

**Minutes of the Meeting of Froxfield & Privett Parish Council  
held at Privett Village Hall on  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr David Rymer, Cllr John Ellis, Cllr Chris Skinner, Cllr Peter Doyle, Cllr Teresa Brown and Cllr Phoebe Hiscock. **In attendance:** County Cllr Russell Oppenheimer, District Cllr Nick Drew, the Clerk and 4 members of the public

**22.5.1 Apologies for absence** No apologies were received.

**22.5.2 The minutes of the Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022** were approved and signed

**22.5.3 Matters Arising** Richard Moss's son thought that the metal bench would be too heavy but an option of a wooden bench with horseshoe ends would be appropriate.

**22.5.4 Declarations of Pecuniary Interests** None declared

**22.5.5 Comments from the Public or Press**

The 4 members of the public present had attended to express their grave concerns about the C18 being used as a motorbike race track. Their spokesman informed the meeting that the road is listed on various websites as a place for bikers to go. He said that many of the bikes had been modified to achieve a maximum volume of noise which impacts on the residents who live alongside the C18. They are not only badly affected by the noise but also at times unable to turn onto the road as it is close to a bend, where riders test their cornering skill and frequently overtake on the bend. There is a lay-by to provide clear visibility but regularly cars are parked in it obscuring the site lines. Wednesday night is known as race track night as the road is unbearably busy. This is affecting the resident's mental health and it was noticeable that more animals were killed on the C18. A video of the road being used as a race track was shown at the meeting. The Parish Councillors, Cllr Drew and Cllr Oppenheimer were visibly shocked by the content of the video, by the deafening noise from the bikes and by the irresponsible way the bikers were using the road as a race track and inciting car drivers to compete. In the immediate vicinity 16 houses were affected. It was noted that a regular motorbike user of the C18 was recently killed on the adjacent A32.

They asked the Parish Councillors to help them reduce the speed limit, instate double white lines and consider other traffic calming measures.

**22.5.6 Debate prompted by public representation concerning the C18 Cllr**

Oppenheimer expressed how shocked he was by the speed of the bikes and agreed that it was an issue. He would ask County to work with the PC and Ian Janes to advise on traffic calming measures. He suggested the PC should prioritise the measures. He thought it should be noted that requests from the PC might not be unaffordable. He impressed on the public that all incidents should be reported. He wouldn't advise requesting a Traffic Regulation Order without first calming the traffic and then ask for a speed restriction. He added that the review of the signage had been paid for previously.

Cllr Drew suggested a request should come from the Parish Council to the County Council which he would support. He recommended breaking down traffic calming measures into stages as this had worked for Steep PC.

The Chairman said the video offered a sobering insight into the recklessness of the bikers. The Parish Council would back the residents in their quest for measures to reduce the speed and noise of the bikes.

Cllr Brown commented that she had received a complaint from a resident that lorry drivers were ignoring the 'unsuitable for lorries' signs on C18 and perhaps this could be looked at as part of the initiative.

**22.5.7 To sign the Verge Cutting Contract** The Contract was duly signed in accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Orders. The signatories were the Chairman Cllr David Rymer and Cllr Teresa Brown

**22.5.8 County Councillor's Report** Cllr Oppenheimer was keen to highlight these items from his written report:

HCC's Hitting the Cold Sports initiative is a free advice line open from 0900 – 1700 Monday to Friday.

The Solar Together scheme provides an opportunity to get a really good deal on solar panels. He would be grateful if Councillors were to promote the scheme

He is keen to raise awareness of a new charity Dementia Support Hampshire & IOW. The charity offer support from the first signs of memory loss to end of life, for anyone and everyone impacted by dementia.

**22.5.9 District Councillor's Report** Councillor Drew the Councillors attention to: As a consequent of the Council focusing on collecting rubbish there has been no time to pick up glass. He made a request for residents not to put their glass recycling bins on the side of the road as glass collection will not resume until October.

**22.5.10 To consider the purchase of 2 new defibrillator cabinets and 3 sets of spare pads.** The purchase of 2 new polycarbonate cabinets, at a cost of £500 each, and 3 sets of adult defibrillator pads was approved.

**22.5.11 Planning Committee Report** the Chairman reported that at the 11<sup>th</sup> August meeting it was agreed to support all 3 applications. The date of the next Planning Committee meeting might be altered due to the official mourning of Queen Elizabeth II

**22.5.12 Planning Applications**

- a) **SDNP/22/03520/HOUS Lambing Shed** Retrospective application for external lighting. The councillors resolved to OBJECT to the application
- b) **SDNP/22/03389/FUL Thatchers Farm, Warren Lane** Detached dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling with associated landscaping together with the consolidation of the existing scrap yard business with associated landscaping. This item will be decided by the Planning Committee.

**22.5.13 Finances**

a) **To approve future payments** these payments were approved

Helen Marsh	£702.00
Idverde	£455.20
Insurance Renewal Estimate	£1000

b) **Insurance Renewal** The Brokers Came & Co had recommended using Hiscox Insurance at a cost of £1,015.91. Zurich Municipal Insurance had quoted £666. It

was agreed to accept Zurich's quote as long as it provided equal cover and the bonfire and firework event would be covered.

**c)** It was agreed that the Parish Council would not opt out of the external audit contract.