



**Minutes of the meeting of
Freystrop Community Council & Freystrop Village Hall
held at Freystrop Village Hall on 9 January 2023 at 19:30**

1. Attendance & Apologies

- Freystrop Community Councillors: W D Thomas (Chair), E Utting, A M Simpson, R A Beeden
- Freystrop Community Council Clerk: R D Lavis
- Pembrokeshire County Councillor (Llangwm Ward): M J John
- Apologies: D S Harries, M R Harries

2. Chairman's Welcome

- The Chair wished everyone a Happy new Year and welcomed them to the first meeting of 2023
- Councillor R A Beeden signed her acceptance of office

3. FCC Policy on Declarations of Interest

- It is requested that interests are declared at appropriate points in discussions

4. Presentations & Questions from the Public

- No members of the public were present and no questions had been submitted

5. Minutes of the November 2022 Monthly Meeting

- The minutes of the meeting held on 14 November were approved
 - Proposed: E Utting. Seconded: A M Simpson

6. Matters Arising

- None were raised

7. Correspondence

- Email from Claude Scott to Cllr M J John
 - See Highways

REYSTROP COMMUNITY COUNCIL**8. Highways & Rights of Way**

- Targate Road & Moorland Road
 - Icy conditions in early December caused a number of problems on Targate Road with police attending accidents. A delivery driver commented that conditions on Moorland Road were the worst he had encountered that day; this was relayed to Cllr M J John and to the clerk for possible attention. PCC treated the roads as a result of Cllr M J John's intervention. It is possible for sand boxes to be installed at Targate Corner but the request has to come from the community council and monitoring is done by volunteers. The clerk suggested a second box would be useful at Freystrop Cross to cover the Moorland Road junction and the Cross.
- Public Path Diversion Order PP21/18 (Silverstream to Bower House, New Road)
 - A response from Matt Cloud, Definitive Map Officer, responded to FCC's letter indicating that the route was settled and that any further variation were a matter for the developers of Will Meadows and the owner of The Bungalow. The Chair has drafted a letter to be sent to the Planning Officer for the development as the path's route was clearly indicated on plans. The clerk suggested that Rachel Thompson's personal views also be included.
- Update on community funded speed signs
 - It was resolved to contact PCC for advice on progressing the matter. Cllr M J John had been involved in a consultation concerning the implementation of the 20mph limits. Only current 30mph areas would be reduced to 20mph. Lower buffer speeds would be introduced outside of the 20mph limits.

9. Planning Matters

- 22/0319/PA – Middle Hill Farm Variation
 - No update although works have started.
- 22/0342/PA – Summer Hill West
 - New 2 storey Dwelling with basement garage and wine cellar
 - The Coal Board have added an objection as they felt the new plans did not address their previous concerns

10. Cemetery

- No issues, generally tidy at the moment



11. Training

- OVW have published a 3 month timetable of courses
- An initiative by OVW has been launched to assist Councillors appreciate the role and works that clerks undertake
- Cllr W D Thomas has prepared and distributed "Councillors' Guide to the Planning Process". Should the document be useful to Hook and Llangwm Community Councils Cllr Thomas was happy to prepare copies.

12. FCC Financial Matters

- Councillors' annual allowance payment 2022/23
 - All payments had been made in November/December and presented to the bank.
- Clerk's salary
 - Clerk's salary would be maintained at £11.42 until April 2023 when it would be aligned with the NALC SCP 11 rate of £12.50
 - The Chair informed Council that the clerk's expenses allocation had been overlooked and advised that the full annual sum of £240 could be paid
 - Proposed: A M Simpson, Seconded: E Utting
 - Cheque number: 100562. £240. Dated: 9 January 2023. Payee: R D Lavis
- Internet banking
 - The Chair suggested this item be put on hold until any plans for a change of banking provider were settled
- Consideration of changing bank
 - No update
- Quarterly Budget vs Actual Report
 - The clerk distributed copies of the accounts and budget versus actual as 7 January 2023 for Council's consideration
- Budget 2022/23
 - The Chair pointed out that no donations had been made in the current financial year. It was resolved to offer Bethel Middle Hill Chapel and St Justinian's Church £150 each for grounds maintenance
 - Proposed: A M Simpson, Seconded: R A Beeden
 - Cheque number: 100563. £150. Dated: 9 January 2023. Payee: Bethel
 - Cheque number: 100564. £150. Dated: 9 January 2023. Payee: St Justinian's
- Budget 2023/24
 - A proposed budget was presented to Council and a precept of £6,000 be requested of PCC. This was agreed.
 - Proposed: A M Simpson, Seconded: R A Beeden
- Bank accounts
 - Current Account Balance: £5,779.80 at 3/01/23
 - Deposit Account Balance: £13,029.96 at 3/01/23

13. General

- FCC/FVH information sheet
 - This will be updated to replace Cllr C Saunders with Cllr R A Beeden
- 2022 Newsletter
 - The 2022 has been distributed and Cleddau Press paid.
 - Cheque number: 100559. £225. Payee: Cleddau Press
- Mobile library at Heathfield Terrace – 12/1/23. 09:15-09:45

FREYSTROP VILLAGE HALL

14. Village Hall

- Main door repair update
 - No contact from the tradesman has been received. The Chair will attempt contact again
- Car park extension
 - No progress on transfer of ownership. This may not happen until tarmacking is complete.
- Village Hall Upgrade Project
 - Cllr D S Harries continues to work on the project
 - A quotation has been received for the plumbing works
 - Hall plans have been requested by one of the approached contractors. Cllr W D Thomas will pass on a copy to Cllr D S Harries
- Cleanliness of hall
 - The Chair has received a quotation of £50 for cleansing of the troughing and external walls
 - A contract for fortnightly cleaning of the interior of the Hall starts this month



- Warm spaces
 - The full SCAF6 grant had not been awarded to FCC to fund the Warm Room project. However, £400 for energy and refreshment costs had been given plus £400 to fund seating with arms.
 - It was felt that the first session on Friday 6 January had been a success
 - Cllr R A Beeden offered to do a pyrography demonstration at the 13 January session. In future sessions Cllr W D Thomas offered to hold a cryptic crossword workshop. The clerk offered to hold a local history recording workshop. It was suggested that a talk on Freystrop's history could be held.
 - Cllr E Utting is working with furniture suppliers to source chairs with arms.

15. Parc Hamdden Freystrop Recreation Park

- Autumn tree planting
 - 100 trees have been planted. Weather conditions have not permitted further planting
- Outdoor Connections Fund
 - OCF2: The full £1,500 was granted for the purchase of a container. A green container has been ordered
 - OCF3: A further round of funding has been made available with an application date of 26 January and spending by 31 March. The Recreation Park Steering Group suggested applying for picnic benches
- Dog Fouling
 - This is currently less of an issue probably because the bad weather and wetness of the area is deterring dog walkers
- Enhancing Pembrokeshire Fund.
 - The Chair had been reminded of this fund after an approach from Rosemarket Community Council. This is a possible source of funds for play equipment. The Steering Group have been approached by a supplier of equipment with a very interesting range of equipment and they will follow up on this

16. Bus Shelters, Kiosk & Other Assets

- Kiosk
 - Book Exchange
 - A lot of books have been deposited in the kiosk and people have been seen looking at them
 - Suggested shelving from Screwfix
 - It was agreed these would be a good replacement for the table currently in use
 - Proposed: E Utting. Seconded: W D Thomas
- Marquee hire contract update
 - No update

17. FVH Financial Matters

- Charity Commission Update
 - This item had been omitted from the version of the agenda distributed to Councillors and was not discussed
- All payments for use of the Hall are up to date
- Short Mat bowls returned on Sunday 8th January
- FVH Treasurer Report
 - Cllr A M Simpson suggested that a sum of money be transferred from the current account to the deposit such that the benefits of rising interest rates are accrued. It was agreed a sum of £12,000 be transferred
 - Proposed: E Utting. Seconded: R A Beeden
- It was agreed that Cllr A M Simpson be added as signatory for the Barclays Accounts
 - Proposed: E Utting. Seconded: R A Beeden
- Bank accounts
 - Balances as at 29th November 2022:
 - Barclays Current Account £15,841.85
 - Barclays Deposit Account £1,604.12
 - Hall Petty Cash held £1.12
 - Recreation Park Cash held £107.00
 - Total £17,554.09

OTHER MATTERS

18. One Voice Wales & PCC Liaison Meetings

- Councillor W D Thomas attended an OVW policy meeting before Christmas
- Concerns have been raised over the late notification of allowance increases which causes problems for budgeting
- Emyr John's liaison between OVW and councils has been viewed as a good idea but budget cuts are likely to limit its effects. An update on the future of this project is due shortly.

**19. County Councillor's Report**

- PCC will receive a budget increase of 7.9% from Welsh Government, however expenditure is facing £18.5million in cuts
- PCC's budget consultation was extended to 12 January.
- There is a focus on promoting the free school meals
- Portfield School is undergoing a refurb
- Free food is available on Thursdays from the old canteen at County Hall
- Improvements to heating and insulation of homes are available via means tested grants

20. Members' Requests

- None made

21. Date of Next Meeting

- Next scheduled meeting 13 February 2023
- Items for inclusion on the agenda should be received by 9 February 2023

R D Lavis

Clerk & Responsible financial Officer

Email freystropcc@yahoo.com

Approval proposed by:

E. Utting

Seconded:

Anna Simpson

Signed:

W D Thomas