

**Meeting of Froxfield & Privett Parish Council held at Froxfield Village Hall on
Thursday 9th September 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillor David Rymer, Councillor Teresa Brown, Councillor John Ellis, Councillor Mark Griffiths, Councillor Phoebe Hiscock, Councillor Chris Skinner and Councillor Robert Smith. In attendance: County Councillor Russell Oppenheimer, District Councillor Nick Drew and the Clerk.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Doyle

21.4.1 Minutes of the Meeting of 8th July 2021 were approved and signed. The minutes of the Planning Meeting of Tuesday 17th August 2021 will be approved at the next meeting.

21.4.2 Comments from the Public or Press No members of the public or press present

21.4.3 Declarations of Pecuniary Interests None declared

21.4.4 Rights of Way Councillor Griffiths gave this report

a) **BOATs** The issue of vehicle traffic on all the BOATs continues to affect residents as does the impact of bikes and 4x4s on the tranquillity of the park, which must be kept in the limelight.

b) **Road Traffic Noise:** More people are commenting that the motorbike noise is getting worse. His recommendation would be to reduce the speed limit between the Trooper Inn and Bell Hill, Steep, to 40mph. Although Highways has an accident or casualty led policy. Councillor Rymer suggested trying to assess within the parish the appetite for speed reduction. Councillor Oppenheimer recommended holding back until after his meeting with PCC Donna Jones. Councillor Griffiths added that he has all the information on gating. As there is a considerable cost to this Councillor Drew commented that Steep had installed theirs in stages.

21.4.5 To discuss suggestions for the play area at Dean's Dell Councillor Drew is still waiting for an official decision from EHDC as to whether they wish to keep the playground. Councillor Skinner had been in contact with Sawscapes for ideas and rough costs to install an under 8's playground. A potential cost of £36k was suggested. Councillor Rymer asked if there was a will to do something and Councillor Drew suggested a community survey but others felt it was unlikely there would be any inclination to conduct one from outside the parish council. Councillor Skinner added that something needed to be done as the area is a mess. A preferred option was to create a pleasant area for the elderly. It was agreed to wait for the outcome of EHDCs decision. A further comment made was that there is a significant amount of play equipment for younger children at the Recreation Ground and it would be more inclusive to direct the parish council resources towards creating facilities for teenagers at the Recreation Ground.

21.4.6 County Councillor's Russell Oppenheimer added to his written report:

a) **Project Gigabit** - Many people on fibre to the cabinet are experiencing speeds of 10-24 Mbps. In future all properties will be moving to the Fibre Optic (FTTC) Fibre to the Cabinet. Hampshire and IOW have been allocated a share of between £148-250million as part of the Government's £5 billion investment.

b) **Safe Return to School** New rules are in place for pupils and students to safely return to school.

c) **Welcoming Afghanistan families to Hampshire** Over 50 families are arriving in Hampshire. Community First have been excellent at organising donations and have published a list of priority items that are needed first and foremost. This can be found at cfirst.org donating to help afghan evacuees.

d) GCSE and A Level Results Councillor Oppenheimer expressed his congratulations to all students and wished them every success in the future.

21.4.7 District Councillor Drew gave his report

- a) Councillor Drew wished Councillor Doyle a speedy recovery.
- b) He welcomed a volunteer from the Samaritans being offered a space to talk at the next meeting.
- c) Steep Speedwatch team would be happy to come and demonstrate their equipment.
- d) He reminded residents to keep their sheds locked as there had been an increase in burglaries from garages, cars and farms.

21.4.8 Planning Applications

SDNP/21/04111/LDE: 1 Broadway Froxfield: Lawful development certificate for an existing use - Use of 1 Broadway as a self-contained residential Dwelling under Class C3 together with its associated amenity space. It was resolved to submit a Neutral comment but adding that there was concern over a separate access.

21.4.9 Emails, Parish Website and Social Media Councillor Griffiths expressed his concern that the website was not compliant, needs modernising and the accessibility statement needs updating. He followed up on the companies that Robert Shepherd had shortlisted but recommended Netwise. The initial cost to set up the website would be £1000 plus an annual fee of £300. Councillor Rymer received confirmation that it was easy to upload copy and add links. It was unanimously agreed to an initial cost of £1000 and the final decision can be made between Councillor Griffiths, Councillor Rymer and the Clerk.

21.4.10 Finalise arrangements for the Philip Madgwick bench. The bench would be engraved and sited in the churchyard at a cost of £505 + Vat. All agreed to the purchase.

21.4.11 Finalise arrangements to plant a chestnut tree for Richard Moss A suggestion was made to plant the tree on green at Froxfield. Councillor Rymer insisted the residents of Froxfield Green be consulted, which he would put in motion.

21.4.12 Proposals to substantially improve the basketball area on the recreation ground Various schemes were being drawn up by Sawscapes Play. There was enthusiasm to develop the area with a scheme that could be spread over a number of years. Councillor Rymer advised that planning permission would be required.

21.4.13 Insurance Renewal The Hiscox quote from Came and Company of £916.55 for the year was agreed.

21.4.14 Financial Statements were agreed. These payments were made during the last 2 months.

Sawscapes Play	3403.20
Helen Marsh	702.00
PKF Littlejohn External Audit	240.00
H Marsh	48.38
H Marsh	702.00
Idverde	365.89
Idverde	568.18
Sawscapes Play	102.00