

# FROCESTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2015 AT 7.30PM AT FROCESTER LODGE

Present: Cllrs. David Holpin (Chair), Wendy Hawkins, Bill Flude, Bob Hill and Jane Davis

Apologies: None

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th May 2015 were read, approved by councillors and signed by the Chairman. In matters arising the need to provide a defibrillator for the village was discussed. The purchase cost of a machine that is easy to use by anyone on someone in cardiac arrest is understood to be of the order of £1,000. Sharing the cost with other groups in the village is a possibility and how to provide public access will be investigated with the kiosk library or cricket club being possible locations. The continued use of the kiosk as a library was also discussed and a refresh of the books was agreed. The problem of sewage overflowing into the ditch along Peter Street has been resolved, the owners of the Frocester George have scheduled regular cleaning of the septic tank as often as every six weeks during the summer.

The register of members interests has been updated for all councillors and the key accounts holders for the Lloyds Bank account will be verified. The annual return has been completed with an independent review by Sarah Poultney and receipt acknowledged by Grant Thornton on the 7<sup>th</sup> July. The Zurich Municipal Policy Review update documents have been received, agreed and a cheque for £216.31 sent on 20<sup>th</sup> July. Cover now specifically includes the war memorial and the bus shelter; this was not the case previously. The GAPTC annual subscription for £43.81 was sent on 17<sup>th</sup> May. The council is now receiving electricity bills from British Gas for the disused phone box; the total owing for the period from Dec '14 to Mar '15 is £6.64. The cost of removing the supply is expected to be considerably more than this!

The slippage of the bank on Frocester Hill is still a problem and has not received attention from Gloucestershire highways and will be once again reported. The new Frocester street signs were installed in mid-July as promised and thanks go to Hannah Clarke at SDC for progressing this. In addition the finger post outside the Frocester George has been repaired and thanks to Andrew Middlecote for arranging this. The quality and care taken in cutting the grass verge in Peter Street was discussed and will be brought to the attention of the highways department. It was agreed that the council should buy a quantity of speed awareness stickers to applied to wheelie bins as speeding on Bath Road is a growing problem.

The councillors were shown the SDC planning application for a proposed two story extension that is pending consideration. A comment has been sent to the planners indicating that the property was previously extended in 1983 and the siting of the garage may not be ideal. There were no other objections to the plans.

It was agreed that the councillors would like to invite Karen Phimister to the next meeting to discuss the recent government policy changes that have resulted in a greater reliance on rural exception sites to provide affordable housing for local people in rural communities. The rural exception site planning policy allows small-scale developments in communities of less than 3,000 people on sites which would not normally be granted permission for residential development. The councillors would like to learn more about how this might benefit our community, what affordable housing means and how the policy may apply to Frocester.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday 16th September 2015 at 7.30pm in the cricket club. The meeting closed at 8.45pm.