

FRESHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of Freshford Parish Council 11 July 2022, 7pm, Freshford Village Memorial Hall

Parish Councillors Present: John Adler (Chairman), Annabel Batchelor-Wylam, Elli Bate, Julian Carpenter, Jean Hawker, Tom Maddicott, John Putt, Richard Tibbles, Ben Walters

Apologies: None

In attendance: Selina Jobson (Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public: None

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

None.

45. **Minutes of Meeting**

Resolved: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 22 as a true record.

46. **Review of Actions**

An update on actions from previous meetings was received.

Councillors noted that an advert for the role of Village Steward had been prepared and would be publicised.

47. **Open Forum**

No members of the public were present.

48. **Planning Applications**

None.

49. **Tree Applications**

N22/02470/TCA Parcel Cs Fr99 The Tynning, Freshford: Various works to 15 trees as per submitted tree survey.

Land owned by the Parish Council – no comment.

22/02308TCA Freshford Cemetery, The Tynning, Freshford: Willow-leaved pear reduce crown by 25%; Common Oak raise low canopy to 2m as per submitted tree survey.

Land owned by the Parish Council – no comment.

22/02491/TCA Fairlawn, High Street, Freshford, BA2 7WF: Mature Walnut & Cotoneaster reduce crown by 10/15% and reduction of weight on branches overhanging the highway.

Noted that this was required maintenance.

Resolved: to support.

50. **Planning Decisions**

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 and other outbuildings. Additional car parking, soft landscaping and associated external works, drainage and services provision. *Permitted.*

22/00443/FUL Pond House, Rosemary Lane, BA2 7UD: Partial demolition of ancillary outbuilding and conversion of remaining building into granny annex. Extensions following demolition of the south-west end of the existing dwelling. *Refused.*

22/00088/FUL The Galleries Shop, Freshford Lane: Extension to Galleries to provide shop storage, staff facilities and an extended cafe and community hub. External covered walkways and a sun shade in the form of a timber pergola. *Permitted*.

Resolved: In light of the approval of planning permission for the Galleries extension, to approve payment of £3500 in grant money, as agreed at the April meeting.

51. **Finance**

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

- £492.69 Selina Jobson for administration
- £350 James Lock for grass cutting
- £3.35 Julian Carpenter for postage
- £4050 Bawden Tree Care for critical treeworks
- £44.25 Winsley Parish Council as a contribution to SLCC membership

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

- £300 Ian Croker for street cleaning (SO)
- £110.29 SSE for electricity supply (Direct Debit)
- £100 In My Garden for station gardening

52. **Natural Environment**

52.1 Update on tree works on Parish Council land

Bawden Tree Care had undertaken the critical tree works required on The Tynning and in the Cemetery. There were two more tranches of tree works to be undertaken. Two quotes had been received for these works and a third was awaited. Quotes would be considered at the September meeting.

Careful consideration would be given to what to do with the land where trees had been removed. A small Working Group, including members of the community, would be set up in September/October to consider plans for areas where trees had been cleared.

Cllr Bate

52.2 Update on Maintenance in the Cemetery

The Cemetery Working Group reported that this year's maintenance regime had generally worked well and had been well received. A member of the Working Party had suggested setting up a group to undertake regular maintenance in the Cemetery and this idea would be explored further.

It was proposed that, in line with previous plans for the Cemetery, three new benches be installed in the Cemetery.

Resolved: to get quotes for three benches and to check on requirements for ground fixings. Possible sponsorship or funding of benches would be looked into.

Cemetery
Working
Group

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

A Transport Advisory Group meeting would take place on 18 July 2022, involving councillors Carpenter, Hawker and Putt, as well as three residents. Two more residents were sought to represent areas across the village. Terms of Reference for the group would be drawn up.

Cllr Carpenter was meeting Ward Councillor McCabe and the B&NES Senior Engineer Traffic Management on 26 July 2022. The practicality of proposals arising from the Community Transport Meeting would be considered and proposals which could be actioned most quickly would be identified.

Cllr Carpenter had spoken to a member of Radstock Police about transport issues in the village.

B&NES had apologised for the delay in contractors moving the bus flag to the stop outside the Galleries and it was hoped that the works would be carried out shortly. The need for other replacement bus flags in the village had been reported to B&NES. The Freshford Community Speedwatch group was liaising with Limpley Stoke Parish Council about their experience of installing Speed Indicator Devices and the possibility of borrowing these.

54. **Street Lighting**

Enervo and Volker had been asked to quote on three possible proposals relating to the street lights: to change all lights to LEDs; to change some of the lights to LEDs and switch off other lights; to switch off all street lights. Further discussion of possible actions would take place once quotes for each option had been received. Final proposals would be put to the community.

Cllr Tibbles was awaiting a response from the B&NES Principal Engineer Street Lighting about the possibility of B&NES taking over responsibility for the lights.

55. **Communications**

55.1 Village Newsletter

Cllr Putt had circulated a draft of a village newsletter. Three quotations had been received with costs in the region of £500 dependent on the final number of pages. It was proposed that one hard copy newsletter would be delivered to all residents in the village. Consideration would then be given to whether more hard copies would be published in the future. The first copy of the newsletter would be used to signpost people to the website events page and to encourage them to sign up to the community mailchimp, with the proposal that more regular update bulletins would be sent via email.

Resolved: to agree a budget of up to £600 for the publication of one edition of a village newsletter.

55.2 Information on the Community Website

Cllr Adler would contact councillors individually about their areas of the website that needed updating.

Cllr Adler /
councillors

56. **External Meetings**

56.1 Valley Parish Alliance (VPA), 14 June 2022: At its AGM, the VPA had agreed to change its constitution so that it would no longer have officers and would only meet twice a year. Once all outstanding invoices had been paid, remaining funds would be distributed to parish council members.

56.2 Bathavon Forum Group, 22 June 2022: There had been no response to a request for Parish Council's to put forward volunteers to join a Bathavon Climate Group. It was proposed that the Forum would use the B&NES Climate Festival to promote climate actions being undertaken by Parish Councils.

56.3 Freshford Village Memorial Hall, 6 July 2022: This meeting had included the architects & builders involved in the works to the Hall starting in July.

57. **Correspondence Received**

None.

58. **Exchange of Information**

58.1 Matting on The Tynning: Freshford Primary School had confirmed that they no longer required the matting on The Tynning and that this could be removed. The ground was currently too dry for the matting to be removed. Storage or reuse of the matting by another group or organisation would be considered.

Cllr Batchelor-Wylam was thanked for her work with organising and overseeing the temporary matting which had .

Resolved: to approve the removal of the matting on The Tynning, once ground conditions were suitable.

58.2 Parish Council business during the Summer: There would be no meeting of the Parish Council in August unless required. In line with Standing Orders, regular payments and payments up to £500 could be authorised outside of a meeting. Comments on any planning applications would be circulated to councillors and, where applications were supported, comments would be submitted by the Clerk. If councillors raised concerns or objections to a planning application requiring a response before the September Parish Council meeting, then an additional Parish Council meeting would be called to consider these.

59. **Date of next meetings**

Monday 12 September, 7pm, Freshford Village Memorial Hall.

Meeting ended 8.50pm