

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

Present: Cllr Teresa Brown, Cllr David Rymer, Cllr Peter Doyle, Cllr John Ellis, Cllr Vanessa Christie and Cllr Chris Skinner. In attendance: Cllr Oppenheimer, Cllr Drew, Robert Shepherd and the clerk

- 24.3.1 Apologies for absence** There were no apologies received
- 24.3.2 The Minutes of 6th June 2024** were approved and signed
- 24.3.3 Matters Arising from the Minutes of 9th June 2024** No matters arising
- 24.3.4 Declarations of Pecuniary Interests** None declared
- 24.3.5 To check the progress of the road improvements and the replacement signs for Wheeler's Lane** Cllr Oppenheimer will continue to press the Highways engineers to clear the road and sort out the signs. Cllr Pitman asked for all the redundant road work signs to be removed on and around Wheeler's Lane
- 24.3.6 County Councillor's Report** Cllr Oppenheimer's had been distributed prior to the meeting.
- a) Cllr Rymer and Cllr Christie would work on the parish council's response to the SDNP Local Plan Review for presenting at the September Meeting for submission by the deadline on 13th September 2024.
 - b) Cllr Oppenheimer said he would like to congratulate Damian Hinds on his re-election as MP for East Hampshire and Greg Stafford on his election as MP for the new Farnham and Bordon Constituency.
 - c) Although the General Election had delayed the future services consultation the new Leader Nick Adams-King has reassured the public that he and his cabinet colleagues have heard the concerns of the public which were raised in the consultation. County Councillors know that the retention of HWRCs and School Crossing Patrols, maintenance of vital community transport routes and the continued provision of homelessness grants are important to both the public and to our partners.
 - d) Cllr Oppenheimer referred to a letter he received from the Parish Council regarding the school flashing 20mph signs and said he would speak to all parties involved to come to a resolution.
- 24.3.7 District Councillor's Report** Cllr Drew said
- a) Thanks to Robert Shepherd for the amazing and ongoing work for the village hall.
 - b) Cllr Drew accompanied new Chair of EHDC on a tour of around the villages visiting the new tea shop in Privett, where cyclists were enjoying a refreshment. EHDC and SDNP had helped the shop with funding. Continuing to Froxfield stores where the Royal Mail were celebrating Pride Month then stopping at the Trooper Inn to receive a generous donation towards the Chairman's (of EHDC) Charity.

- c) He offered his services for litter picking and suggested that the Litter Pickers send in pictures for publicity at EHDC. He also recommended that Privett Fete and Open Gardens should do the same.
- d) He agreed to provide a grant for Privett Fete.
- e) Gave thanks to Cllr Rymer for attending the Planning Committee Meeting and for making a presentation.

24.3.8 To review a grant application from the Privett Village Fund Raisers for £340 towards expenses and Prizes for the Village Fete and Fun Dog Show. The Councillors agreed to the grant towards expenses and prizes for the Privett Village Fete and Fun Dog Show of £340.

24.3.9 To Review a grant application from Froxfield Village Hall for repairs to the Hall

Robert Shepherd informed the meeting that the village hall had been loss making for many years and now the situation was unsustainable. As he sees it the priorities for VH is finances and the lack of volunteers. The trustees are concerned about their liabilities so it was suggested there would be a case for the Parish Council to take over as trustees. Cllr Christie made the point that potentially the financial responsibilities would then be transferred to the Councillors.

Cllr Pitman asked how much income came from the bookings. The amount raised from hiring the hall increased this year to £14,000, with much of the income being derived from the pre-school. The Cricket & Darts Club, PCC (Drop-In and PCC meetings) Garden Club, Country Music Club, Choir and the Parish Council were also regular users of the hall.

Cllr Christie asked what marketing was being undertaken to increase the number of hirers. Mr Shepherd replied that responses from a questionnaire, sent to all the residents, were that exercise classes would be welcome, but none of the responders had offered to organise the classes.

Cllr Rymer suggested setting up an ear marked fund of £7000 to be drawn down on when each repair bill became due. The Chairman asked the councillors if they approved of this suggestion. There being no further comments or objections the ear-marked fund of £7000 was approved.

24.3.10 Finances

- a) The financial statement including the future payments, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved.

24.3.11 Future Agenda Items There were no requests for agenda items.

Signed

Chairman

Dated:

