# FRETHERNE WITH SAUL PARISH COUNCIL

**Pella, Passage Road, Saul, Gloucestershire mob no 07775 935739**
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**I hereby give notice of a Parish Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 30th April 2025 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 your proximity to other people attending the meeting and take relevant steps to respect their welfare.

**Agenda**

**010425** **To elect a Chairman of the Parish Council and receive the Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office.** section 15(1)) LGA 1972. Following the resignation of Cllr Findlater from the Chairman's role at the end of the March meeting, a new Chairman must be elected. Cllr Findlater will continue as a Councillor.

**020425** **To elect a Vice Chairman of the Parish.** section 15(6) LGA 1972

**030425** **To receive apologies for absence.**

**040425** **Declarations of Interest on the Agenda**

**050425** **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 2025**

**060425** **The Parish Council would like to send it's deepest sympathy to the family, friends and colleagues of District Councillor Richard Maisey who has recently passed away.**

**070425** **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).

**080425** **To receive a report from County Councillor Stephen Davies.**

**090425** **To receive a report from District Councillor Robert Brown**

**100425** **To consider and discuss the implications of the Governments Devolution proposal.** It is important that the Parish Council begin to consider how the Governments proposed Devolution could affect the Council and it's responsibilities, financially, contractually and staffing.

**110425** **To receive an update on the proposed Solar Farm and substation between Upper Framilode and Epney.**

- Should a pole be sent around the Parish to seek if everyone approves of funding the leaflet sharing information about the Solar Farm be from Parish funds.
- At the last meeting the Clerk asked Dist Cllr Maisey if SDC Planning Department carried out location visits to understand the location and assess the impact of their planning applications decisions. He has subsequently confirmed that site visits do take place.
- Further communications have been sent to Alpaca Communications requesting information, –
    - To open discussions on Community Benefit Funding – reminder sent, no response
    - Ecology report, who is carrying out the survey – *Alpaca have responded advising that an Ecology report has been carried out and this, with the other details requested, will be included with the formal planning application*
    - Who is manufacturing the solar panels and other equipment, how will it be disposed of and where – *the following response has been received, 'the decommissioning and disposal of solar panels and associated equipment would be carried out in accordance with industry best practice and relevant environmental regulations at the time of decommissioning.'*
    - Following discussion at the last meeting, the Clerk has requested that PACE formally confirm that the BESS will not be included in the proposed planning application and would not be submitted as a Variation to the proposed planning application
    - Clerk has also emailed SDC asking for confirmation of their policy on notifying Parish Councils of Variations to planning application especially on ones as contentious as a solar farm
- What signage is required in the event of a planning application being submitted
    - Have any locations been secured for displaying banners? Cllr Lever to update
    - Do we need posters displayed on notice boards and available for people to display/
- A leaflet has been delivered to every household in Fretherne with Saul and Longney/Epney Parishes to make sure that all residents are aware of the proposed Solar Farm planning application on land between the two parishes.
- Work has started on the leaflet which will be delivered to all households in the two parishes explaining the planning process, how to respond and dates of drop-in sessions to explain how to submit a response to the application to anyone who is unfamiliar and not confident with the process.

**120425** **Planning Application**

**Application Number:** S.25/0639/HHOLD
**Location:** 2 Stanley Villas, Passage Road, Saul, Gloucester.
**Application Type:** Householder Application
**Description:** Demolition of single storey extensions and erection of a single storey and two storey side extension.
**Respond by date:** 08.05.2025

**Application Number:** S.25/0711/FUL
**Location:** Hoopers Farm, High Street, Saul, Gloucester.
**Application Type:** Full Planning Application
**Description:** Erection of a barn.
**Respond by date:** 08.05.2025

**Application Number:** S.25/0544/HHOLD
**Location:** 2 Oak Villas, High Street, Saul, Gloucester.
**Application Type:** Householder Application
**Description:** Erection of a single storey side extension. (Retrospective).
**Respond by date:** 19.04.2025 extension granted to 1st May 2025

**Planning Decisions**

**Application Number:** S.25/0400/TCA Pella, Passage Road, Saul, Gloucester.
**Description:** Reduce the height of 12 No. Leylandii trees to the side & rear boundaries of the garden. The trees are becoming too high and will be reduced to a height of 6ft.
**Decision:** Application approved

**Application Number:** S.25/0072/HHOLD Kimsbury House, Moor Street, Saul, Gloucester.
**Description:** Erection of a summer room**.**
**Decision:** Permitted

**Application Number:** APP/C1625/Y/24/3355362 The Cottage Saul Lodge Arlingham Road Saul
**Appeal By :** [redacted]
**Development:** Replacement of eleven casement windows
**Appeal Start Date:** 3rd December 2024

**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

**130425** **To receive an update on the Volunteer Group and how to progress the work on the disused section of the Stroudwater Canal at Upper Framilode following discussion with members of the previous Volunteer Group.** Cllr Bierer and Cllr Brown to give update

- To discuss organising a working party
- To discuss what work is prioritised
- To discuss the notice board, location and installing it.

**140425** **To review and approve the end of Financial Year Accounts and Bank Reconciliation 2024/25** The Cashbook (accounting spreadsheet) and end of year bank reconciliation form have been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting for their review.

**150423** **To approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25** The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2024/25 Form 3, has been circulated to the Councillors for their consideration prior to approval at the meeting.

**160425** **Finance: To approve the following payments in accordance with the budget.**
Supporting documents have already been sent to councillors.

| Payee | For | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| Clerk | Administration inc Pay, stamps | £404.16 |
| Clerk<br>Fretherne with Saul & Fram Memorial Hall | Biz – solar farm leaflet<br>Payment for hire of Memorial Hall | £149.99<br>£67.50 |
| Severn Grass Services inv 436 | Village maintenance grass cutting | £316.00 |

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

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Water Plus Mar | Allotment water supply | £17.83 |
| Water Plus Apr | Allotment water supply | £19.55 |
| Memorial Hall | Grant application for hall redecoration | £1200.00 |
| GRCC (SO) | Membership Subscription | £25.00 |

**Incoming Payments**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| HMRC | VAT | £1276.63 |
| Stroud District Council | Precept (first payment) | £8703.50 |

**To review and approve April 2025 bank reconciliation and accounting spreadsheet.** These have already been circulated to the Councillors.

**170425** **Clerks report – to update on actions raised at the February meeting and other matters arising**

- A number of allotments have been returned to the Parish Council but others have now got new tenants. In total there are five vacant allotments.
- Mares Tail continues to be a problem on the allotments, other tenants are reporting that it has appeared on their allotments too. The Contractor has given a quote for further spraying, £150.00, which has been circulated to the Councillors for consideration. He advises that the weed is very persistent and will need a couple of sprays a year to eradicate.
- The problem with the canal overflow pipe has been flagged again with the Environment Agency, it has been flagged again to the area manager. Not heard anything as yet.
- Following discussion with SDC, the waste bin at the bus turning area along Passage Rd has been replaced but the contractor has installed it in such a way that it restricts the only vehicular access to the field. The Clerk has reported this to SDC requesting it be moved to the side of the turning space and has updated the owner.

**180425** **To discuss matters arising from the Budget and Business Plan discussions in January**

- To receive progress on the purchase of a projector. Cllr Bierer to update Council
- To get a update on the purchase of wood for the bench on the Memorial Hall Playing Field. Cllr Bierer to provide update
- Clerk has recently asked if, now that we are in the new financial year, can the purchase of the new notice board for Upper Framilode Pound be purchased, the trees on Upper Framilode Pound be pruned; go ahead.
- Do you approve the additional cost of the Canal Fencing. The quote has been reviewed due to the time since the original quote, it is now £5250.00

**190425** **To review the Roles and Responsibilities Policy,** to finalise the list of roles and responsibilities.

**200425** **To discuss items raised between meetings**

- Refurbishment of the bus stop on Saul Pound. Since refurbishment began at the end of 2024, the bus stop is noticeably leaning further. It has been suggested that the shelter has new 'bases' to the legs to level it. This would be at an additional cost of £350 (days labour plus bits) to the already approved quote of £1040.00
- To approve Issue 2 of the Parish Council newsletter and agree number printed. 250 @ £74.99 or 500 @ £99.99. The Newsletter having been circulated to the Councillors for their consideration.
- To approve the additional £40 to cut the verge between Basin Lane, Upper Framilode and the River Frome.
- Following circulation of the Housing Need survey letter, Tim Gwilliam has offered to explain the survey and results at a meeting. Should he be asked if he can do this at the Parish Meeting on May 14th?
- At the end of the Parish Council owned part of the Public Right of Way (PROW) at Upper Framilode/Saul Junction direction, there used to be a gate. Should the Parish Council approach the PROW Officer to installing a Kissing Gate?

**210425** **To discuss the application for a donation to Aura's Dogs charity to assist with the £5000 a week vet bills.** The charity (no 1194902) is based in Cambridge and rehomes up to 300 dogs each year. The initial email enquires if there is a grant for community funding they can apply for.

**220425** **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**

- To discuss information and communications received.

**230425** **Date of next meeting 14th May 2025.**

**Signed**: *Kay Brown* 24th April 2025

*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.*