

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of
FROXFIELD AND PRIVETT PARISH COUNCIL
held at Froxfield Village Hall on
Thursday 9th May 2024 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr David Rymer, Cllr Teresa Brown, Cllr Peter Doyle, Cllr John Ellis, Cllr Vanessa Christie, Cllr Norman Pitman and Cllr Phoebe Hiscock. In attendance: Cllr Oppenheimer, Cllr Drew and the clerk

24.1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Skinner

24.1.2 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Teresa Brown was proposed as Chairman by Cllr Doyle and seconded by Cllr Christie, there being no further nominations Councillor Teresa Brown was duly elected. Cllr David Rymer was proposed as Vice Chairman by Cllr Peter Doyle and seconded by Cllr John Ellis, there being no further nominations Cllr Rymer was duly elected.

24.1.3 Approval of the minutes the Minutes of 4th April 2024 were agreed and signed.

24.1.4 Matters Arising There no matters arising.

24.1.5 Declarations of Pecuniary Interests There were no declarations

24.1.6 Comments from the Public or Press A spokesperson for the C18 road group said the Group had been given a date for a meeting with Donna Jones the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, when they would be asking her to provide a proactive service. A Freedom of Information request had shown 101 reports of complaints. There are 33 dwellings immediately beside the C18 impacted by the speeding vehicles. Their request for a camera van had been declined on the grounds of Health and Safety.

Cllr Pitman suggested to the spokesperson that they clearly identify their demands at the meeting with the Commissioner to gain the maximum benefit. The Group would request average speed cameras, double white lines and a lowering of the speed limit.

Cllr Oppenheimer reminded the group that the Commissioner had previously promised average speed cameras thereby freeing up officers for others.

Cllr Drew recommended asking for a timeframe for a strategy. He commented that Privett also suffers from speeding vehicles.

24.1.7 Re-election of Trustees of the Caulfeild Bequest Joanna Farrell presented the accounts to the meeting and detailed how the money was spent. The accounts were agreed and approved by the Parish Council. Joanna Farrell and Charlotte Bevis put themselves forward for re-election as trustees and they were duly re-elected.

24.1.8 Power Outages Froxfield Cllr Doyle said that the previous week there had been a spate of power outages including one lasting a whole day. He wondered whether the work was in fact planned. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to SSE asking them to explain why the outages had occurred. Cllr Drew added that there

were many senior residents who are left vulnerable without electricity for long periods.

24.1.9 County Councillor's Report Cllr Oppenheimer said:

- a) The Government had originally decided to extend PD Rights to farmers in the National Parks but have recently amended this decision to exclude the National Parks.
- b) He felt that they were finally getting a change of policy to stop vehicles on the byways.
- c) He said the condition of the roads was improving. The temporary infills, which are 7 times quicker to install, were gradually being replaced with permanent infills. An extra £13m will be coming in from the Government which will make a difference.
- d) The results from the Future Services Consultation are in the process of being analysed. In response to a question from Cllr Hiscock Cllr Oppenheimer said that he was 99% certain that Petersfield and Bordon tips would be kept.

24.1.10 District Councillor's Report Cllr Drew reported:

- a) Cllr Drew asked Cllr Oppenheimer if there was a move to reopen the paths on the Ashford Hangers. Cllr Oppenheimer responded saying he would chase where Countryside was on re-opening the Hangers.
- b) The Housing Association has landed the residents with a large bill for works that have not been carried out. He said that EHDC had good communication with the Housing Association so he would ask for the question to be put to the HA.
- c) Cllr Drew expressed his condolences to John Ellis over the loss of his father Ken Ellis who, for many years, had done so much for the parish.

24.1.11 Report on Council's Assets Cllr Brown reported that the Privett Bench needed attention as do the 2 village notice boards. A local resident had been recommended, who would be approached about carrying out the repairs. The War Memorial also needed some attention, so it was agreed to get a quote from a company that had contacted the parish council.

24.1.12 Planning Applications

- a) **SDNP/24/01295/FUL** - 4 Stoner Hill Cottages, Honeysuckle Cottage, Stoner Hill Road, GU32 1DX - Change of use of equestrian land and building to provide parking and residential amenity space. It was resolved to OBJECT to the application on the grounds that it was at odds with SD2, SD4, SD8 and SD11 of the SDNP Local Plan.

24.1.13 Review and Approve the Investment Policy It was agreed that the Investment Policy would be amended for approving at the next meeting.

24.1.14 Review and Approve the Reserves Policy: the policy had been circulated prior to the meeting and was approved by the Councillors.

24.1.15 Finances *(All documents were circulated prior to the meeting)*

- a) To approve and sign the Year End Accounts 2023/2024: the accounts were approved and signed
- b) Approve the Internal Audit Report and the Annual Audit Report Letter: the Internal Audit report and letter were approved and signed

- c) To approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement: the governance statement was approved and signed
- d) To approve and sign the Annual Accounting Statements: the Annual Accounting Statement was approved and signed
- e) To confirm there is no conflict of interest with BDO the external auditors: the Councillors confirmed there was no conflict of interest with BDO.
- f) Recording the date for the period of Exercise the Public Rights and the date of the announcement. The dates set for the Exercise of Public Rights commences on 3rd June 2024 ending on 12th July 2024. Date of the announcement 2nd June 2024.
- g) Approve the Asset Register for 2024. The Asset Register was approved and signed.
- h) To agree the subscriptions for 2024/25. The subscription for HALC £408 and Parish Online Mapping Software £54 were approved
- i) Payments approved:

Clerk's Salary March 2024		737.00
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Froxfield Village Hall Hire		72.00
HMRC		226.29