

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Freeland Village Hall in the Newell Room at 7:30PM on Monday 12th December 2022.

Members Present:

Cllr R Faulkner, Cllr M Canning, Cllr A Bird, Cllr P Foster, Cllr B Phillips, Cllr A Jackson, District Cllr L Arciszewska, County Cllr Liam Walker Clerk Fay Friend. Additionally 3 members of the public were in attendance.

1. **To receive apologies for absence-** Apologies have been received from District Cllr A Al-Yousuf.
2. **To receive Declaration of interest in agenda items-** Cllr A Jackson signed her interest with item 7 due to her connection to Freeland Friends and will not vote on any matter under this item.
3. **To approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th November 2022** – It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes were signed as a true record.
4. **Public Participation session-** 1 member of the public wished to speak about the Botley West Solar Farm proposals and the Chair was happy to discuss this at the agenda item. Neither of the other 2 wished to participate.
5. **To discuss and agree any actions for urgent business-**
Co-option of Parish Councillor – information has been sent round to the council about a resident wanting to join. It was to Co-Opt Mark O’Callaghan as a member of Freeland Parish Council. Chair proposed and all in favour. He was welcomed by all members of the council.

6. **Matters arising from the minutes.**

- (a) To add an additional noticeboard up the northern end of the village. The council have **RESOLVED** to add the additional noticeboard to be positioned by the bus shelter subject to highways approval.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** that the council would be happy to spend up to £1000 on a microphone and speakers.
- c) The Council inventory requires updating and circulating to all. It was mentioned that this could be tracked on Parish online. Clerk and Mary-Ann to look into this further.
- d) The meeting with developers protocol after a brief discussion and a few amendments it has been **RESOLVED** to adopt.

7. **To note the meeting for Inspired Villages inquiry-** Roger gave the council a brief update with the current position after the final day of the inquiry. Thanks was given again to all including Mike, Amy, Mary-Ann and Russ for their incredible support throughout the inquiry. The inspector aims to deliver her decision by the 23rd of December. The council will be updated once the decision has been received.

9. **To discuss and receive update on new/existing planning applications.**

Botley West Solar Farm- a member of the public spoke about some of the environmental factors on how Botley West could benefit the biodiversity and help the fight against climate change. Their case added that how current farmers are struggling with the unpredicted weather that climate change is causing on the world that'll only get worse over time. The council are encouraging residents to submit their own comments and will review their position again during phase 2 of the consultation.

New application 3 Parklands – No comments wish to be made

New application 20 Church View – No comments wish to be made

New application 14 Church View - No comments wish to be made

Spitfire Homes- have now submitted their planning application which now is sat with the planning authority. This process can take up to 8 weeks before the council might receive notification. If this were to be approved we would need to discuss possible benefits to be granted and we should be involved in the S106 process as soon as possible.

Methodist Church- planning permission to turn into a dwelling was refused.
The council are aware that this may go to appeal.

10. To receive updates from District and County Councillors.

Liam Walker- has received many complaints about the mud on Cuckoo Lane from the park and ride construction work. This has now been addressed and there is less mud on the road. Currently there are delays on the A40 proposals due to costs which is causing implications on the Park and Ride. The County Council however are committed on the A40 project. Liam's view on Botley Solar Farm is he is against it and advised that he has received many emails from residents across the various different parishes against the development and he currently doesn't see that there will be any benefit to the community. The bus gates project in Oxford is developing but there is a potential legal challenge from the businesses affected.. Liam with help contact highways for installing the new noticeboard.

Lidia Arciszewska- has also received a lot of emails from residents against the Botley West Solar Farm. District Council has approved a solar farm in South Leigh with the support from the South Leigh Parish Council. Additionally, WODC have made the decision to cover all the buildings that they own/rent out to have solar panels installed to their roofs. A planning site in Woodstock for 280 homes has been approved by Uplands Committee but a second site containing around 180 homes has been refused.

Lidia received a message from Michael Gove that the government are planning to relax the 5 year land supply which for Freeland and the wider WODC is incredible news. This is still subject to approval by the Government.

11. To discuss and approve financial matters.

(a) To approve invoices for payment.- It was **RESOLVED** to pay the account presented proposed by Peter, seconded by Amy and all in favour.

The following invoices are requested to be approved for payment:

BACS Ref Number	To whom paid	Details	Amount (£)
BACS 124	Fay Friend	Clerk's salary - December + backdated payrise	
BACS 125	Mary- Ann Canning	Expenses	34.58
BACS 126	fay friend	Expenses	79.99
BACS 127	Sign Shed	dog signs	52.87
BACS 128	J F Gardening	mowing	180.00
BACS 129	lawnsience	treatment	44.00
BACS 130	HMRC	national insurance Q3	47.93
BACS 131	HMRC	national insurance Q2	219.65
BACS 132	Nigel green	Mowing, hedges and leaves	1,340.00
BACS 133	Freeland Hall	hal hire	12.50
BACS 134	Roger Faulkner	Expenses	60.21
BACS 135	water Plus	water bill including installtion	586.62
BACS 136	Rendall garden sevices	mowing and leaves	95.00
		Total:	2,753.35

(b) To approve bank reconciliation. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation.

This was signed by Bill.

(c) To review the income and expenditure for the year to date.- Reports were noted

(d) To rediscuss 2023-2024 precept – after a brief discussion the council has **RESOLVED** to support Peter's proposal that we increase the precept by £539 thereby keeping the amount paid by a Band D householder the same as 2022-2023. Mary-Ann seconded. Vote was 6 in favour 1 against.

(e) Any other financial business- none to be noted

12. PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ITEMS:

(a) Play Areas/Playing Field/Play Equipment Book – the play park annual report has still not been received. Clerk to chase this up.

(b) Village Maintenance- St Marys Church grave yard is close to maximum capacity. Once at capacity this becomes the responsibility of the Parish Council.

Road sweepers come and service the village via the county council, clerk to find out when they are next due round.

An update from WODC is required about the Freeland Gate to industrial estate footpath.

The council wish to send Robert Croker a letter of thanks for his work on the Village Pond.

Thanks to given to Mary-Ann and Russel for planting and protecting the saplings.

13. To receive reports from councillors representing the Council on outside meetings.

No reports have been received.

14. To note the date of next Parish Council meeting 9th January 2022

The meeting closed at 21:40 PM