

Frodsham Town Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Frodsham Town Council

held on Monday 23 January 2017 at 7pm
At Castle Park House, Castle Park, Frodsham.



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

At 6.30pm Peter Vickery, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, gave a presentation to update Council on progress to date and outline future plans. He explained the purpose of the Plan, what it should contain and the process of getting it adopted or 'made' or ratified by the Government. He invited everyone to attend future Steering Group meetings and to the public engagement event on Saturday 11 February 10am – 4pm in the Parish Hall if they wished to contribute to developing the Plan. Copies of his presentation are available from FTC office.

Present: Cllrs J Critchley (Chair), C Ashton, D Critchley, L Jones, V Kirk, M Nield, P Martin, F Pennington, M Poulton and T Reynolds.
Mrs H Catt (Town Clerk)

In Attendance: Seventeen members of the public, PCSO N Flanagan and CWAC Cllrs A Dawson and L Riley.

Meeting 14 - The start of the meeting was delayed until 7.25pm due to technical difficulties with the webcast equipment.

No	Item	Note/Decision/Action
174	Apologies	Cllrs A Oulton, F Sutton, M Parker, L Brown and P Williamson
175	Declarations of Interest	Cllr F Pennington – Frodsham Stroke Club, London Road Allotments & Chairman of Community Forum (Ineos) Cllr M Nield – UOEG and personal interest in Park Lane & Red Lion Bowling Club. Cllr V Kirk – UOEG.
Due to the delay in start time of the meeting it was agreed to take item 180.2 at this point		
180.2	Others	Adrienne Baines and Alex Dedman, Frack Free Frodsham, gave a presentation about the recent survey about the public's attitude to fracking outlining the process and the finding. The details report was circulated and is available in FTC Office. The Chair thanked them for attending.
176	Minutes of the Meeting No11 – 12 December 2016	The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.
177	Minutes of the Meeting No12 – 16 December 2016	The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.
178	Minutes of the Meeting No13 – 9 January 2017	The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.
179	Public Apology	Cllr J Critchley proposed that Cllr T Reynolds to make a public apology to Cllrs A Dawson & L Riley following CWAC Standards Panel decision that he had breach FTC's Code of Conduct. This was seconded by Cllr P Martin. Cllr Reynolds started his apology in an inappropriate manner accusing the Council of misspending precept funding. When the Chair asked him to stop, as a point of order (irrelevance to the agenda item), he refused and she had no choice but to suspend the meeting and leave the room.

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		<p>When Cllr Reynolds had completed his speech (not recorded), and sat down, the Chair returned and the meeting was re-opened. The Chair invited CWAC Cllrs A Dawson and L Riley to comment on the 'apology'. They acknowledged that he had made an apology of sorts and were prepared to draw a line under the matter if Cllr Reynolds was prepared to do the same.</p> <p>Cllr F Pennington agreed with Cllrs A Dawson & L Riley and asked Cllr Reynolds to forget his campaign against the previous council's activities and to work with the new council to move forward. He also asked Cllr Reynolds to draw a line under the matter, he agreed and they shook hands.</p>
180	Right for the public to speak	
180.1	PCSO	<p>Neil Flanagan gave a verbal report including: <u>Driver Engagement Day</u>, planned for Saturday 4 March, will cover various roads in Frodsham & Helsby area, with help from Special Constables. <u>Lakes Ward meeting</u> planned for Wednesday 15 February at Frodsham Manor House Primary School – any resident welcome to attend. <u>Bike Marking</u> took place on 8 December at Helsby High School. 31 bikes were marked making them less attractive to thieves. A further event is planned for Sunday 5 March 9am-12noon and will involve the Cycle Forum and Twleve50 bike shop. <u>Panna Football</u> arranged for Friday 17 February at HHS as take up at previous events at Salt Work has been low. <u>Community Speedwatch Group</u> holding a further training session for new volunteers, all welcome, on Saturday 4 February 2pm at Frodsham Police Station. <u>Let's Walk Road Safety</u> courses will start next month starting at Manor House School from Tuesday 2 February, targeting years 3 & 4. <u>Police Surgeries</u> in February: CPH – 1st 9-10am, 10th 10-11am and 27th 6-7pm Costa Coffee 1st 10-11am Chapelfields Nursing Home – 8th 11am-12noon.</p>
180.2	Others	See above.
It was agreed to take item 186 at this point.		
186	UEOG	Council needs time to consider the report. It was referred to the next Environment Committee on 7 February. Members of the public are welcome to attend.
181	Finance Management: 01.12.16 – 31.12.16	
	It was noted that the Environment balance figure in the summary chart should read £2,578.11 and the total £87,668.50. Following this correction the monthly finance report was noted.	
181.1	Paid Expenditure	It was noted that the total expenditure in December 2016 was £18,612.40
181.2	Received Income	It was noted that the total receipts in December 2016 was £3,754.96
181.3	Bank Reconciliation	It was noted that, after all considerations, total cash balances at the end of December 2016, were £274,766.28
182	Office Base	There has been no update since the P&P meeting.
183	Committee Minutes	
183.1	Planning Committee – 16.12.16	The minutes were noted.
183.2	Planning Committee – 06.01.17	The minutes were noted. Cllrs J Critchley and M Poulton proposed that Planning committee should only meet to consider major or contentious planning applications or changes to CWAC planning policy – this was agreed. The Town Clerk circulate planning applications to the relevant Ward Councillors for consideration. Comments should be submitted via the CWaC

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		website or Town Clerk. Residents should liaise with their Ward Councillor.
183.3	Environment Committee – 3.01.17	The minutes were noted.
183.4	Community Committee – 10.01.17	<p>The minutes were noted.</p> <p>Cllr Reynolds expressed concern that FTC wasn't taking the incident at the New Year's Eve event seriously enough. The Chair explained that the matter was in the hands of the Firework Company's Insurance Company. The following recommendations considered:</p> <p>R1. It was agreed to renewal of the soil and grass bunkers at £1588.79+VAT. Proposed and seconded by Cllrs Pennington & M Poulton and agreed unanimously.</p> <p>R2. It was also agreed to provide a soak away by these bunkers at £200+VAT. Proposed and seconded by Cllrs M Poulton & D Critchley and agreed unanimously.</p> <p>R3. It was agreed to carry out the annual Play Area Inspections at £325+VAT. Proposed and seconded by Cllrs M Poulton & D Critchley and agreed unanimously.</p>
183.5	P&P Committee – 21.12.16	It was noted that this meeting was cancelled as it would have been inquorate.
183.6	P&P Committee – 18.01.17	<p>The minutes were noted. The following recommendations were considered:</p> <p>R1 – The proposal to adopt the staff handbook was discussed. Cllr T Reynolds proposed an amendment that the Staff Handbook should be sent back to P&P for further consideration and rationalisation. As there was no seconder the amendment was lost. The proposal was then agreed by majority - proposed & seconded by Cllrs M Poulton & J Critchley. Cllr T Reynolds objections were noted.</p> <p>R2 – The proposal to agree the purchase of 10 badges as outlined in item 115 was discussed. TC reported that she had received an email from a resident objecting to the purchase of the badges. Cllr T Reynolds proposed an amendment which was seconded by Cllr V Kirk that the purchase of badges should be abandoned. The amendment was lost – For 3 votes; against 5 votes and Abstentions 2 votes.</p> <p>The proposal proposed and seconded by Cllrs M Poulton and F Pennington was agreed by majority. Recorded vote: For: Cllrs J Critchley (Chair), D Critchley, L Jones, F Pennington and M Poulton. Against: Cllrs V Kirk, M Nield and T Reynolds Abstentions: Cllrs P Martin & C Ashton.</p> <p>R3 – The proposal to pay the solicitor's invoice for work already carried out was carried by majority – proposed and seconded by Cllrs M Poulton and L Jones.</p>
184	Working Group Records	
184.1	WW1 Commemorative Working Group	<p>The minutes of the Steering Group meetings held on 18.01.17 were noted. It was agreed that Cllr M Nield should join the group as an FTC representative.</p> <p>R1 - It was also agreed that FTC would confirm its involvement in the Beacon of Light event on 11 November 2018 and work with the Working Group.</p>
184.2	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	All the minutes of the Steering Group meetings were noted.

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185	Memorial Field	<p>Cllr M Nield gave a brief overview about the land swop, covenants and the role of Trustees in relation to the Memorial Field and Mersey View Trust. Cllr M Poulton raised concerns about the disabled path being closed by Mersey View as the main footpath from the main gates was unsuitable for wheelchair users.</p> <p>Cllr T Reynolds, member of FTC in 2003 when the land swop took place, had raised the issue of the previous solicitor giving FTC bad advice at the time.</p> <p>Cllr M Nield has applied to have the Memorial Gates listed, which would protect them from the threat of being removed in the future.</p> <p>The costs of engaging a property solicitor would be £320+VAT for an initial meeting. It was agreed that more research into the specific advice needed answering was required to keep the solicitor bills as low as possible. A working group consisting of Cllrs M Nield, C Ashton, J Critchley, D Critchley and F Pennington will meet to look at the papers in more depth.</p>
186	UEOG	See above.
187	CWAC Cllrs' Report	<p>Cllrs A Dawson and L Riley gave an update on current issues including: <u>CWAC Local Plan Working Group</u> developing Special Planning document about UEOG – They believe the protections aren't strong enough.</p> <p><u>Castle Park Trust Executive</u> will become an Area Committee with some delegated decision making powers. Not clear if the top field is included as this has previously been considered for housing although there is no current proposal.</p> <p><u>Car Parking</u> consultation – deadline 24 February. CWAC Budget has a capital investment line in for car parking.</p> <p><u>Recycle Centre</u> – contract has been extended for 5 years. New technologies and improved foot access are planned but the site will be closed 2 days a week.</p> <p><u>PCSO funding</u> – Cllr Dawson is having informal meetings with PCC about future funding.</p> <p><u>Mayor's Award Ceremony</u> – congratulated the Mayor and everyone involved on an excellent event.</p> <p>Cllr Poulton raised concerns about the lack of public transport and bus service reductions. Bus companies are interested in discussing this as they didn't know about the Halton Curve. He is organising a meeting with local parishes about the Halton Curve.</p>
188	Chair's Report	Nothing to add.
189	Mayor's Report	<p>The Mayor gave a verbal report including: He has had 22 engagements since his last report. High Sheriff of Cheshire came on a visit to Frodsham which included a tour of local businesses. Awards Ceremony went well and could be continued in future years. St George's Day – weekend of events including Junior Mayors' Disco on Friday evening and Civic Service on Sunday. Mayor's Ball will be a Ceilidh on 7 April.</p>
190	Clerk's Report	Nothing to add.
191	CHALC Invitation	It was agreed to put forward our Mayor for a Garden Party place but recognising it was no guarantee of a place as there will be a draw
192	Date of next meeting	Monday 27 February 2017

Meeting ended: 9pm