

FRINDSBURY EXTRA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2022 AT FRINDSBURY EXTRA MEMORIAL HALL, HOLLY ROAD, WAINSCOTT AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT:	Cllr Chris Sparks	Chairman	
	Cllr Geoff Moore	Vice-chairman	
	Cllr Peter Martin		Item 6-29
	Cllr Andrew Millsom		
	Cllr Mrs Fatima Mitchell		Item 1-26
	Cllr Vanessa Roach		
	Cllr Mrs Sheila Noise		
	Cllr Paul Thorpe		Item 5-29
	Cllr Mrs Elizabeth Turpin		Item 7-29
	Cllr John Williams		Item 7-29
	Mrs Roxana Brammer	Clerk	
	Mrs Emma Johnson	Assistant Clerk	
In attendance	Mrs Anne Roscow	Footpaths Officer	
	1 member of the public		

Item

Minute 2021/22/

*Action point***1 APOLOGIES**

503 Apologies for absence were received from

Cllr Gary Etheridge	Medway Council Meeting
Cllr Vanessa Roach	Family Matter
Cllr Ope Onimole	At work

It was proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Martin and agreed these apologies be accepted.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

504 None.

3 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

505 None

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 FEBRUARY 2022506 It was proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Mrs Noise and agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 24th February 2022 be signed as a true record.

5 MATTERS ARISING

507 No matters were raised.

6 FOOTPATHS

508 a Representative's Report

The Chairman suspended the meeting to allow Mrs Roscow to speak.

Mrs Roscow gave her report as follows:

The footpaths I have walked don't need undergrowth clearing yet, but increased littering is noticeable.

Dennis and I filled two black sacks of litter last week, many drinks cans and bottles on RS120, which is between Cooling Road and Cliffe Road.

Beside RS129 at the entrance from Higham Road, much litter consisting mostly of drink cans has been thrown over the chain linked fence from the footpath. This is impossible to clear up because of the high fence.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Roscow and reconvened the meeting.

7 PLANNING

a Applications

509 i **MC/22/0332** Land adjoining Terrance Butler Avenue off Anthonys Way, Medway City Estate: Construction of drive-through coffee shop and a separate car vehicle storage warehouse.

Frindsbury Extra Parish Council objects to this application on environmental and highway grounds.

Environmental

Whitewall Creek is the confluence where the stream draining Hogmarsh in Upnor meets the River Medway. It is the point where Southern Water treatment works drains into. The area of Hogmarsh floods on a regular basis after high rainfall and high spring tides. Any infilling of this area will have a significant effect on the flood risk of the area. The Stream is a valued site within the parish of Frindsbury Extra, and home to significant numbers of wildlife.

It is the last area of habitat of this kind in the local area. Whitewall Creek provides shelter to winter roosting wading birds. Examples of these are the RSPB red list dunlin and curlew that visit the Medway which is a designated RAMSAR site. Although the RAMSAR designated area falls short of Whitewall Creek any infilling and building would decrease and devalue the area accessible to local wildlife. The area has a population of kingfishers and Cetti's warblers, both species reliant on this specific habitat. Seals also visit the area when hunting at high tide, they are sensitive to human activity any infill will diminish their available habitat, especially when the Medway is lucky to have an increasing population of seals. The scrub area around the creek acts as a screen for the wildlife in the area and reduces the amount of disturbance that is often related to human activity.

Highways

There are currently issues with the turn into Anthonys Way, particularly with the right turn necessary to leave the Medway City Estate. The petrol station with its shop and Mcdonald's restaurant already generate a substantial amount of traffic, especially on Saturdays. The drive through coffee shop will contribute significantly to this traffic. In addition a vehicle storage warehouse facility by its very nature will also involve traffic movements. The Design and Access statement makes no mention of the current traffic problems, or how traffic generated by this proposed development would be managed.

510 **b Decisions**

The decisions as listed on Appendix A were noted.

c Appeals and Other Matters

511 **i Upnor Conservation Area Appraisal**

The Parish Council arranged a virtual meeting to discuss a response. A draft response was sent out in the agenda packs for those who did not attend. It was proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Mrs Noise and agreed the response should be sent without amendment.

512 **d Neighbourhood Plan**

Nothing to report.

8 FINANCE

513 **a Bank Balances**

The bank balances as listed on Appendix B were noted.

514 **b Payments Made Since Last Meeting**

The payments made since the last meeting as listed in Appendix B were ratified.

515 **c Accounts for Payment**

It was proposed by Cllr Millsom, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed the accounts for payment as listed on Appendix B be approved.

9 GRANT APPLICATIONS

516 **a WI Tree Planting**

The Clerk reported she had received a request from the Women's Institute asking for a grant to plant a tree for the Queen's Jubilee in the hall garden. Also for a further grant of £110 for a tea party and a plaque for the tree. The Clerk reported that she had said the Council's landscaping team would supply and plant the tree. She was waiting for a quotation but understood it would be in the region of £125 ex VAT. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Turpin, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed that the grant be made under S 19 of the Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976.

RB

10 MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S LAND AND PROPERTY

a Recreation Ground/Hall Garden

517 **i General Matters**

The Assistant Clerk reported that the skips had now been removed from the Recreation field. The Clerk would contact Medway Council's contractors who mowed the field to discuss the damage to the grass. Any cost incurred would be passed on to Home Counties Play.

- 518 **ii MHS Tree 39 Hollywood Lane**
 Cllr Sparks reported he would contact MHS Homes again. *CS*
- 519 **iii Boundary fence at rear of 35 Hughes Drive**
 Cllr Sparks reported that he would visit the resident. *CS*
- 520 **iv Football**
 The Clerk reported Eagles FC and Woodpeckers FC wanted to use the Recreation Ground for practice and Sunday matches. She had asked both clubs to discuss pitch sharing and would obtain a quotation for pitch marking. The cost would be passed on to the clubs. *RB*
- 521 **v Litter Bins**
 The Assistant Clerk reported she was in the process of getting a quote for 2 dual purpose litter bins. *EJ*
- b Wainscott Fields**
- 522 **i General Matters**
 The Assistant Clerk reported that the oak trees which had been planted for the Queen's Jubilee had been vandalised and the protective cages could not be salvaged. The trees had been saved and removed and would be replanted when they had reached a suitable size.
- 523 **c Wainscott Fields Working Group**
 Cllr Sparks reported the last meeting had been cancelled due to people not being able to attend, next meeting would take place in May. Cllr Thorpe reported that Kent Wildlife Trust was asking for the relocation details of newts on site, Cllr Sparks would check the Crest Nicholson application. *CS*
- d Coomber Green**
- 524 **i Memorial Bench**
 The Clerk reported she would need numbers attending the unveiling 2 weeks before the 21st of May.
- e Playparks**
- 525 **i Recreation Ground**
 The Assistant Clerk said that reports had been received of fire damage and litter and dog waste in the fenced area. The landscape maintenance team had been asked to attend.

526 **ii Wainscott Fields**

Nothing to report.

527 **iii Coomber Green**

Nothing to report.

F Allotments528 **i General Matters**

The Assistant Clerk reported that she would advertise the vacancies.

EJ

529 **ii New Allotment Site**

Cllr Sparks reported he had a meeting in April with the Church Commissioners and Strutt & Parker to discuss the possibility of a memorial garden behind the church in Upnor with an allotment site and parking.

530 **g Lower Upnor Village Green**

Cllr Moore reported that the commemorative tree for the Queen's Jubilee had now been planted.

531 **h Woodland**

Nothing to report.

532 **i Notice Boards**

Nothing to report.

533 **j Defibrillators**

The Clerk reported she had been trying to organise training to use the defibrillators but had got no response. The Assistant Clerk would contact Wel-Medical to see if they had a contact for someone to check the defibrillators were working correctly.

RB

EJ

11 UPNOR534 **a General Matters**

Cllr Moore reported 2 new emergency bollards had been installed on Galleon Way.

535 **b Naming of River**

Cllr Thorpe reported he had had no response from the University but would keep trying.

PT

536 c **Arethusa Venture Centre**

Cllr Sparks reported the small plot of land next to the Arethusa Centre had been sold to a housing developer but there was still no news on the larger site.

12 COCKHAM WOOD COMMUNITY PARK

537 Nothing to report.

13 SENIOR CITIZENS' LUNCH

538 Cllr Thorpe reported his wife's situation had changed and she could no longer help with cooking at the lunches. Cllr Mrs Turpin reported interviews were due to be held the following week and that she had received a quote for a new oven and hob etc for the kitchen to cook the meals. Cllr Sparks had a contact and asked for details to see if he could get a cheaper price. CS

14 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

539 Cllr Mrs Turpin reported overnight closures at Medway Tunnel.

15 LIGHTING

540 Cllr Sparks reported a light out on Galleon Way and that he would contact Taylor Wimpey. Cllr Mrs Mitchell reported a light out in Wainscott and asked the clerks to contact Russell Taylor at Medway Council.

16 RURAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

541 a **Representative's Report**

Cllr Millsom reported that at the last meeting it was decided parish councils would have to apply for a part of the £40,000 that Medway Council had allocated for rural liaison grants. The Lower Thames Crossing, school places/teachers and the Upper Upnor conservation review had been discussed.

17 KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS MEDWAY AREA COMMITTEE

Representatives' Report

542 a Cllr Moore reported the next meeting would be held on 27th April.

18 HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

543 a **Representative's Report**

Cllr Mrs Noise reported the hall cleaner had resigned and the hall Treasurer and Secretary were doing the cleaning. Reminded to send the Assistant Clerk an advertisement to be put online for them.

19 POLICE MATTERS**544 a Police Liaison Committee Representative's Report**

Cllr Williams said that at the last meeting he had requested more patrols in the evenings at Wainscott Recreation Ground and surrounding areas. It was also reported special units had been attending Upnor in the evenings.

545 b Neighbourhood Watch

In Cllr Onimole's absence no report was given.

20 COMMUNICATIONS**546 a Website**

The Assistant Clerk reported she was still gradually getting through updating everything as much as she could.⁶

547 b Magazine

Nothing to report.

548 c Social Media

The Assistant Clerk reported the Parish Council's page was getting more followers and she seemed to be doing updates most days.

21 Electronic Agendas

549 The Assistant Clerk asked councillors to sign the form she created if they would prefer agenda packs electronically.

22 Queen's Jubilee

550 Nothing to report.

23 Annual Parish Meeting

551 The Assistant Clerk reported the meeting would be held on Monday 16th May.

24 CONSULTATION**552 a Four Elms Hill Air Quality Management Area**

It was agreed to arrange a virtual meeting to discuss councillors' views as the consultation ended before the next Parish Council Meeting. The Assistant Clerk would post the consultation to Cllr Mrs Noise and ask for comment. *EJ*

25 CORRESPONDENCE

553 None.

26 REPORTS AND CIRCULARS

554 The items as listed on the agenda were received.

The Chairman suspended the meeting for the Medway Councillors' report and public session.

MEDWAY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Mrs Turpin reported there was no update on the local plan or HIF. It was also reported that the school at Manor Farm was meant to be ready for 2023/24 but disagreements between investors were becoming a concern.

PUBLIC SESSION

No matters were raised.

The Chairman thanked the member of the public for attending and reconvened the meeting.

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION**27 RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

555 It was proposed by Cllr Sparks, seconded by Cllr Moore and agreed the press and public be excluded from the following items on the grounds the first was a legal matter and the second concerned named members of staff.

28 ACQUISITION OF LAND

556 Cllr Sparks reported the section 106 had been agreed by all parties and that he was chasing the Council's solicitor to get the paper work out to sign.

29 REVIEW OF STAFF SALARIES

557 The Clerk and Assistant Clerk left the room for this item. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Mrs Noise and agreed that the Clerk's hourly rate would increase to £19.66 and the Assistant Clerk's to £13.36 from 1st April. an increase of the rate of inflation in September 2021 of 4.9%

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 21:12

Signed Chairman

On the ... day of2022