FRETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Fretherne with Saul Parish Council Meeting held at Saul Memorial Hall at 14:30pm on 19th April 2024.

Present: Cllr B Findlater (Chairman), Cllr C Bierer, Cllr L Jeffries, Clerk K Brown

In attendance: Dist Cllr J Jones

Register of General Public attending meeting: None

Agenda

010424 **To receive apologies for absence.** Cty Cllr S Davies sent his apologies.

020424 **Declarations of Interest on the Agenda** - none

030424 **To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 27th March 2024**
The minutes had previously been circulated and are resolved as a true record

040424 **Public Question Time –** no members of the public present

050424 **To receive a report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.**
Cty Cllr Davies was not present but sent a report: I have little to report from County Council.
I believe John will be attending and will update you on District Council, but the main news is that we have local elections on May 2nd. Both John and I are standing down from District Council, although I will continue to be your County Councillor, and will stand again next year for County. It has been an honour to represent you at District Council and there are 2 excellent Conservative Candidates in Robert Brown and Hena Mannan-Rahman.

060424 **To receive a report from District Councillor John Jones.**
Before Cllr Jones report, the Chairman thanked John for all the knowledge, experience and advice that he has given this Council over the twenty-two years of service.
Dist Cllr Jones report The Local Plan is due to resume it's examination in December and should be completed by March after the pause granted by the Inspectors for the District Council to negotiate with Highways England, Gloucestershire County Council, South Gloucestershire Council, Networking Rail and the land owners to address the concerns that have been raised so far during the examination. Should begin again in early March.
District Council Planning Department concludes that 70% of the draft Local Plan is acceptable and on that presumption has given permission for some sites in the draft Local Plan to be developed including two in Whitminster west of the A38, not those between the M5 and the A38, these are still under consideration. Two in Whitminster are the one at the back of Uptons Gardens and the one at the back of School Field Close. Dist Cllr Jones raised at the planning meeting that the 30mph speed limit starts inside of where the proposed access is going to be. It is hoped that the speed limit will be extended back closer to the old nursery site or further.
Planning Enforcement is now up to full strength, look for some movement on the long backlog of cases that they have got. A new Senior Planning Enforcement Officer has been appointed but there is approximately a two year back log.
There are elections in a couple of weeks' time. One new Parish has been created in the District, Great Oldbury with a Parish Council of seven. They have had seven people come forward; there will not be an election as all elected. Now 53 Parish and Town Councils in the District. The only Parish Council in the District that has an election is Uley. There is one ward of Stonehouse Town Council and three wards of Stroud Town Council that are having elections, all the rest have either enough Councillors or have vacancies members to form a Parish Council.
John is standing down as a District Councillor after 22 years, he has enjoyed the experience and thanks everyone for their help and support over those years. He has made a lot of friends in the parishes and in Licensing and Planning which he has been mainly involved in.

070424 **Planning Application**

Application Number: S.24/0344/HHOLD
Location: Orchard House, High Street, Saul, Gloucester.
Application Type: Householder Application
Description: Erection of porch and 1.5 storey garage extension to front.
Respond by date: 14.04.2024
Parish Council have no comment

Application Number: S.24/0617/TCA
Location: The Old Vicarage, High Street, Saul, Gloucester.
Application Type: Trees in a Conservation Area
Description: T1, T2, T3 and T4 - Italian Alders - Fell.

15/05/24

Respond by date: 30.04.2024
Parish Council have no comment

Planning Decisions

Application Number: S.24/0389/LBC Saul Lodge West, Arlingham Road, Saul, Gloucester.
Description: Replacement of two windows.
Decision: Awaiting decision

Application Number: S.24/0497/HHOLD The Pound House, Framilode, Gloucester, Gloucestershire.
Description: Replacement side conservatory, with retained slab and dwarf wall
Decision: Awaiting decision

Application Number: S.24/0007/HHOLD 1 Garden Cottages, Framilode Passage, Saul, Gloucester.
Description: Erection of single storey rear & double storey side extension. (Resubmission of S.23/0684/HHOLD - extend the permitted single storey side extension).
Decision: Awaiting decision

Application Number: S.24/0033/HHOLD Field View, 6 Sandfield Crescent, Church Lane, Saul.
Description: Erection of 3 storey side extension. Alterations to permitted application - S.23/1321/HHOLD.
Decision: Awaiting decision

Application Number: S.23/2348/FUL Land To The Rear Of 7 Sandfield Crescent, Church Lane, Saul, Gloucestershire.
Description: Erection of a tractor and implement shed and straw store
Decision: Permission granted

Dist Cllr J Jones left the meeting at 14:50

080424 **To receive feedback an update on the progress with the kissing gates that the Gloucestershire County Council Public Rights of Way (PROW) officer is making.** The PROW officer has begun contacting landowners along the public footpath identified as most appropriate to replace styles with kissing gates. Unfortunately one of the landowners does not welcome the installation of kissing gates and will not discuss further. Parish Council to discuss what alternative options there might be. Clerk to update.
The GCC PROW officer has begun contacting landowners along the footpath to get approval for the installation of kissing gates. Unfortunately, one of the landowners has refused permission or to discuss the matter. After discussion, the Parish Council have raised some queries as to progressing the planned installations and what alternatives are available.
Action: Clerk to contact the PROW officer and raise the queries. Feedback the information at the next meeting.

090424 **Finance: To approve the following payments in accordance with the budget.**
Supporting documents have already been sent to councillors.

Payee	For	Amount
Administration costs	To include Clerks pay, postage, stationary etc	£441.02
GAPTC	Subscription	£176.18

Proposed, seconded with all in favour
To ratify payments made and income received between meetings –

Microsoft	Subscription	£59.99
Birketts	Inv 945210 legal advice	£457.20

Standing order for membership of Glos Rural Comm Council (GRCC) paid £25.00
Proposed, seconded with all in favour

To review and approve April 2024 bank reconciliation and accounting spreadsheet.
These have already been circulated to the Councillors.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour

100424 **To review and approve the end of Financial Year Accounts and Bank Reconciliation 2023/24**
The end of year accounting spreadsheet (cashbook) and end of year bank reconciliation form have been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting for their review.
The Financial Year Accounts and Bank Reconciliation had previously been circulated and are resolved as a true record

110424 **To review and approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023/24.** The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2023/24 has been circulated to the Councillors for their consideration prior to approval at the meeting.
The Annual Governance and Acountability Return 2023/24 had previously been circulated and is resolved as a true record.
Action: Clerk to now send off all requested information to the Internal Auditor

Signed / Date 15/05/24

120424 **To discuss having a half yearly review of the play equipment on the Memorial Hall Playing Field.**
The Clerk has contacted ROSPA for a mid-year quote for an inspection of all the equipment, £260 plus VAT, to discuss whether to proceed with the inspection.
After discussion, it was agreed to have a mid year inspection of all equipment on the Playing Field carried out.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour

130424 **Clerks report – to update on actions raised at the February meeting**

- The respective quotes for work on the trees at the allotments has been responded to.
- The Poop bags for the dispenser at the Memorial Hall Playing Field are presently out of stock. These will be ordered as soon as they are back in stock.
- Christmas on the Pound 2024 music has been confirmed.
- There are currently three allotments available, all people on the waiting list have been contacted.
- SDC have confirmed that there are no CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) payments due in the Parish.
- A member of Saul community has kindly offered to assist with the defibrillator checks.

140424 **To receive an update on the commissioned survey on the disused section of the Stroudwater Canal at Upper Framilode, repair of the dam on the canal and the drainage work along the towpath.**
Further to the Wild Service survey of the canal being sent to the Chairman of the Canal Volunteer Group along with the questions raised by the Councillors and the responses sent by Wild Service; an accompanying letter requested that the Volunteer Group put together a proposed work plan for the coming months. The Parish Council wait to hear from the Volunteer Group as to their proposal for what work can be carried out.
There has been no response from the volunteer group as to the survey and questions & answers sent to them in March. The Council will look to progress the repair of the dam by alternative means.

150424 **To consider the proposal by SDC to allow a grass margin around established trees to relive soil compaction.** Does the Council wish to introduce this practice for trees on Saul Pound?
After discussion, it was thought that there was no necessity to adopt this practice.

160424 **To confirm previously approved purchases will now be ordered**, the solar lighting for the defibrillator phone box in Saul and the noticeboard for the canal bank.
Proposed, seconded with all in favour
Action: Clerk to order

170424 **Date of next meeting 15th May 2024 following the Annual Parish Assembly beginning at 7pm and the Annual Parish Council Meeting.**

The meeting closed at 15:25

Signed:

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in exercising any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

Signed / Date  15/05/24