

# FRESHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

### Memorial Hall Freshford

17<sup>th</sup> April 2019

#### **Those Present:**

John Adler (Chairman), Cllr Peter King, Cllr Nick Stevens, Cllr Jean Hawker, Cllr Tom Maddicott, Cllr Martin Walker, Clerk (Lorraine Montacute) and Members of the Public.

#### **Chairman's Welcome:**

Cllr John Adler welcomed everybody to the APM.

#### **Apologies:**

Cllr Roger Paine, Cllr Craig Underwood and Cllr Andrew Orme.

#### **Minutes from the APM held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018:**

Draft minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

#### **Financial Responsible Officer:**

Cllr John Adler explained that during 2018/19 the PC has experienced 2 new clerks and that Lorraine Montacute has been the clerk since September 2018.

On this occasion, Lorraine Montacute provided a high-level overview of the financials for 2018/19 and the detail was provided by Cllr John Adler as part of his chairman's report.

In summary: there was a total shortfall of £6,208.02 which will reduce to £3,867.95 when the outstanding VAT refund is received. The shortfall is covered by the 2017/18 surplus of £7,366.

#### **Chairman's Report:**

Cllr John Adler introduced members of the Parish Council and gave thanks to Cllr Neil Butters for his help and support over the past year, also to Graham Jenkinson for his work on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and Gordon Edwards who gave his time to achieve a Community Speed Watch scheme in Freshford, and many other residents who gave their time and energy to the community.

Issues that will need to be covered in the FY 2019/20 includes: trees with ash die-back within the Tying woods, the removal of the funding for the Street Sweeper Scheme in 2020, building a 5year Asset Management plan beyond 2019/20 and how we allocate the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds.

Cllr John Adler expressed thanks for their service to the Parish Council for councillors not standing for re-election, Andrew Orme, Craig Underwood, Peter King and Roger Paine.

Freshford Parish Council is made up of nine councillors, there are five new candidates standing for election and five existing candidates therefore there will be an election held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 alongside the local elections.

### **Community Speed Watch Scheme:**

Gordon Edwards gave his apologies for absence. Graham Jenkinson presented the Community Speedwatch Scheme.

Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative where active members of local communities join with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices.

It was highlighted that the school is a vulnerable area from speeding traffic due to the proximity to the crossroad and lack of pavements. It was observed that all cars from the shop down to the school exceed 25mph.

The CSW for Freshford has been approved, pending appropriate training for the volunteers. When up and running volunteers must be supported by the neighbourhood policing team, either a PCSO or, Police Officer when the CSW is in action.

Its aim is to be a deterrent, however persistent offenders will be referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds. In cases where education is blatantly ignored, and evidence of repeat or excessive offences is collated, enforcement and prosecution will follow.

### **Highways Issues**

This topic has been postponed until after the parish elections as it requires input from BANES officers. BANES requested that the officers did not participate in this meeting due to the purdah rules.

AOB

### **Surgery Update – the future of the old surgery building was questioned.**

It was mentioned that the Younghusband Trust are no longer receiving rent from the NHS. The likelihood is that the property will be sold and a contribution will be probably made to the village through money being specifically allocated to St Peters Church.

### **Can we address the problem of double Yellow Lines down Rosemary Hill?**

Safety concerns were raised as the Inn pub surrendered 8-10 parking spaces to allow for more outside tables resulting in more cars parking on the narrow road outside the pub. Access for emergency vehicles could be restricted.

Can the PC consider options for additional parking in the village?

### **Why did the PC support the planning application for Solar Panels on the school roof?**

The PC clarified that they did not object to this planning application, the approach was to provide comments only. The application was withdrawn by the applicants (it was not formally Refused by BANES).

### **Funding withdrawal for Street Cleaning in 2020**

Questions were raised around what will happened when BANES stop the payments. Will BANES extend the cleaning to the parishes?

Limply Stoke have an annual litter picking day, maybe Freshford could do the same? PC to investigate all options.

### **Effectiveness of the new street Signage**

The addition of new signage was required to meet current legislation to achieve the Community Speed Watch Scheme. Under the neighbourhood watch scheme the shared spaces approach has been focusing on lower speeds and encouraging drivers to behave more accommodatingly towards pedestrians within the village.

### **Horse-riding on the Tynning**

Inconsiderate behaviour causing damage to the grass by some horse riders on the Tynning has been observed. It was stated that anyone can ride on the Tynning providing it does not cause wilful damage otherwise a private prosecution can be brought by any individual.

Neil Butters thanked the Parish Council for the work they had done over the year and also thanked Cllr John Adler for his hard work since being appointed as Chairman.

The next APM meeting to be communicated when hall availability has been agreed.