

Frodsham Town Council



Minutes of a Meeting of Frodsham Town Council

held on Monday 24 September 2018 at 7pm
At Castle Park House, Castle Park, Frodsham.

Present: Cllrs A Oulton (Chair), C Ashton, D Critchley, J Critchley, L Jones, P martin,
M Neild, Lord F Pennington, F Sutton and P Williamson.
Mrs H Catt (Town Clerk)

In Attendance: PCSO N Flanagan, CWAC Cllrs A Dawson & L Riley and 14 members
of the public.

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No	Item
68	Apologies Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs M Parker, T Reynolds, L Wilson and A Wordsworth.
69	Awarding of the grant cheques The Mayor Cllr Lord F Pennington presented the cheques to the successful grant recipients: Frodsham Silver Band collected by Ms R McGucken, Chairperson, North Cheshire Rail Users Group collected by Mr I Whitely, Publicity Officer, Frodsham & District Photographic Society collected by Ms L Pearce, Secretary, What's Cooking Frodsham collected by Ms J Ennis, What's Cooking Co-ordinator, and Overton Memorial Hall Recreation Club collected by Mr G Miller, Secretary & Treasurer and Mr H Craig, committee member. Cllr A Oulton congratulated them and thanked the Grants Panel for all their hard work. He reminded those who were unsuccessful this year that they could try again next year.
70	Declarations of Interest Cllr J Critchley declared that she is also a councillor on Kingsley Parish Council.
71	Minutes of the Meeting No 4 – 23 July 2018 The minutes were approved and signed as a true record – proposed and seconded by Cllrs Lord F Pennington and J Critchley.
72	Right for the public to speak
72.1	PCSO N Flanagan gave a verbal report including: There have been a series of lead thefts from Castle Park and St Laurence's Church. Three offenders have been arrested for local burglaries. There are now 2 speedwatch groups. They are having a get together and new volunteers meeting on 6 October. The speed gun may need replacing as it has started to play up. Schools – he has been carrying of safety talks, checking the parking at the start and end of the day and holding drop-in surgeries at Helsby High School. Cllr Lord F Pennington reported issues with the local taxi drivers and suggested a proposal for a new speed gun be taken to the next Community meeting. Cllr A Oulton thanked Neil for all his hard work, often beyond the call of duty.
72.2	Halton Curve – update from NCRUG. Mr M Warren gave an update on the Halton Curve explaining that although the works had been completed in May 2018 the line wouldn't be able to open until May 2019 due to a lack of rolling stock. NWRUG are lobbying to get additional services to enable users to connect with Liverpool Airport as the first wave of flights (6am) are before the first planned service to Liverpool which is currently 6.31am. They are also lobbying to keep the fares in line with existing journeys between Chester and Liverpool run by Merseyrail. The rail provider for the new service will be Transport for Wales as they are taking over from Arriva Trains Wales in the near future. They are also lobbying for shuttle services between the Wirral and Frodsham to enable the use of under-utilised car parking which is available at Ellesmere Port and Stanlow. There may the possibility to extend the line through to North Wales in the future.
72.3	Other – None.

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No	Item
73	<p>Finance Management: 01.07.18 – 31.07.18 The finance report for July which was presented and noted at P&P on 20 August was approved – proposed and seconded by Cllrs Lord F Pennington and F Sutton.</p>
74	<p>Finance Management: 01.08.18 – 30.08.18 The finance report for August was approved and signed – proposed and seconded by Cllr C Ashton and L Brown.</p>
74.1	<p>Paid Expenditure It was noted that the total expenditure in August 2018 was £17,729.48.</p>
74.2	<p>Received Income It was noted that the total receipts in in August 2018 was £27,066.13.</p>
74.3	<p>Bank Reconciliation It was noted that, after all considerations total cash balances at the end of August 2018 were £395,714.43. This reflected receipt of the latest bank statement which included a small amount of additional expenditure.</p>
75	<p>Committee Minutes It was agreed to take 75.1, 75.2, 75.4 and 75.6 on block – proposed and seconded by Cllrs A Oulton and C Ashton.</p>
75.1a	<p><u>Planning Committee</u> – 30.07.18</p>
75.1b	<p><u>Planning Committee</u> – 14.08.18</p>
75.1c	<p><u>Planning Committee</u> – 4.09.18</p>
75.1d	<p><u>Planning Committee</u> – 11.09.18</p>
75.2	<p><u>Events Committee</u> – 11.09.18</p>
75.4	<p><u>Environment Committee</u> – 4.09.18</p>
75.6	<p><u>Community Committee</u> – 14.08.18</p>
75.3	<p><u>Cemetery Committee</u> - 20.09.18 It was noted that the meeting has changed date and will now be on Thursday 27 September, 7pm.</p>
75.5	<p><u>P&P Committee</u> – 20.08.18 The minutes of the meeting and the decisions taken were noted. The following recommendation was agreed – proposed and seconded by Cllrs Lord F Pennington and F Sutton.: R1: It was agreed that the Bank of Scotland Deposit Account should be closed, and the funds transferred into a new CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund account.</p>
76	<p>Working Group Records</p>
76.1	<p><u>Administration Reduction Working Group</u> – 12.09.18 The minutes of the meeting and any decisions taken were noted. The following recommendations were discussed: R1: FTC to Review the role of Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Cllr J Critchley felt this council should make such a fundamental decision, which would impact on the new council formed after the elections in May 2019, and without understanding the rationale behind the recommendation. She therefore proposed that the discussion on this item should be deferred until after the next election, this was seconded by Cllr L Brown and agreed unanimously. R2: FTC to review reducing each ward councillor representatives to 3 from 4. CWAC Cllr A Dawson was invited to join in the discussion. He sits on the Governance Review Committee and explained the process. If Council agreed to seek a reduction TC would need to contact CWAC immediately to ensure it got through the process in time for the next election in May. Cllr C Ashton explained the Working Group had considered attendance levels and past vacancies. Cllr A Oulton thought it would increase pressure on councillors if the numbers were reduced and increase the chance that more meetings would be inquorate. The proposal from the Working Group failed to find a seconder so did not progress to a vote.</p>

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76.2	<u>WW1 Commemorative Working Group</u> The minutes of the Working Group meetings held on 8.08.18 & 12.09.18 were noted .
76.3	<u>Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group</u> The minutes of the Steering Group meetings held on 23.07.18, 6.08.18 & 20.08.18, 3.09.18 & 18.09.18 were noted . Cllr A Oulton thanked the Steering Group for all its hard work which isn't always recognised.
77	CWAC CWAC Councillors A Dawson and L Riley gave a verbal report including: WW1 Silhouette – they are planning to purchase a tommy but have been shocked to find they would need to apply for planning permission to erect it by the sandbagged planted area at the top of Fluin Lane. They suggest FTC work with them collaboratively to arrange these installations. They are looking to install it in Castle Park instead. Castle Park Trust are holding a meeting on Thursday 27 September at 6pm to form the Friends of Castle Park Group – all welcome. They hosted a visit by the new CEO to Frodsham and showed him round and explained all the current issues relating to road conditions, 20 mile an hour speed restrictions, resident permits, car parking, goods shed, under investment in the leisure centre etc. CWAC are now looking at a 2 nd tier car park for station car park and have deferred the planning decision about the Goods Shed demolition to give the developer time to develop his proposal. Recycle Centre – there is a planning application to extend the temporary planning permission for the site. Cllrs Dawson & Riley are supporting a renewal with a 3-year limit to bring it in line with the operator renewal date. Environment Agency standards for recycle centres are higher now and the existing site doesn't comply. Development of the area around the health centre would need access improvements to relieve the pressure on neighbouring residential streets.
78	CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund account.
78.1	It was agreed that the Chair and RFO should be signatories to authorise the investment in the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund – proposed and seconded by Cllrs Lord F Pennington and F Sutton.
78.2	It was agreed that, in accordance with Financial Regulation the RFO can transfer funds between the current and deposit account to maximise the interest – proposed and seconded by Cllrs F Sutton and L Brown.
79	External Audit It was noted that the External Audit has been completed and the External Auditor raised no issues or concerns. Cllr A Oulton thanked TC and the book keeper for all their hard work ensuring the audit went so well.
80	Halton Curve FTC offered its support to the work of NCRUG. Cllr L Brown asked if the yellow lines at the entrance to Morrison and the station from Church Street could be reinstated. Cllr L Jones reported that NCRUG has contacted Network Rail about this but had no response. It was agreed that TC would also write to Network Rail on behalf of the council.
81	WW1 Silhouettes TC will contact the Medical Centre about the possibility of installing the Nurse silhouette in their courtyard. It was agreed to form a working group including Cllrs A Oulton, F Sutton and L Brown, to meet on Sunday 30 September to look at potential sites on the memorial field. The decision about where to site the silhouettes was delegated to the next Community Committee.
82	Council Tax empty homes premium consultation
82.1	The deadline for responding to the consultation was noted as 24 October.
82.2	It was agreed that councillors would respond on an individual basis.
83	Lakes Ward Vacancy
83.1	The closing date for electors to request an election was noted as Thursday 27 September.

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83.2	It was agreed not to seek nominations for co-option if an election is not called – proposed and seconded by Cllrs P Martin and F Sutton. Anyone interested in standing at the next election could attend council and committee meetings to find out what’s involved.
84	Mayor’s Report – None.
85	<p>Councillors’ Reports</p> <p>Verbal reports from councillors who have attended meetings of external bodies were noted including:</p> <p>C F Fertiliser Local Joint Liaison Committee – Cllr C Ashton – The plant has closed down until October to allow for the development of additional storage facilities costing £38m.</p> <p>NCRUG Committee Meeting – Cllr L Jones – Mr M Warren had already given a report.</p> <p>Frodsham Silver Band Committee meeting – Cllr L Jones – are holding an open evening on 27 November to encourage membership.</p> <p>Weaver and Sandstone Cycle Forum – Cllr P Martin wasn’t able to attend the last meeting but has suggested they develop a monthly information report which could be circulated to councillors.</p> <p>Frodsham Community Association & FYA – Cllr P Williamson attends these meetings and asked if FCA needed to apply for permission to use our field for the Christmas Festival parking. TC explained that FTC is a member of the Working Group running the Festival so permission is automatically given.</p> <p>Cllr L Jones reported that he has been selected to attend the Thank You Procession in London on Remembrance Day and it was agreed he could wear the regalia and represent FTC.</p> <p>Cllr A Oulton reported that the Fire Service would like to take part in the Christmas Festival Parade and have a stall on Station Car Park. TC will take this to the Working Group.</p> <p>Cllr A Oulton also reported that the Adult Gym equipment had now been installed on Park Lane play area.</p>
86	<p>Clerk’s Report</p> <p>Junior Mayors – as there was to be discussion about the ceremonial Mayor and Deputy Mayor role following the recommendation from the Admin Reduction Working Group no contact had been made with the school. Now that had been deferred TC will contact the school and get things rolling. There will be a special assembly to present the new Junior Mayors with their regalia by the previous Junior Mayors and the Mayor, so they will be in post ready for the November activities including Remembrance Day Services and the Christmas Festival.</p> <p>Cheshire Branch SLCC Conference – TC and the Admin Officer will be away from the office on Thursday 27 September attending this conference.</p>
87	Date of next meeting - Monday 26 November 2018
PART B	
88	Confidential Matters – Not required.

Meeting closed at 9pm.