



Minutes from the Meeting of Frodsham Town Council held at 7pm on **Monday 28th November 2022 in Gallery 2, Frodsham Arts Centre**

Members of the public were invited to join the meeting.

Meeting 4

Attended by: Cllr Hayes (Chair), Cllr Anstice, Cllr Eakin, Cllr Lofts, Cllr Lowrie, Cllr McKeown, Cllr Stockton, Cllr Sumner and Cllr Wade.

Also attended by: Z. Dean (Locum Town Clerk), Cllr L. Riley and PCSO Neil Flanagan.

58. Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED: Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Ashton and Griffiths due to ill health.

59. Declarations of interest

NOTED: Cllrs Sumner and Wade declared an interest in Ship Street project (Item 68).

60. Approval of Minutes

A question was asked regarding whether Cllr Ross was still a councillor following unattendance at meetings for a number of months. The Chair noted that the Town Council is now unable to co-opt new members due to the approaching election leaving less than 6 months for new members to serve.

RESOLVED: To accept and sign the Minutes from the meeting held on 26th September 2022.

61. Requests from Members of the Public to Speak

No members of the public were present.

62. PCSO report

PCSO Flanagan circulated a report in advance of the meeting which outlined an increased number of callouts in Frodsham linked to the same group of teenagers. The group had a lack of respect for police authority in the town, regularly taunting the police officer known to them. Attempts had been made to meet with the parents of the key members of this group but nothing is achieved due to criminalisation of ages. The police structure is also lacking a sergeant at the current time. However, all incidents are being recorded.

It was noted that the police are urging people to report crimes. Dashcam and doorbell camera footage can now be accepted by the police, when uploaded through Cheshire Police website.

63. Cheshire West and Chester Council elected councillors

Cllr Riley attended the meeting and advised that Cllr Basey was unable to attend due to a personal commitment. Cllr Riley thanked Frodsham Town Council for its work on the new Memorial Path and the success of the Remembrance Day event held there on 11th November. Praise was given to Frodsham's recent Christmas Festival and lights switch on, which was a great event for the town. Thanks were also offered to Frodsham Scouts and the volunteers involved for the recent daffodil bulb planting effort. It was reported that Sutton Weaver Parish

Council had also crowd funded after meeting with Frodsham Town Council regarding accessible play areas.

Warm Zones had been set up in faith settings, as well as the creation of an age-friendly network to help older people during winter months. It was noted that more Mental Health First Aiders need to be created. The Dementia Café meets every Wednesday in Frodsham and knitters are making “Warm Packs” to create practical warmth, and emphasise the concept of not being alone. Cheshire West has a new approach around its care and re-enablement of carers, if people are interested in resuming previous roles with advantageous and flexible terms.

The Woodland Trust Golf Club project will incorporate 40,000 trees. Frodsham Ridge has been put forward as an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Council noted that a lot of information is available regarding the cost of living crisis and funding is available from government for discretionary spend until March 2023, totalling over two million pounds. The targeted broadband rollout has now ended. There is access to voucher schemes by DCMs for community fibre scheme. It was noted that there were no updates regarding the tip or the leisure centre, and there was a need for greater town CCTV coverage.

64. Accounts

Cllr Hayes thanked the Locum Town Clerk for focussing on the accounts quickly.

It was noted that costs for War Memorial Maintenance would be low for this year following the improvement works.

The following questions/observations were raised regarding the accounts

- Money available for Cllr Training?
- Impact on Utilities for Direct Debits?
- The need for offsite storage could be reduced if the cemetery storage facility is utilised.
- Additional Over 70s Vouchers for PP&R Committee in December.

a) **RESOLVED:** To approve and sign the Month 5 Accounts

b) **RESOLVED:** To approve and sign the Month 6 Accounts

c) **RESOLVED:** To approve and sign the Month 7 Accounts

Cllr McKeown offered thanks for the new presentation of the accounts reports, noting that they were easier to follow.

65. Councillor Representative Vacancies

a) **RESOLVED:** To appoint Cllr I. Anstice to the Frodsham Youth Association

b) **RESOLVED:** To appoint Cllr R. Lofts to the Frodsham Community Association

66. Grant Scheme

a) **RESOLVED:** To approve the Grants Working Group meeting notes from 9th November.

b) **RESOLVED:** To approve the recommendations from the working group for the grants totalling £3443.00

c) **NOTED:** The feedback from the 2021 grants scheme was received and noted.

67. Pay Award 2022

RESOLVED: To note the 2022 NJC Pay Award, ratifying backdated payments as appropriate.

68. Ship Street Play Area

The Chair read out an update on the project, noting that the project had been subject to a number of delays, including a delay in the delivery and installation of play equipment due to weather conditions and national supply issues. The grass seed was taking well.

NOTED: That the Town Council no longer wished to pay for additional site visits inspections if the equipment was delivered late. These costs should be absorbed by the contractor.

Cllr Hayes and the Locum Town Clerk to inspect original tender document specification and check for a penalty clause.

69. Christmas Lighting

Following a Recommendation from the Amenities Committee held on 14th November 2022,

RESOLVED: To light all three trees in Church Street using LITE Ltd as per the quotation. Council noted that the contractors were on hold for installation on 8th December.

70. Tree Planting at Memorial Hill

- a) Quotations presented for comparison were reviewed by Council. It was noted that the seven oak tree would form part of the Queen's Green Canopy Project.
- b) **RESOLVED:** To appoint Hilldale to supply, plant and water seven oaks trees at Memorial Hill for a 24 month period.
The Locum Town Clerk to inform the successful company and seek dates for a tree planting ceremony.

71. Office Equipment

RESOLVED: To accept quotation for a new laptop from Prism Solutions, the Council's current IT provider.

72. Christmas Closure

NOTED: To note that the Frodsham Town Council office will close on 22nd December, reopening on 3rd January 2023.

PART B

73. Exclusion of Public & Press

RESOLVED: To exclude the public and press bodies for the remainder of the meeting.

74. Financial Report

RESOLVED: To receive the Financial Report.

75. Close of meeting – 21:05

Date of next meeting: 23rd January 2023.