

FRESHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Freshford Parish Council Meeting 14th April 2025, 7.00pm, Freshford Village Memorial Hall

Parish Councillors Present: John Adler (Chair), Julian Carpenter, Penny Williamson, Elli Bate

Apologies: John Putt, Jennifer Champ, Rob

In attendance: Kirsty Clark (Parish Clerk), Ward Cllr Fiona Gourley

Members of the Public: 3

Commenced 19:07pm

102. **Declarations of Interests and Requests for Dispensations**
Cllr Adler declared an interest on planning application 25/00840/FUL – Cllr Cllr Adler
Carpenter agreed to chair for this item
103. **103.1 Minutes of Meeting**
Resolved: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2025 as a true record.
- 103.2 Review of action form the last meeting**
- Outstanding - Cllr Adler to book meeting about Neighbourhood Plan for Cllr Adler joint response with FPC.
 - Cllr Adler will book meeting with Limpley Stoke for Chairs and Clerks to attend meeting for Neighbourhood Plan. These meetings are not reliant on the return of the survey results.
 - Cllr Carpenter has extensive dealings with highways on outstanding items – reviewed in section 10.
104. **Open forum** Ward Cllr Gourley
Ward Cllr Gourley invited residents and the PC to attend the Bathavon South New Local Plan Parish Councillors' Briefing on Saturday 17 May at 10.30-12.30 at Camerton Parish Hall.
No comment made from public attendees.
105. **Co-option of Councillors**
Resolved:
No further interest to Co-opt at this stage. The remaining vacancies would continue to be advertised.
106. **Planning application**
25/00914/FUL – No Comment
25/01136/FUL – No Comment
25/00840/FUL – Cllr Carpenter to Chair. The PC requested to know what the Clerk full percentage increase of this project is.
ACTION: Clerk to raise question with planning.
25/01343/LBA – No comment

107.

Finance and Personnel**Resolved: All transactions for payment on 15th April.**

Kirsty Clark	Administration	£446.63
Selina Jobson	Outstanding handover hours	£161.42
CNB	Initial invoice for HNS costs - Inv 482	£2,182.80
Parish Magazine Printing	Printing costs for Spring newsletter	£541.75
James Lock	First monthly grass cutting inv charge	£305.55
ALCA	Dual membership - ALCA Subscription fee £117.65 • NALC Subscription fee £38.53	£156.18
Zonkey	Website	£576.00
Dorothy House	Wild waters meeting fire cost - split with Winsley PC	£30.00
HM Lending facility	Loan repayment	£994.39
ICCM	Full year membership (1st April 2025 - 31st March 2026)	£105.00
Freshford Village Memorial Hall	Hall hire -Jan 25 - April 25 hire costs	£770.00

Clerk**Resolved bank reconciliation:**

03/03/25	104	Direct Debit	SSE Energy	Energy supply	£164.04
12/03/25	105	Payment	Energieo	Light maintenance and repairs	£260.26
12/03/25	106	Payment	Kirsty Clark	Clerks Pay	£431.63
12/03/25	107	Payment	Selina Jobson	Clerks pay - as per agreement	£1,427.18
12/03/25	108	Payment	Kirsty Clark	Reclaim of Bit Defender	£103.49
31/03/25	109	Direct Debit	SSE Energy	Energy supply	£148.18
31/03/25	110	Charges	Unity Trust	Service Charge	£6.00

It was reported that First instalment of CNB funding has been received to cover the cost of the initial invoice outlined in the transactions list for approved above. The first remittance to initial precept payment has also been received.

108.

Housing Needs Survey

Action: Cllr Adler to send email to community regarding return dates for survey response. Incorrect date was printed on hardcopy versions. Deadline is 4th May 2025.

Cllr Adler

Action: Cllr Bate to send link to school, galleries, school encouraging completion of the survey.

Cllr Bate

The PC expect to have initial results in mid June 2025.

109. **Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Adler received the minutes from the initial Neighbourhood plan meeting with councillor. Cllr Adler

Action: Cllr Adler to review and circulate minutes

The PC identified 3 areas of focus for the Neighbourhood plan:

Built environment, Natural environment and community/facilities.

It was tabled that each of those threads has a steering group to support each strand and this would be reviewed once the plan was agreed.

Action: PC to review policies which need to be updated inline with the revised plan which will also require support from B&NES.

110. **Highways**

Cllr Carpenter has organised the Highways Agency to survey the damage and issue a repair plan, with view to also seeking compensation for various damaged areas such various pot holes and damages to not only Park Corner, but Midford lane, Freshford Lane and Church Corner. Cllr Carpenter

It was noted that the current traffic lights on the A36 are a little inconsistent but generally not posing an issue.

No further updated since 14th February on the full reopening of the A36.

It was noted that the *RIS2 – M4 to Dorset Coast Strategy* is commencing shortly. This study has been going through several phases and recommendations. This could involved changes to A46 and A36 traffic being rerouted to A350 to dual carriageway and be removing traffic from going through Bath and our surrounding areas and likely be 10-15 years.

Ward Cllr Gourley noted that Bath park and rides are now open until 11:30pm to alleviate congestions and help the nighttime economy. This extension of the service is for 6 months trial period.

111. **Annual Parish Meeting**

Resolved: To approve the Annual Parish Meeting date is moved to 14th May 2025.

Resolved: To approve quote for Candy's board to advertise the meeting and budget for meeting refreshments

Resolved: To agreed the format for the Annual meeting. This will be similar to last year with the theme of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Two councillors at each table around 3 main pillars of Built environment, natural environment and community/facilities.

Action: Clerk to organise 'Candy boards' to advertise the meeting.

Action: Clerk to move main PC meeting to 19th May from 12th May.

Action: Agree wording for boards and for website to outline the meeting

Action: Clerk to organise wine and nibbles with Galleries and all stationary required

Action: Cllr Adler to send community email to 'save the date' of the meeting

Action: Cllr Bate to contact community farm to explore to try and secure a speaker for the meeting

Clerk

Cllr Adler

Cllr Bate

112. **Freshford and Limpley Stoke Village Fete**
Resolved: To agree the PC involvement in the Freshford and Limpley Stoke Village Fete.
Cllr Williamson expressed interest in being present on a stall.
Action: Clerk to contact Limpley Stoke to secure a table
113. **Matting on the Tying**
Resolved: To agree the plan for removal of matting on the Tying to now take place.
The Friends of Freshford have agreed to help with the removal.
There were previous concerns raised regarding costs of removal and the matting going to landfill. However, through the help of volunteers and the recycling of the matting at a stable allayed concerns.
114. **Clerks Report**
It was noted the Clerk has completed 'Introduction to Local Councils' module introduction training online.
It was noted that both Hartley Farm and Campwell were delighted with the Freshford newsletter and thanked the PC for including their adverts.
115. **External Meetings**
Bathavon South New Local Plan Parish Councillors' Briefing on Saturday 17 May at 10.30-12.30 at Camerton Parish Hall.
116. **Date of Next Meeting**
Annual Parish Meeting - Wednesday 14 May 2025, 6:30pm, Freshford Village Memorial Hall.
Next FPC – Monday 19th May 2025 7om, Freshford Village Memorial Hall.

Cllr
Williamson
Clerk

Meeting ended 20.58pm