor level. Enlargement of existing outbuilding.

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

8 **Report from District Councillor Carlyne Culver.**

Prior to the meeting, District Cllr. Culver submitted a written report, the main points of which were:

- WBC is reviewing the schools surplus funding clawback. The Downs School was to see £490,000 clawed back, some of which had been independently fundraised.
- WBC Scrutiny Commission is looking at special education needs/high needs. This is the area of spend which is most likely to bankrupt WBC.
- At the WBC Scrutiny Commission on the 17th October, Thames Water and the Environment Agency will be answering questions about flooding, sewage and their financial situation. WBC will be presenting their report into last winter's local flooding.
- Further information is awaited from the new government about its plans for housing. WBC's new local plan is going through the examination process. WBC is running a planning community forum on the 10th September.

9 **Playground and Facilities around the Clubroom.**

9.1 Yattendon and Frilsham Foot Ball Club.

The manager of the Yattendon and Frilsham Foot Ball Club reported that he took over the team last year, and has plans and ambitions for the team, which currently plays in the North Berks Division One league. The possibility of a Sunday team is being considered. Some pitch renovations have been carried out.

Fencing on the far side of the pitch is being discussed to help retain balls and to carry advertising which will help towards running costs. It is expected that planning permission would be required for any permanent advertising which was not looked upon favourably by councillors. Timber and plastic Duralock fencing are both being considered. There was a discussion about the exact location of the fencing, as there is quite a wide strip of land between the pitch and the woodland beyond, as well as the length of the fencing. If the football club is to play in the next league up, "dugouts" and fencing will be required.

It was noted that the football club storage container behind the hall is overflowing with

	various items. These items are surplus and for disposal. Cllr. Allum will take what he can to the tip.	MA
9.2	<u>Weekly inspections of the Playground.</u> Cllr. Allum circulated a report on the playground prior to the meeting. There are holes forming in the platform floors on the multiplay. It is thought that the damage is being carried out by squirrels. Cllr. Allum will explore the possibility of rubber matting to cover the holes.	MA
9.3	<u>Tiger Mulch.</u> Tiger Mulch comes with a guarantee for five years but is expected to last at least fifteen years. If sections need to be cut away for equipment replacement, sections can be patched up with new Tiger Mulch and the colour will quickly fade to match the surrounding Tiger Mulch.	MA
9.4	<u>Plans going forwards for the playground.</u> It was agreed that Cllr. Lyon would seek a quote for wetpour, in addition to the quote for Tiger Mulch. There was a discussion about ground based galvanised sockets for the timber swing legs to prevent the timber being in contact with the damp ground. It was agreed that FPC should apply for a WBC Members Bid for some of the work. The grant application which Cllr. Lyon submitted earlier in the year was unsuccessful, but the grant giving body have encouraged a reapplication in their next round.	BL HP BL
10	<u>Allotments.</u>	
10.1	<u>The Management Agreement.</u> The management agreement between FPC and the Frilsham Allotment Trust (FAT) was valid for a period of ten years. It has now expired. Advice has been obtained from Hampshire Association of Local Councils about the renewal of the agreement. Of the twelve allotment plots at the School Lane site, only two of them are actively used and the pony paddock hasn't been let this year. It was agreed that the management agreement needs to be considered at the next meeting, with Cllr. Coxhead (Chairman of FAT).	
10.2	<u>Deer Fencing on the School Lane Allotment.</u> No progress has been made with the deer fencing. It was agreed that this needs to be on the agenda for the next meeting.	
10.3	<u>Enhancements to the Orchard and Pot Kiln Lane Allotment.</u> Cllr. Allum has been cutting the grass in the orchard regularly and the area looks nice. One or two more trees have been donated and there is the possibility of a few more. The area needs a pedestrian gate and signage indicating that it is a "Community Orchard" and for parishioners. The IBCs were reported as an eyesore and felt to spoil the ambiance of the orchard.	
11	<u>Environment.</u>	
11.1	<u>Beechfield Lane Parking by the Garages.</u> The number of vehicles parked behind the garages has doubled in the last six months. Cllr. Allum has now contacted Jeff Brooks (leader of WBC) about the situation, and he has taken it up at a senior level with WBC officers.	
12	<u>Clubroom.</u> There is an upcoming meeting between the Clubroom committee, Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust and FFIG to discuss the development.	
13	<u>Yattendon and Frilsham Sports and Social Trust.</u> A report from the trust will be included in the Broadsheet. All regular grants will be fulfilled. A grant for a new boiler in Frilsham Church and other grants will be confirmed next month. A grant for the football club has been deferred until more details are received.	

There is a public meeting of the trust on Tuesday 8th October at 8pm in Yattendon Village Hall.

14 Clerk's Report.

14.1 Correspondence.

14.1.1 April Skies – Internal Auditor.

It was agreed to appoint April Skies as the internal auditor for the year ending 31st March 2024 at a cost of £250.

14.2 Website.

It was agreed to move the existing website to Parish Online over the next year. Parish Online now provide “.gov.uk” domains as well as providing websites and email, specifically for parish councils. Tsohost, the current provider, are becoming more commercial.

There are two Parish Online training webinars coming up on email and websites: the Clerk and Cllr. Lyon will be attending one or both sessions.

14.3 Items for the October Broadsheet.

A summary of this meeting, including information about the playarea will be submitted for The Broadsheet.

15 Finances.

The Clerk circulated a finance report prior to the meeting showing a balance, once all payments and lodgements have cleared of £44,245.59. This was reconciled back to the bank statement dated 15th August, which showed a balance of £44,682.51.

Payments made since the last meeting:

Bibby Financial Services	£87.05	Emptying bins during July and August.
Post Office Ltd	£89.38	Electricity for phone box.
Gigaclear	£74.00	24/7/2024 to 23/9/2024.
Bank charges	£25.00	15/6/24 to 14/8/2024.
July and August salaries	£426.98	

16 Round Table comments.

16.1 Football Club.

It was questioned whether the football club is expanding beyond village football. It was also noted that the pitch is being kept in good condition.

16.2 Annual Parish Meeting – May 2025

A possible speaker may be the owner of River Barn Farm and mill which have been renovated and rebuilt in part. Whilst just outside the parish, many parishioners have taken a keen interest in the work.

16.3 Drainage Grips dug into Brocks Lane.

WBC has dug significant grips into Brocks Lane, near the crossroads with Dragon Hill. Whilst the work is welcomed, it has not been carried out well and the landowners were not consulted. The Clerk will ensure that District Cllr. Culver is aware of the situation.

16.4 Defibrillator.

The Clerk recommended the purchase of a maximum minimum thermometer for the telephone box to determine what temperature it drops to, and the defibrillator is exposed to.

16.5 BALC Training Course.

It was questioned whether the course “Making effective planning applications” in the September newsletter was correct.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Date of next meetings:

Frilsham Parish Council: Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Clubroom.