

# Frodsham Town Council



Minutes of a Meeting of  
Frodsham Town Council  
held on Monday 8 January 2018 at 7pm  
At Castle Park House, Castle Park, Frodsham.

**Present:** Cllrs J Critchley (Chair), L Jones, P Martin, A Oulton, F Pennington, M Parker, M Poulton and T Reynolds.  
Mrs H Catt (Town Clerk)

## Meeting 9

| No  | Item  |
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| 138 | <b>Apologies</b><br>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs C Ashton, L Brown, D Critchley, R Holt, M Nield and A Wordsworth  |
| 139 | <b>Declarations of Interest</b><br>None   |
| 140 | <b>Action Plan 2018-19</b><br>All the committees have discussed and agreed their sections of the Action Plan, except for Cemetery committee as it only meets quarterly.<br>Key areas of activity include:<br>Expansion of the cemetery - No budget has been included for the expansion of the cemetery as the design work is still to be completed. The new design will take account of accessibility.<br>War Memorial refurbishment – the conditions survey has highlighted work which needs to be done.<br>Hob Hey Wood – there are plans to establish a ‘Friends of’ group to encourage volunteers to help maintain and manage the woods.<br>Events – a programme of events throughout the year has been planned. Cllr Reynolds was not happy that there should be another St George’s Day parade. Cllr Poulton pointed out that there was a very positive response to the idea and a working group has been set up.<br><br>The Action Plan was <b>agreed</b> – proposed and seconded by Cllr M Poulton and P Martin.<br>Recorded vote:<br><b>For:</b> Cllrs J Critchley, L Jones, P Martin, A Oulton, F Pennington, M Parker, and M Poulton<br><b>Against:</b> Cllr T Reynolds. |
| 141 | <b>Agreement on budget requirements for 2018-19</b><br>Cllr Poulton offered to reduce the request from Events Committee by £8,000 it wasn’t feasible to organize the Carnival event for this summer.<br>Cllr Reynolds felt that the costs of some of the planned works could be reduced by using volunteers and offers of machinery by local businesses.<br>The new Community Safety budget comes from the saving from not contributing to the costs of PCSO. This hopefully will be used to develop CCTV.<br>Ear-marked Reserves have been included just in case the grant application to the War Memorial Trust is unsuccessful as we are morally obliged to carry out the repairs.<br>Cllr Pennington proposed, seconded by Cllr Reynolds, that the decision about the budget and precept should be deferred as so many councilors were absent. The proposal was <b>defeated</b> – recorded vote:<br><b>For:</b> Cllrs F Pennington and T Reynolds.<br><b>Against:</b> Cllrs J Critchley, L Jones, P Martin, A Oulton, M Parker, and M Poulton.<br><b>There was no further discussion and the budget was accepted.</b>   |

Town Clerk: Mrs Hazel Catt

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| 142 | <p><b>Consider and set precept for 2018-19</b></p> <p>As FTC are no longer contributing towards the costs of the PCSO Frodsham residents will be charged Special Expenses towards CWAC's contribution – this will be less than a £1 per Band D property.</p> <p>It was felt that previous councils had maintained the precept at the same level by using council reserves and this had led to the large increase in precept 2 years ago when reserve levels were too low. <b>There would still need to be £90,029 from reserves used to balance the budget if the precept was kept at the same level.</b></p> <p>Although reserve levels were potentially adequate and stable it was <b>agreed</b> to make a modest increase to the precept of £1 per Band D property per annum – proposed and seconded by M Poulton and P Martin. Recorded vote:</p> <p><b>For:</b> Cllrs J Critchley, P Martin, A Oulton, M Parker, and M Poulton</p> <p><b>Against:</b> Cllrs L Jones, F Pennington and T Reynolds.</p> <p>TC will recalculate the requirement from reserves following this increase and circulate to cllrs. The additional money raised could be used to enhance some of our existing services such as the Over 70s Vouchers or to meet higher than expected costs of repairs to the War Memorial.</p> |
| 143 | <p><b>Clerk's Items</b></p> <p>None.</p>   |
| 144 | <p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>Monday 22 January at 7pm.</p>  |