FRETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

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I hereby give notice of a Parish Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 27th November 2024 at 7pm in Saul Memorial Hall. Members of the Parish Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of transacting the following business, residents of the Parish are welcome to attend. Anyone attending should be aware that the meeting may be recorded.

Please be respectful of the proximity to other people attending the meeting and take relevant steps to respect their welfare.

Agenda

011124 **To receive apologies for absence.**

021124 **Declarations of Interest on the Agenda**

031124 **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 30th October 2024**

041124 **Public Question Time**
10 Minutes is allocated to allow members of the public to address the Parish Council, 3 minutes will be allocated to each person. Speakers are requested to keep their comments brief. Standing Orders item 3, para (e)(f)(g)(h)(k).

051124 **To receive a report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.**

061124 **To receive a report from District Councillor Richard Maisey**

071124 **Planning Application**

Application Number: S.24/2089/TCA
Location: The Pound House, Framilode, Gloucester, Gloucestershire.
Application Type: Trees in a Conservation Area
Description: Pittosporum - fell.
Respond by date: 11.12.2024

Application Number: S.24/1978/HHOLD
Location: Orchard House, High Street, Saul, Gloucester.
Application Type: Householder Application
Description: Erection of a first floor rear extension
Respond by date: 10.12.2024

Planning Decisions

Application Number: S.24/1870/HRA Barn 2, Dunstalls Farm, Arlingham Road, Saul.
Description: Application under Regulation 77 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 for Conversion of barn to dwelling (S.24/1366/P3Q) Grid Reference: 374234,208629
Decision: Awaiting decision

Application Number: S.24/1646/FUL Fromebridge Wetlands Project Stroudwater Canal, Bristol Road, Whitminster, Gloucestershire.
Description: Creation of a water vole pond, levelling of the canal towpath bank, construction of a multi-user canal towpath and an accessible bird hide
Decision: Awaiting decision

Application Number: S.24/1721/HHOLD Goughs Cottage, High Street, Saul, Gloucester.
Description: Erection of single storey and 2 storey side extensions and single storey rear extension with accessible accommodation at ground floor.
Decision: Application withdrawn

Application Number: S.24/1706/TCA The Old Vicarage, High Street, Saul, Gloucester.
Description: T1 to T4 maple & lime - silvicultural thin.
Decision: Application approved

Application Number: S.24/1266/FUL Dunstall's Farm, Arlingham Road, Saul, Gloucester.
Description: Altered access and parking arrangements to serve existing commercial uses
Decision: Awaiting Decision

081124 **To discuss the EDF's proposal for development of Salt Marshes at Arlingham**, a neighbouring parish, the impact this may have on Fretherne with Saul and consider what steps the Council need to take following the announcement and how to support Arlingham PC in their bid to retain the 500 acres of prime arable land which

has been in family farms for generations. It is also proposed to compulsory purchase a further 300 acres at Rodley, a Parish on the opposite bank of the River Severn. Various public consultations are being held by EDF in parishes which could be affected by the proposal. Following the Severn Voice meeting on November 13th 2024, it was collectively agreed that Councillors from Arlingham PC will draft a letter which, after circulating to member PC's, will be sent at an appropriate time to the Secretary of State. It is proposed that Parishes send similar letters of support individually to strengthen the support to the Arlingham Community. Clerk to update from Severn Voice meeting.

091124 **To discuss the Environment Agency's (EA) Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). Following recent discussion at the Severn Voice (SV) meeting, the EA have amended their SMP without consulting the local communities that will be affected.** The SMP, or flood defences, was agreed to be maintained until 2060; it is now understood that following recent amendments to this statement, this has now been revised to 2025. Following the discussion at the SV meeting, Councillors from Frampton on Severn PC and Arlingham PC will draft a letter, which after circulation to member Parishes of the SV, will be sent to the EA for an understanding of why this date has been amended, why there has been no consultation and what mitigation there will be for flood defences following removal of the SMP in 2025. Clerk to update from Severn Voice meeting.

101124 **To discuss how best to organise the upkeep of the disused section of the Stroudwater Canal at Upper Framilode and to receive an update on the present condition of the canal.** Further to the information received about the previous Volunteer Group, the Parish Council are to discuss how to move forward on the maintenance of the canal.

- To discuss the best way forward to manage the canal, a proposed work plan and how to proceed going forward. Cllr Bierer to update the Council on his meeting with members of the Volunteer Group.
- Clerk can update on what impact the Weevils have had.

111124 **To review and discuss the Interim Audit.** The report has been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting for their consideration.

121124 **Finance: To approve the following payments in accordance with the budget.**
Supporting documents have already been sent to councillors.

Payee	For	Amount
Administration costs	Clerk Pay	£587.16
S Merrett	Mares Tail treatment of allotment 1a	£576.00
Clerk	Christmas lighting and tree decorations	£129.77
Cllr Jeffries	Refreshments, plates, cups, prizes	£12.99
Iain Selkirk	Interim Audit 2024 - 25	£150.00
Severn Vale Trees	Removing fallen branch and unstable tree	£330.00
Town & Parish Website	Annual charges	£175.00
Clerk	Printing cost for Newsletter and posters	£78.29
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath Donation	£150.00

To ratify payments made, and income received, between meetings –

Severn Grass Services	Village Maintenance inv 408	£286.00
Water Plus	Allotment water supply Nov 2024	£30.31
Smiths of Gloucester	Topsoil for the raised beds	£600.00

To review and approve November 2024 bank reconciliation and accounting spreadsheet. These have already been circulated to the Councillors.

131124 **Clerks report – to update on actions raised at the October meeting and other matters arising**

- To formally approve the quote for refurbishment of the bus stop on Saul Pound at a cost of £1040. Oak to be used in the refurbishment.
- A member of the public reported that the new fencing at Upper Framilode has been damaged overnight of the 7th/8th November. This was reported to the Highways Manager who visited the site. Also posted on social media. In agreement with GCC Highways, the repairs have been carried out by the responsible vehicle owners. It is planned to have white lines painted along the roadside adjacent to this corner.
- A resident at Upper Framilode contacted the Clerk asking who was responsible for maintaining the verge between the road to St Peters and the River Frome. On investigation, this is the Parish Councils responsibility. A local resident has volunteered to do a cut now free of charge, Parish Council to revue from next year onwards for a charge of £30.
- The Clerk has reported the poor condition of the 30mph repeater signage through the village via the Fixmystreet App. These should be replaced in the coming weeks.
- The Abstraction Report has been completed for 2024, NIL abstracted
- The Newsletters were delivered over the weekend of 9th/10th November. They have been received favourable with comments such as good to see the newsletter back. Rev Liz has asked if she could have some information included in the next issue as have Frampton Fund Raisers (FFR).
- Remembrance Day Poppy Wreaths were laid at St James, St Peters and the War Memorial at Fretherne. Thank you to Cllrs Findlater and Jeffries and Tim Lever.

141124 **To update, discuss and approve items associated with the allotments.**

- Formerly approve the quote for top soil for the raised beds - 13 cubic metres of soil, it is in two grades – 'as dug' £500 + vat and 'screened' £550 +vat. The supplier advised that there was very little difference between the two soils so the 'as dug' was ordered.
- Details of weed suppressant ground cover for the vacant allotments to be discussed including cost and benefits of providing the cover. **Cllr Bierer who will update re his findings.**
- Treatment for Mares Tail on allotment 1a has been completed.
- The tenant of allotment 1b has verbally confirmed receipt of the letter. Steps will be taken in line with what the Parish Council has proposed to delineate that the structure which overhangs the allotment boundary is a separate structure to the building that it is presently attached to.

151124 **To discuss the Grant application by the Memorial Hall.** The Memorial Hall Committee have submitted an application for funding to decorate one of three areas of the Memorial Hall. This has been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting for their consideration.

161124 **The supply of dog poop bags for the dispenser is running low, there was limited stock available when the last purchase was approved.** An economy bag is now available, 800 bags per case in twists of 50 bags, £25.15 +vat per case. The bags are oxo-degradable. Do Council approve the purchase of four cases at a cost of £120.72.

171124 **To consider improved street lighting and installation of road markings at Moor Street.** Following the installation of the new fencing along Moor Street and the subsequent damage to part of it, members of the public are highlighting that the vehicles which are regularly parked along the side of the road at Upper Fretherne are making it difficult for larger vehicles to negotiate the bends adjacent to where they are parked and have suggested that better street lighting and restricted parking may help.

181124 **To initiate the discussions on the Budget for 2025 - 26.** The proposed budgetary figures have been circulated to the Councillors for consideration prior to the meeting. This will formally be approved at the January 2025 meeting.

191124 **To initiate the discussions on the Business Plan for 2025 - 2028.** Councillors to consider the draft Business Plan, discuss the proposed items and what involvement is needed and by who. A draft Business Plan has been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting for their consideration. This will formally be approved at the January 2025 meeting.

201124 **To initiate discussion on the Precept for 2025 - 26.** This will formally be approved at the January 2025 meeting.

211124 **To confirm Christmas preparation times:**

- lights and baubles are now purchased.
- Supply of urn and purchase of refreshments – Cllrs Jeffries and Findlater to update
- The winning posters of the Christmas on the Pound Poster competition have been printed and are displayed on the Parish notice boards.
- Confirm approval to reduce branches which are encroaching on the Christmas tree are removed asap
- decorating the trees at Fretherne will be completed by the Clerk prior to the 7th December
- the trees on the Pound will be decorated on the weekend of 29th/30th November. **Who is available to help?**
- final preparations, the gazebo's and tables, for Christmas on the Pound will be on Saturday 7th December, **time to be agreed.**
- Has Father Christmas agreed to attend? Cllr Jeffries to update

221124 **The Chairman will move the adoption of the following resolution:** That under section 100(A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, the public and press will be excluded from the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act

- Staffing review

231124 **Date of next meeting 29th January 2025.**

Signed: *Kay Brown* 21st November 2024

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