

FRESHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Freshford Parish Council 13 June 2022, 7pm, Freshford Village Memorial Hall

Parish Councillors Present: John Adler (Chairman), Julian Carpenter, Jean Hawker, John Putt, Richard Tibbles, Ben Walters

Apologies: Annabel Batchelor-Wylam, Elli Bate, Tom Maddicott

In attendance: Selina Jobson (Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public: One

27. **Declarations of Interests and Requests for Dispensations**

None.

28. **Minutes of Meeting**

Resolved: to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting and the Ordinary Meeting held on 9 May 22 as true records.

29. **Review of Actions**

Councillors noted an update on actions arising from the last meeting.

The installation of the bus stop sign and timetable post outside the front of the Galleries was with contractors. The bus stop flag and post for the Rosemary Lane bus stop would also be moved and a missing bus stop flag outside the Inn would be reinstated. The bench for the front of the Galleries should be delivered and installed shortly.

A replacement for the parish Street Cleaner, due to retire at the end of July, was being looked into and an advert would be prepared. Cllr Hawker

30. **Open Forum**

Chantal Young spoke about her role as Village Agent for Freshford and six other local parishes. The role of the Village Agent was to provide a triage service to individuals to help keep people supported and healthy at home. The role was funded for two years with future funding dependent on the effectiveness of the role. Ms Young was currently promoting the role in Freshford. She'd given a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting, had put together a newsletter about the role and was meeting people from local groups, including the School, Church, doctors surgeries and Link. An article had been submitted for the Parish Newsletter and Ms Young would attend the Village Fete and the Parish Church tea. Other ideas to raise the profile of the role were welcomed.

Information would be put on the Community website, with the Health section extended to Health and Wellbeing. Cllr Adler

31. **Planning Applications**

22/02144/FUL 3 Marchant's Lane, BA2 7AP: Single-storey extension to the north elevation to form a boot room and single-storey rear extension to garage to form a store/workshop.

Modest additions to the current property. A pre-application had received positive feedback.

Resolved: to support.

22/04590/FUL Homewood Park, Hinton Charterhouse, BA2 7TB: Extensions to existing spa, 6 new guest suites, meeting / events space, admin office & ancillary

accommodation following demolition of existing stables, garage & other outbuildings. Additional car parking, soft landscaping & associated external works.

CLr Adler reported on consideration of this application at the B&NES Planning meeting on 1 June. A change in the calculation of volume increase had been reported by the Agent the day before the meeting; as a commercial property the volume increase might be calculated according to different criteria. A decision on the application had been deferred in light of a site visit. The application would be considered again at the B&NES Planning meeting on 29 June 2022. CLr Adler would attend to raise the concerns set out at the April 2022 Parish Council meeting.

22/00443/FUL Pond House, Rosemary Lane, BA2 7UD: This application would be considered by B&NES Planning Committee on 29 June 2022. CLr Adler would attend to support the proposal in line with comments made at the March 2022 Parish Council meeting.

32. **Tree Applications**

None.

33. **Planning Decisions**

None.

34. **Finance**

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22

34.1 Councillors received the completed Internal Auditors report for the Annual Governance and Accountability Review (AGAR) and noted that no issues had been raised.

Resolved: to approve all statements relating to the preparations of the Accounting Statement in Section One of the AGAR.

34.2 **Resolved:** to approve the figures provided in the Accounting Statements in Section Two of the AGAR.

The period of the Exercise of Public Rights would take place from 20 June to 29 July 2022.

34.3 **Resolved:** to approve the following payments -

- £492.89 Selina Jobson for administration
- £350 James Lock for grass cutting
- £480 Zonkey for website hosting and maintenance
- £200 Meadow in My Garden for station gardening
- £245 Alan Duck for grass cutting
- £89.60 Jean Hawker for strimmer repairs and fuel
- £67.12 Jean Hawker for expenses for the annual parish meeting

34.4 **Resolved:** to approve the bank reconciliation, noting the following payments –

- £300 Ian Croker for street cleaning (SO)
- £121.27 SSE for electricity supply (Direct Debit)
- £50 Candy Harrison for advertising boards
- £470 Sustainable Furniture for bench & fittings
- £877.34 AJ Gallagher Insurance renewal
- £3594.79 Green Trees for bus stop hoggin

35. **Natural Environment - Update on tree works on Parish Council land**

Bawden Tree Care had submitted the tree works application for all works to B&NES. Critical works would be done in the week beginning 27 June 2022. A small Working Group was being set up to consider appropriate planting to be undertaken following the removal of trees.

Cllr Bate

36. **Highways and Transport – Community Highways & Transport Meeting**

Councillors Carpenter, Hawker and Putt had met to consider setting up a Transport Advisory Group. B&NES' Senior Engineer for Traffic Management had been asked to look at the practicality of ideas suggested at the Community Transport Meeting. Councillors noted that it was important that ideas and proposals for addressing local traffic issues should come from the community, and not necessarily from B&NES, although the views of B&NES Senior Engineer could be used to inform discussions. Freshford Primary School had undertaken a travel survey, although it had not yet identified clear actions. The local PCSO was being contacted about possible help with traffic and parking issues.

37. **Street Lighting**

Cllr Tibbles had circulated an update on progress with obtaining quotes for LED lamps. He'd talked to the New Business Manager at Enerveo about the two trial LED lamps installed in Freshford last year. It was proposed that all replacement lamps should be the same specification of Kelvins & Lumens, and that these should be the lower of the two trial lights installed. Reducing the number of functioning street lamps was being considered by identifying particular lights that it might be possible to switch off. There would be community consultation about any such proposals. Lights operated by solar panels would also be considered. The project would help to reduce the carbon footprint of the village, in line with the climate emergency declaration.

38. **Annual Parish Meeting**

Councillors received notes from the Annual Parish Meeting and confirmed that actions arising from the meeting were being addressed.

39. **Communications**

39.1 Parish Newsletter

Cllr Putt gave an update on the Parish Newsletter. Articles from local groups were currently being received. Once a draft was ready, consideration would be given to the costs of printing a hard copy newsletter.

39.2 Information on the Community Website

Some areas of the website needed updating or information adding. Councillors were asked to look at the subject areas they were responsible for. Items from the Parish Newsletter would be included on the website.

All
councillors

40. **External Meetings**

The VPA AGM meeting would take place on 14 June 2022. This would include discussion of the possible return of funds to parish council members, as this action had been suggested by the internal auditor of one parish council member.

Bathavon Forum would take place on 22 June 2022.

The Freshford Village Memorial Hall Committee would meet on 6 July 2022.

Cllr Adler had attended the B&NES ALCA AGM on 8 June 2022. This meeting had considered the Parish Charter, emergency planning and online mapping.

41. **Correspondence Received**

B&NES had asked for residents to comment on the B&NES Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) from 2022 to 2025. Details of the consultation had been circulated via a community email.

Concerns about upcoming roof works at the Old Surgery impacting nesting birds or bats had been raised with the B&NES Ecology Officer. A councillor had contacted the builder with information about relevant wildlife laws. In the event of a suspected breach of the law the Parish Council had been advised to contact the police.

42. **Exchange of Information**

Nothing to report.

43. **Date of next meetings**

Monday 11 July, 7pm, Freshford Village Memorial Hall.

Meeting ended 9.00pm