

MINUTES OF A MEETING



Fradley Parish Council

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Minutes of the Fradley Parish Council Meeting held at 7:00pm at Fradley Village Hall on 15 February 2024

Present:

Cllrs Mike Ashcroft, Phil Beswick, Glen Bown (Chair), Paul Deathridge, Stuart Gilmour and George Petrou

In Attendance:

Claire Crompton (Clerk/RFO), Cllr Janet Eagland (SCC) and 0 Members of the Public.

23/86 – Apologies for Absence. Local Govt Act 1972 s85 (1)

Apologies for absence were noted from Cllrs Dhillon, Evans, Ham and Leytham.

23/87 - Declarations of Members' Interests. – (1 min)

There were no declarations of member's interests.

23/88 –Adjournment for Public Speaking. Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 s1 extended by the LG Act 1972 s100 – (20 mins)

Apologies were noted from Cllr Derick Cross.

County Cllr Janet Eagland was present at the meeting and gave her report as follows:

As the Parish Council is a new Council, Cllr Eagland wanted to inform the Council of what work and other committees she sits on in her area. Here is an overview:

Safeguarding Overview and Health Scrutiny Committee; Family Involvement Board - looking after babies; Represents people of Lichfield and the District Area; Chair of HS2 and Cemex Liaison Committee.

Cllr Mike Wilcox has taken on the role of Cabinet Member for Health and Care.

She attends the MASH meetings, which are meetings for all agencies, for example Social Services, Doctors, Police etc.

Playing Field Committee, this is independent of the County Council. This committee provides low cost loans and grants to Councils and Clubs for things such as football pitches, cricket pitches and nets. If we would like more information or would like to apply, we should contact Cllr Eagland.

PCSO Tracey Horton sent her apologies, the clerk read out her report as follows:

15/01/2024 – Report of male smoking cannabis in his vehicle on Shaw Drive – On the 19/01/24 officers attended and caught male he was arrested and issued a CR1 (Community Resolution) for cannabis found on male. All his details taken along with vehicle. Awaiting blood results of male re driving under the influence of drugs.

16/02/2024 – Report from Baker Drive had a hole cut in the rear of his van doors. Nothing taken from the van. No lines of enquiry at this time.

22/01/2024 -Report of two males in dark clothing, tracksuit bottoms and white socks wearing hoods and faces covered. They were picked up on ring doorbell going through the side gate to rear of property on Oakden Crescent. CCTV of males in rear garden trying door handles, and trying to look through windows. Owners of property had an Audi A5 on drive, not sure if males were after keys. Normally gate is padlocked, they had forgotten to lock gate. Nothing taken, security advice.

10/02/2024 – Report from resident from Tye Road that a diamond ring and her BMW had been stolen overnight, back door had been left open by residents by mistake. Unknown offenders entered house and handbag containing keys, ring , bank cards, driving licence. Ongoing CCTV enquires.

14/01/2024 – Report from 2 different residents on Violet Walk re suspicious white BMW driving around area late at night, one gave reg of vehicle. Caller's was advised and reassured that this is a police fleet car being used to patrol area looking for criminals re vehicle theft and crime. Caller thanked for informing us and being vigilant.

I did sent out a smart Alert re vehicle crime with advice on how to secure vehicles. Across all of Lichfield there has been a raise in vehicle crime over the last month. There is a special task force of officer's dedicated to this and they are out regularly during the late evenings and overnight patrolling in plain and marked vehicles.

23/89 – Variation to the Order of Business – (1 min)

There were no variations to the order of business.

23/90 – To confirm the minutes of the Fradley Parish Council meeting held on 18th January 2024 – (1 min)

RESOLVED: The draft minutes of the Fradley Parish Council meeting held on 18th January were approved. Proposed; Cllr Bown, Seconded: Cllr Ashcroft. AGREED unanimously.

23/91 – Consider the adoption of the proposed Terms of Reference policy for the Environment Group, Projects Group, Engagement Group and the HR Committee. – (5 mins)

RESOLVED: It was agreed, the Terms of Reference policy for the working groups and committee will be adopted. Proposed by Cllr Bown, Seconded by Cllr Petrou, AGREED unanimously.

23/92 – Consider the adoption of the proposed Biodiversity policy. This policy is to be supervised and reported on by the Environment Group – (1 min)

RESOLVED: It was agreed, the Biodiversity policy will be deferred to another meeting. Cllr Deathridge and the Environment Group are to work on producing an improved policy. Proposed by Cllr Bown, AGREED unanimously.

23/93 – Consider the key components of a performance management regime for the Clerk. – (1 min)

This was discussed and considered. The HR Committee are to produce a Performance Management Policy supported by Cllr Gilmour.

23/94 – Working Groups and External Representative Reports:

- a. **Projects Group:** Meeting 05.02.24 Cllr Petrou gave a report on behalf of the Projects Group. At their meeting on the 05.02.24, all Cllrs agreed they would like to proceed with the projects set out in December. It was discussed that preparation works should begin to obtain quotes along with how to implement them and that a detailed plan for how the projects are to be realised should be drawn up by the group.
- b. **Environment Group:** To include a monthly update on the Grounds Maintenance Contract. The Clerk informed the Council that the current contractor had been contacted regarding the planned improvements but as yet no response had been received. Cllr Beswick has been investigating the possibility of towpath improvements on the canal between Fradley village and Fradley Junction. Cllr Beswick has also been researching the possibility of a 7.5 tonne weight limit on Halifax Avenue and traffic issues for the new road from Gorse Lane through the Sheasby Estate. There is currently no update on the Ground Maintenance Contract save to say the tender documents have been sent out to 9 different companies.
- c. **Engagement Group:** Meeting 13.02.24 Cllr Deathridge gave a report on behalf of the Engagement Group, he has been in contact with the local Police authorities and discussed the possibility of organising Police Surgeries to be held every 2 months depending on attendance. These would run as a 12 month pilot scheme with a review after 6 months. These would be held both at the Village Hall and also within the community giving residents the opportunity to discuss any issues they are concerned about. Cllr Gilmour and the Group are to begin work on producing a new Community Engagement Plan.
- d. **HR Committee:** Election of an additional member. This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- e. **Representatives:**
 - **CEMEX:** Meeting 22.01.24 Cllr Ashcroft attended the Cemex Liaison Meeting, nothing of note to report.
 - **HS2:** Meeting 26.02.24 Now Cancelled. Awaiting a new date for the meeting.
 - **Alrewas Charities:** Meeting 01.05.24. Cllr Deathridge has made contact with the Fradley and Alrewas Charities and will attend their next meeting scheduled for 01.05.24.

23/95 – Consider the key points from Councillors meeting with Barrett's and what actions should arise from the meeting. – (5 mins)

Key points from the meeting are a) the flow of traffic in and out of the car park should be one way? b) Once complete, who should own the car park? c) What surface should the car park have, Tarmac, grass matting, concrete matting? d) Solar bollard lighting, Barratt's to consider installing lights to the FYCC car park if all agree. e) Is there a desire for more than 1 disabled parking space allocation, the Clerk is find out the recommended ratio of disabled parking spaces. f) Cycle route from Barratt's development to the path leading to school. The plans originally were to access the path however it has not been completed. Would the Council like a proper path and how firm show we be with insisting this is done? g) Would the

Council like to adopt the island at the entrance to Fradley Manor once the estate is adopted by SCC? The general consensus was Yes.

23/96 – Consider if the Council should consult residents on whether a 20mph speed limit is desirable on all village roads – (3 mins)

It was discussed whether a total 20mph speed limit was achievable within Fradley. Currently no other village has been successful in this aspiration. Cllr Eagland offered support if the Council decided to investigate further

23/97 –Consider providing a lanyard, badge or other form of identification so that Councillors can be easily recognisable when performing public responsibilities. – (5 mins)

RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to purchase lanyards which include photographic identification for when they are performing public responsibilities. Cllr Bown will send some proposals to Cllrs where they can choose a design. Proposed: Cllr Bown, Seconded: Cllr Ashcroft. AGREED: unanimously.

23/98 – To consider the suggestion of how prizes for the Florette Fradley 10k run could be awarded. – (5mins)

RESOLVED: Cllrs Ashcroft and Gilmour have been awarded delegated authority to contact the event organisers and arrange for the prizes and the logistics of how this is implemented. A budget of £100 maximum has been set. Proposed: Cllr Bown, Seconded Cllr Deathridge. AGREED: unanimously.

23/99 – Discuss planting a commemorative tree at Watersmeet– (5 mins)

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

23/100 – Update on flooding on Church Lane in Fradley.

The issue of flooding on Church Lane was discussed which would involve the use of machinery to investigate using a camera and root cutters if necessary. This is anticipated to last 2 days, should there be surplus time, the machine will be deployed to Jordan Close where additional flooding issues have been experienced. Funding is available via our Cabinet Member and Highways Team. This should be fairly high on the priority list due to it being raised on several previous occasions. The main priority at this time is securing funding. Once this is in place it will be handed over to Highways and their team who will communicate their findings with us. The Clerk is to put this in an email to Cllr Eagland in order to proceed. **RESOLVED: The Parish Council agree to fund an equal share, up to but not exceeding £3088.91 towards this project. Proposed: Cllr Beswick, Seconded: Cllr Gilmour. AGREED: Unanimously**

23/101 – Finance – (5mins)

- a. To ratify the following payments which required payment in line with the Financial Regulations, current Budgets and Delegated Authorities.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	POWER
February 2024			

SJL Landscapes	Ground Maintenance Contract	1726.31	Open Space Act 1906 s9,10
D Beaumont	Handyman Contract	394.55	Open Space Act 1906 s9,10
Fradley Village Hall	Room Hire	72.25	LGA 1972 s111
Salaries, TAX,NIC		0.00	LGA 1972 s112 - 119
Streethay Parish Council	Microsoft 365 Billing	20.64	LGA 1972 s111
Radii Skate Repairs	Repairs to Skate Park	795.00	LGA 1972 s111
Claire Crompton	Expenses	16.80	LGA 1972 s111
Unity Trust Bank (DD)	Service Charge	0.00	LGA 1972 s111
Focus Group (DD)	Telephone Line	10.96	LGA 1972 s111

RESOLVED: The Parish Council agreed to ratify the above payments. Proposed by Cllr Ashcroft, Seconded by Cllr Petrou. AGREED unanimously.

- b. To consider the unaudited accounts from 01.04.2023 to 31.01.2024, including all supporting documents provided by the Clerk.

	31.01.2024
Current Account	£288,781.07
Unpresented Payments	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL	£288,781.07

RESOLVED: The Parish Council noted the unaudited accounts including all paperwork provided by the Clerk.

23/102 – Planning Matters– (5 mins)

N.B - Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched. 1, para.8 - Right to be notified of planning applications if right has been requested. The Parish Council is a non-statutory consultee within the planning process.

Receive and consider report from the Planning Advisory Group:

- a. To determine any additional action required on the planning application information, from information circulated via email by officers in advance of the meeting.
- b. Any planning application received after publication of this agenda will be advised at the meeting.

Application No.	Location	Proposal	Comments by
22/01518/OUFMEI	Land North Of, Hay End Lane, Fradley, Burton Upon Trent.	Hybrid Planning Application comprising full application for the development of 500 dwellings, new accesses onto Hay End Lane and internal access, new sports provision consisting of playing fields, sports pavilion and associated parking, new open space, sustainable drainage, new ecology areas and	Application Rec 12.01.24 Comment by 04.02.24 Submitted 06.02.24

		woodland, landscaping and associated works	
23/00859/FUL	Brookhay Cottage , Brookhay Lane, Lichfield, Staffordshire	Erection of single storey gym / garden retreat (resubmission of 23/00167/COU)	Application Rec 31.01.24 Comment by 21.02.24

c. **To note the outcome of the following planning applications for which the Council has made full comment: None received this month.**

d.

The Council did not wish to comment on 23/00859/FUL, comments were submitted for 22/01518/OUFMEI on 06.02.24 as per instructions from last month's meeting.

23/103 – Clerk Reports – (6 mins)

a. Discuss availability of Cllrs to attend an in person training course delivered by the SPCA. It was discussed the Clerk is to contact the SPCA requesting a date which in turn will be circulated to all Cllrs.

b. Discuss future dates of Parish Council meetings, including the Annual Parish meeting (1st March – 1st June)

It was discussed that the majority of Parish Council meetings be the 3rd Thursday of each month with the exception of August where there will be no meeting and December where this will be held on Thursday 12th December. Once all Cllrs have agreed a date for the Annual Parish meeting, the Clerk will circulate a list to all Cllrs. All Cllrs are requested to submit their proposal date for the Annual Parish meeting to the Clerk.

c. Identify which Councillors will attend a meeting with Bellway.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Ashcroft, Beswick and Bown attend the 1st meeting with Bellway Homes.

d. Discuss the email regarding Hedgehogs.

This was deferred until next year but may be considered if Council would like to add this to the budget when it is prepared in November 2024.

e. Procedure to adding items to the agenda.

RESOLVED: It was agreed that if councillors wish to include an item on the agenda, they should inform the Clerk by sending an email.

f. Identifying future projects for community consultation.

It was discussed how the Council identify and prioritise projects. Cllr Bown is to send a form to all Cllrs asking for their input in prioritising projects.

23/104 – Identify how Fradley Parish Council has made Fradley a better place to live since the last full meeting?

Over the past month, our efforts to improve the village have been evident through several key initiatives. The Ground Maintenance Contracts have been completed and sent out to 9 different contractors. The fence at the FYCC has been replaced Our handyman has begun his work clearing the weeds and moss from the sides of the MUGA and the FYCC car park. He has also begun work completing a list of repairs and improvements to the play equipment such as repairing the basketball hoops, covering the rivets identified in the play park inspection and cleaning the mould and algae of the skate park and the War Memorial.

23/105 – Date and time of the next Parish Council Meetings to be confirmed as 21st March 2024 at Fradley Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm
RESOLVED: The next Parish Council meeting is 21st March 2024 at Fradley Village Hall, commencing at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 21.22pm