

**Minutes of the Meeting of Froxfield & Privett Parish Council held at  
Froxfield Village Hall on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 following the  
Annual General Meeting at 7.50pm.**

**Draft minutes subject to confirmation**

**Present:** Cllr J Ellis (Chairman), Cllr P Doyle (Vice-Chairman), Cllr P Madgwick, Cllr R Moss, Cllr M Povey, Cllr D Rymer, Cllr T Passingham and Cllr D Redding.

**Also in Attendance:** County Cllr V Clarke, District Cllr Nick Drew, Mrs M Snow (Locum Clerk), Mrs H Marsh and 3 members of the public.

**1.2.16 Apologies:** None

**2.2.16 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and Other Interests:** None

**3.2.16 Comment from the Public or Press.**

A resident explained that the Opens spaces society has announced that time is running out to register all rights of way to be included in the definitive map. *This is to be placed on the next agenda for discussion.*

Another resident had explained that a consultation regarding the possible closure of the household recycling centre was being undertaken by Hampshire County Council. He had concerns that these facilities could close or opening hours reduced. Website link: [www.3.hants.gov.uk/hwrc2016](http://www.3.hants.gov.uk/hwrc2016). *County Councillor Clarke responded saying that the County Council were looking to reduce some opening hours during the winter months when the facilities are used less but the Household waste recycling centre would not close.*

**4.2.16 Minutes** of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 having been circulated were approved were signed as a correct record.

**5.2.16 Minutes** of the extraordinary meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2016 having been circulated were approved and signed as a correct record.

**6.2.16 Matters raised at the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of April.**

**a) Recreation Ground fence.**

The post and rail fence along the southern boundary of the recreation ground needed replacing as it had rotten over time. The Clerk was to get three quotes to replace the fence. District Cllr Drew would be happy to assist with a grant if the parish council wishes to apply.

**b) Broadband update.**

Cllr Redding gave an update on the possible supply of faster broadband to the area (see report below).

The latest from the provider of the alternative broadband solution for Froxfield and Privett is that they are hoping to get electrical power supply to their kit so that they can turn the service on around the end of May. There is definitely going to be one transmitter at Fawley Farm and they hope to set up two more. The service is based on Wi-Fi rather than coming down a physical cable like conventional broadband. In order for it to work a small dish similar to a square SKY satellite dish is required to be mounted on the outside of the property. This is then physically cabled to a unit inside the property which functions just like a typical broadband WiFi router. In order for the solution to work, the dish on the property needs 'line of sight' visibility of the transmitter as big trees or neighbouring buildings can be an issue. It is likely that a visit and survey would be necessary for each property interested in taking the service. If there is no issue then the download speeds achievable should be in the range of 20Mbps which is typical of what is termed 'super fast' broadband by the Government and is what you'd be hoping for from a BT Exchange that had been upgraded with a

fibre connection. This only works for properties located less than 1.8km from their exchange though. Most properties in the Parish are outside of that range which is why we're struggling to get good broadband up here.

In the first instance, the person that anyone interested should contact is Bobbie Payne at Call Flow Solutions on 0800 280 0590 or [emailbobbie.payne@callflowsolutions.com](mailto:emailbobbie.payne@callflowsolutions.com).

#### **c) Royal drop in session.**

A royal themed drop in session was to be held in Froxfield Village hall on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June from 10.30-12. A request had also been received by Joanna Farrell for a grant towards the running of the event. **It was resolved** that a grant of £50 would be awarded subject to the receipt of a completed grant application form.

### **7.2.16 Playground**

#### **a) Inspection report & equipment maintenance**

The playground inspection was carried out on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April and the report was received on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> of April and emailed out to all councillors. Cllr Ellis, Cllr Moss and the locum clerk had a site meeting on Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of April to discuss the report. Six medium risk areas and four medium/low risk were looked at but these areas required a further explanation from the playground inspector Mr Nick Adams. The decision was made to close the playground while these areas could be investigated and a meeting arranged. Cllr Ellis and Cllr Moss met with Mr Adams on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> of May. Cllr Ellis reported that the entrance gate closest to the road would be taken out of use. The Rocking Rockette would have a motion modifier fitted to reduce the speed, the locum clerk confirmed that this had been ordered today the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2016. Mr Adams confirmed that once the motion modifier had been fitted the playground could be reopened. Cllr Moss would speak to the owners of the overhanging trees to ask if these could be cut back as per the inspection report. A full report would be given at the next meeting to confirm the action taken in response to the risks identified in the playground inspection including those mentioned above.

#### **b) Insurance site visit**

During the site meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April it was decided that a site meeting with the insurers was to be arranged so that it could be established what level of risk was acceptable (from the insurers perspective) for the playground to be closed, selected pieces of equipment to be taken out of use or remain open. Cllr Moss is to arrange the meeting with Vicki Jacobs.

### **8.2.16 Rights of Way Update**

Cllr David Rymer met with County Cllr Vaughan Clarke and Mr Andrew Gibson of Hampshire County Council at the Green Lane which has been damaged by 4 x 4 vehicles and motorbikes. Mr Gibson was sympathetic to the cause and understood that there had been a lack of progress to restrict the use of By Ways Open to All Traffic (B.O.A.Ts). He mentioned that if a detailed report was submitted some financial assistance maybe available to aid repairs to the historic lane.

**9.2.16 Report from the District Councillor.** Cllr Drew advised that the Farnborough air space issue had not gone away as a further request had been submitted for increasing the air traffic. EHDC and HCC will continue to monitor developments. The rail crossing at Sheet would remain open and improvements were to be made to make it safer. Devolution bids were still being discussed but had not progressed any further since the meeting with Parishes on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April. It had been noted that since a ban had been placed on community groups from conducting road side litter picking, there had been an increase in litter around the area. Now this has been relaxed Cllr Drew thanked the Froxfield community group of litter pickers for a fantastic job. Cllr Drew reminded residents that if EHDC received 5 or more objections to a planning application it would be heard at committee. Residents are free to contact Cllr Drew or the case officer at any time to discuss planning issues. If

residents are concerned about making public comments via the website then a private consultation with the case officer is possible.

**10.2.16 Report from the County Councillor.** See Appendix A.

**11.2.16 Mrs Ford's request to keep the Paul Clayton on Charles Arnold baker LCA book.**

After discussion **it was resolved** to retain the Parish Council's legal book (yellow book) for use by the incoming clerk and decline Mrs Ford's request to keep the book.

**12.2.16 SLCC subscription renewal**

**It was resolved** to renew the Clerk's subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks at the cost of £103.00.

**13.2.16 HALC subscription renewal.**

**It was resolved** to renew the Council's membership of the Hampshire Association of Local Councils at the total cost of £296.00. The breakdown of the subscription is as follows £48.00 for the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Levy and £248.00 for the Hampshire Association of Local Councils branch.

**14.2.16 Hampshire Playing fields membership renewal.**

It was resolved to renew the subscription to the Hampshire Playing fields Association at the cost of £40.00.

**15.2.16 Parish Online Mapping renewal.**

**It was resolved** to renew the subscription to Parish Online –Getmapping PLC for the supply of OS maps for use by the Parish Council at the cost of £33.60 for the year.

**16.2.16 Consideration of the request for a Privett Village Hall sign.**

The parish Council were happy to consider a grant application from the village hall committee for a grant towards a new sign for the village hall. The clerk is to issue a grant application form.

**17.2.16 EHDC & HCC Devolution reports.**

No Councillors were available to attend a meeting arranged by EHDC on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, so the locum clerk attended on behalf of the Council. Cllr Ferris Cowper updated parish representatives about the District Council's bid for devolution together with other Borough, City and unitary Councils in the Solent area. He explained that the Solent bid was the bid favoured by the Council since the collapse of the discussions with Hampshire County Council. He was waiting on further discussions with the Department of Local Government (DCLG) to see if the contents of the bid would be acceptable. Cllr Drew added that there were no further developments since the meeting.

Hampshire County Councillors who were not also members of the District Council released a statement shortly after the EHDC meeting. See appendix B. The latest from the County Council is that they had questions parts of the devolution act and asked for clarification from government.

**18.2.16 MC tenders update.**

Cllr Ellis advised the Council that Mr Frank Mayell was happy to continue to cut the grass for the rest of the mowing season. This will enable the tender packs to be distributed in good time so that a review of the GMC can be undertaken at the end of the cutting season ready for the start of next year

**19.2.16 Planning application –Location:** Paloma House, Broadway, Froxfield, GU32 1DW **Proposal:**

New roof to northern half of barn, creating accommodation at first floor level.

After discussion **it was resolved** that **no objection** would be made to the application.

**20.2.16 Financial Matters.**

**a) Removal of Mrs E Ford from the bank account.**

**It was resolved** to remove Mrs Elizabeth Ford from the Parish Council's bank account as an authorised user as of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 2016. The removal form was signed by two authorising councillors.

**b) Cheques requiring signatures.**

**It was resolved** to approve the following payments:

12/5/16 Mr Frank Mayell – April Grass cutting 555.00

12/5/16 Petersfield Town Council – 162 x Photocopies for APM	9.72
12/5/16 N.W. Adams, Engineering Design services	141.90
12/5/16 HALC-HR Advice	180.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£886.62</b>

### c) Bank Balance

The locum clerk reported that the only statement (provided by Cllr Doyle) that she had access to was dated the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, the balance as at the 31<sup>st</sup> of March was £22694.57.

### 21.2.16 Correspondence.

a) Ms Jean Dow emailed the Council concerning the build up of debris at Tallywater Hill. The locum clerk had contacted Cllr Clarke to enquire if Highways could add this to the maintenance schedule for the area. The Councillors were unsure if this would solve the problem as it is at its worst after heavy rain and storms, they will await a response from HCC Highways department.

b) Hampshire County Council Road Closures – A list and map of road closures had been sent to the council for information, this was placed on the notice board.

c) South Downs workshop 18<sup>th</sup> of May – Cllr Rymer and Cllr Doyle would be attending the South Downs National Parks liaison meeting to be held in Liss on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May.

d) Community Support questionnaire SDNPA – The South Downs National Park Authority had sent out a questionnaire asking Parishes for their views on the support provided by the neighbourhood teams.

e) SDNPA CIL examination cancelled – A examination was due to be held to discuss the SDNPA Community Infrastructure Levy however the questions raised had now been withdrawn and the meeting cancelled.

f) EHDC Local Plan Housing and employment. The East Hampshire Local Plan for Housing and Employment was about to go out to consultation. This is for information only as the Parish falls with the boundaries of the South Downs National Park.

g) SDNPA Parish Rep Report – A report had been released by Cllr Doug Jones regarding the increase in sheep worrying leading to many sheep deaths in the area.

### 22.2.16 To agree to exclude the public and press, in the view that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. (public bodies (admissions to meetings) act 1960)

**It was resolved to exclude the public and press.**

### 23.2.16 New clerk employment matters

**It was resolved** to employ Mrs Helen Marsh as Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2016. **It was resolved** that the working hours shall be 12 hours a week but can be subject to review in the future, if required. The offer of employment is made on the receipt of satisfactory references.

### 24.2.16 Legal Matters update

The locum clerk updated the Council on the recent correspondence. **It was resolved** to set up a meeting with the Council's Solicitors.

End of closed session.

**25.2.16 Future agenda items.** Opens spaces Society – unrecorded paths.

**26.2.16 Next Meeting:** Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 pm at Froxfield Village Hall (subject to hall availability).

Meeting Ended: 9.55 pm

Signed Chairman\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_