

Frodsham Town Council

Minutes from the Annual Meeting of Frodsham Town Council held at 7pm on
**Monday 24th May at Main Street Community Church, 61 Main Street, Frodsham,
WA6 7DF**



ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting 1

ATTENDED BY: Cllrs J Critchley, D Critchley, R McKeown, P Lowrie, Lord F Pennington, L Sumner, H Hayes, C Ashton, F Davies, B Stockton, P Griffiths

1. Election of Chair

(a) To elect the Chair to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2022

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Griffiths, seconded by Cllr Sumner and unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr Hayes as Chair of Frodsham Town Council.

(b) To receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office from the elected Chair

NOTED: The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was accepted.

2. Election of Vice Chair

(a) To elect the Chair to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2022

NOTED: The decision was deferred.

(b) To receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office from the elected Chair

NOTED: The decision was deferred.

3. Apologies for Absence

To approve apologies for absence

RESOLVED: Apologies were accepted from Cllrs P Williamson and Nield.

4. Declarations of interest

To note any declarations of interest on items which are on the agenda

NOTED: No declarations of interest were declared however Cllr D Critchley and Cllr B Wade reserved the right to do so if it became apparent, during the meeting, that a declaration of interest should be declared.

5. Investiture of the Mayor of Frodsham

To confirm the appointment and invest the Mayor of Frodsham to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2022

NOTED: The decision was deferred.

6. Investiture of the Deputy Mayor of Frodsham

To confirm the appointment and invest the Deputy Mayor of Frodsham to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2022

NOTED: The decision was deferred.

7. Schedule of Meetings

To approve the schedule of Meetings recommended by Policy, Process and Revenue Committee held 26th April 2021

RESOLVED: The schedule of meetings was approved.

8. Appointment to Committees

(a) To appoint members to the Amenities Committee (8 members)

RESOLVED: The following Cllrs were appointed: R McKeown, P Lowrie, S Sumner, H Hayes, C Ashton, B Stockton, B Wade, P Griffiths.

(b) To appoint members to the Events Committee (8)

RESOLVED: The following Cllrs were appointed: R McKeown, P Lowrie, H Hayes, C Ashton, B Wade, P Griffiths.

(c) To appoint members to the Planning Committee (8)

RESOLVED: The following Cllrs were appointed: F Davies, B Stockton, B Wade, P Griffiths.

(d) To appoint members to the Policy, Process and Revenue Committee (8)

RESOLVED: The following Cllrs were appointed: R McKeown, L Sumner, H Hayes, F Davies, B Stockton, D Critchley, C Ashton, P Griffiths.

(e) To appoint members to the Staffing Committee

RESOLVED: The following Cllrs were appointed: H Hayes, D Critchley, C Ashton.

9. Appointment of Representatives & Delegates to External Organisations

(a) Red Lion Bowling Club

RESOLVED: Cllr M Nield was appointed.

(b) Protos (Ince Marshes Air Quality Forum)

RESOLVED: Cllr F Davies was appointed.

(c) Castle Park Trust

RESOLVED: Cllr P Griffiths was appointed.

(d) Liverpool Airport Consultative Committee

RESOLVED: Cllr C Ashton was appointed.

(e) Cheshire Association of Local Councils

RESOLVED: Cllr R McKeown was appointed.

(f) North Cheshire Rail Users Group

RESOLVED: Cllr P Lowrie was appointed.

(g) Wind Farm Community Liaison Committee

RESOLVED: Cllr C Ashton was appointed.

(h) Frodsham Youth Association

RESOLVED: Cllr F Davies was appointed.

(i) Weaver Navigation Society

RESOLVED: Cllr L Sumner was appointed.

(j) Weaver & Sandstone Cycle Forum

RESOLVED: Cllr L Sumner was appointed.

(k) PCC Parish & Town Council Meetings

RESOLVED: Cllr R McKeown was appointed.

(l) Brio Future Offer

RESOLVED: Cllr B Stockton was appointed.

10.To receive Chair Report 2020-2021

NOTED: Cllr J Critchley (Chair 2020-2021) provided a report which is attached to the minutes (Appendix A).

11.To receive Mayor Report 2020-2021

NOTED: Cllr C Ashton provided a report and it was noted that: Cllr Aston took over the role in 2020 following the resignation of L Jones; during the pandemic Cllr Ashton was approached by a resident to form a steering group offering support to residents in Frodsham and Helsby affected by the pandemic, it was the first group of its kind to launch in the UK. Cllr Ashton thanked members of the group and it was further noted that 1,200 jobs have been completed to date to include shopping and collection of prescriptions. The group also delivered the over 70s vouchers. Cllr Ashton has attended several events during her term of office to include an afternoon tea with local mayors and Remembrance Sunday. Thanks were given to Joe Beswick and his support the local community.

12.Close of meeting

APPENDIX A CHAIR REPORT

We started this 4 year council term in May 2019 with only 13 councillors, and although there have been some resignations, co-options and elections we remain, at this half-way stage, with 2 councillor vacancies to be filled by co-option in the coming months.

FTC reduced the precept for 20/21 and, due in part to the pandemic limitations, have also been able to reduce the precept for 21/22.

It has been a steep learning curve working with virtual meetings this last year and we have had a few hiccups with the technology and intermittent broadband service. Since 6 May we are required to return to face to face meetings, although we are allowed to continue with virtual informal working group meetings. Since lock-down CWaC have new tenants for the ground floor of Castle Park House. FTC have reached agreement with Frodsham Community Church on Main Street to host our Council Meetings (Full Council and Committee meetings)

SUCSESSES

Cemetery Extension – Nov 2019

The extension to the cemetery was started in November 2019 and was successfully completed just as the older plots were used up.

Grade II Listed War memorial and memorial gates

The refurbishment of the war memorial and the gates at the main entrance has been completed and should help preserve them for another 100 years. Two further projects are in hand to install a new disabled path to the war memorial and to upgrade the car park.

CCTV

Agreement was reached with CWaC to install town centre CCTV. FTC will contribute towards the running costs of the equipment and the monitoring service.

Ship Street Play Area

Following public consultation on the potential sale of the Ship Street Play Area, FTC agreed to carry out an Options Appraisal on how best to develop The OP Working Group are liaising with CWaC on the covenant. There will be a public consultation on the options once the likely costs have been assessed.

Hob Hey Wood

The volunteer group Hob Hey Wood Friends continue to do a marvellous job maintain and developing the wood, liaising regularly with the FTC Amenities Committee

Manley Road Copse

In February 2017 most of the trees were lost as a result of damage caused by Storm Doris. It was decided that it should initially lie fallow (with minimal maintenance) to see what grew back. Following a discussion on its future, including its potential sale, Frodsham WI were asked if they would like to take on the care and redevelopment of the copse, an arrangement similar to the Hob Hey Wood Friends. The WI are doing a marvellous job maintain and developing the copse, liaising regularly with the FTC Amenities Committee