

# FROME TOWN COUNCIL

*making Frome a better place*

## Minutes of a meeting of Frome Town Council

Wednesday 18 September at 7pm  
Frome Medical Practice, Enos Way, Frome.

### Present:

Councillors: Dave Anderson; Eve Berry; Graham Burgess; Adrian Dobinson; Toby Eliot; Pippa Goldfinger; Tricia Golinski; Peter Macfadyen; Dickon Moore; Helen Sprawson-White; Helen Starkie; Nick White  
Cara Honey (Mayor for Young People); Alex Shingler (Deputy Mayor for Young People)

### In attendance:

Nikki Cox, Kate Hellard, Tessa Hibbert, Elaine Ewens, Caroline Wood (Somerset Standard), Paul Wynne (Town Clerk), Peter Wheelhouse (Economic Development & Regeneration Manager), Jane Llewellyn (Planning & Development Officer), Sarah Hobbs (Community Projects Officer), Laura Poulton (Administration Officer)

Approx. 80 members of the public

Minute Ref	Agenda Item	Action
2013/60/FC	<p><b>1 QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND INFORMATION FROM THE PUBLIC</b></p> <p>Charles Wood requested that FTC review the decision to allocate the £117k Council Tax grant from MDC to three projects in Frome. Cllr Moore explained that FTC took legal advice as to whether a refund could be given to residents and this was not possible. The decision was taken to use the money to help those most in need in Frome.</p> <p>Cllr Boyden noted that FTC's proposals for the Showfeild were moving along and a decision was expected imminently. A meeting at MDC on 30 September was to be held with regard to fracking in Mendip.</p>	
2013/61/FC	<p><b>2 a. APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>The Chairman formally opened the Council meeting at 7.16pm and apologies of absence were received from Cllrs Bullen, Godman, Hooton, Hudson and Usher.</p>	
2013/62/FC	<p><b>b. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b></p> <p>A declaration was received from Cllrs Dobinson and Sprawson - White who have seats on MDC that their views on any items on this agenda as an FTC member were not necessarily those as their role as an MDC Cllr.</p> <p>Cllr Moore expressed a personal interest in item 4.</p>	

# FROME TOWN COUNCIL

*making Frome a better place*

<p><b>2013/63/FC</b></p>	<p><b>c. MINUTES</b> The minutes of the Frome Town Council meeting held on 24 July 2013 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.</p>	
<p><b>2013/64/FC</b></p>	<p><b>3 FOR DECISION – POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF LAND AT STYLES HILL</b> Elaine Ewens, who had been leading the campaign for ‘Save Frome Meadow’, explained to Cllrs the importance of the Meadow and requested FTC’s support in raising the necessary £200k to purchase the land.</p> <p>Jaya Williams, a pupil at Haysdown First School, made a presentation on the importance of the meadow to her as a place for her to play safely and freely with her friends and family.</p> <p>Sue Everett noted that the meadow provided a matrix of habitat, flood protection, a mix of native flowers, grasses and insects and it was also a site to contribute to the health and wellbeing of Frome residents who use it.</p> <p>A reception teacher at Haysdown School explained the importance of the meadow to the education of the children. As it is right on their door step it is an ideal outdoor space for educating the children about the natural environment.</p> <p>The Town Clerk explained that there was a possibility of registering the land as a community asset. MDC had agreed to hold an emergency meeting on Monday 23 September to make a decision. If successful it would give the community time to raise the funds to purchase the land.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Submit an application to designate the site as an asset of community value</li> <li>2. Accept there is sufficient community support to support the community in buying the site</li> <li>3. To allocate up to £40,000 towards the purchase of the site</li> <li>4. To delegate authority to the Town Clerk to formally approach MDC to release the £25,000 s106 budget for this acquisition (informally MDC is in agreement although ward Cllrs support is required)</li> <li>5. If the community raises sufficient funds (including the £40,000 from FTC) and buys the site on 24 September, that the Town Council becomes the legal owner and donates it to the Theodora Ann le Gross Trust</li> <li>6. If the site is not sold at auction, to encourage the community to</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PWy</b></p>

# FROME TOWN COUNCIL

*making Frome a better place*

	<p>approach the vendor to provide it with the opportunity to raise the necessary funds</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Goldfinger, seconded Cllr Berry, agreed by majority.</p>	
<p><b>2013/65/FC</b></p>	<p><b>4 FOR INFORMATION – SAXONVALE – RECENT DEVELOPMENTS INVOLVING FRONTIER ESTATES</b>  Cllr Sprawson – White arrived at 7.45pm</p> <p>Cllr Golinski chaired this item.</p> <p>The Economic Development &amp; Regeneration Manager presented an overview after a meeting was held with Frontier Estates the previous evening. He emphasised that the discussion was with regard to the outline planning application Frontier Estates would be submitting in October. The application will focus only on use and access provision.</p> <p>The EDRM outlined the proposal for the whole site including those owned by FTC and Tarramond.</p> <p>Cllr Goldfinger expressed her concern with regard to the deadline allowing Frontier enough time to consider public comments.</p> <p>The meeting went into public session to allow questions from the public.</p> <p>The EDRM was asked how much authority FTC has on behalf of the community. He explained that FTC are a formal consultee as a land owner and have the opportunity to speak directly with Frontier.</p> <p>Another member of the public expressed concern over the access to the site given the already tricky traffic system at the top of Garsdale and the additional traffic that might use Vicarage Street. The EDRM explained that FTC recognise there is a cumulative impact, Frontier have employed transport consultants and as part of the application will be required to submit a transport assessment.</p> <p>John Peverley expressed concern over the size of the proposed supermarket as it appeared closer to 55,000 sq ft. He felt the plans did not show good quality urban design.</p> <p>Rose Harewood asked what Terramond were planning on doing? The EDRM explained that he wasn't able to comment for them however he was hoping they would submit a planning application</p>	

# FROME TOWN COUNCIL

*making Frome a better place*

	<p>of their own.</p> <p>David Taylor expressed his support for the development of the site and that Frome was in need of space for retailers that currently people seek outside of the town. He did ask that FTC make a contingency plan and ensure that the town gets its fair share of the s106 money.</p> <p>The Mayor for Young People asked how many jobs would be provided by the supermarket. The EDRM noted that although he didn't know the exact amount they had been assured all jobs would be long term and permanent and linked to the supermarket, hotel, retail shops and cafés.</p> <p>The EDRM also confirmed that from his conversation with the planning manager Frontier would be applying sequential testing.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Note the proposals presented by Frontier and their timetable for submitting an outline planning application</li> <li>2. Invite Frontier to make a presentation on their outline planning application at the next meeting of Full Council; this would provide a further opportunity for members of the public to understand, interpret and comment on the proposals which can then inform the Council's response to the scheme as a consultee</li> <li>3. Support the preparation of a report to Full Council on a date to be confirmed to cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the options in terms of the potential future uses of the Council's own site at Garsdale and the potential impact of the proposed supermarket on those uses</li> <li>• the cumulative impact of various proposed developments in the town including Frontier's scheme and any mitigating action required to be funded through s.106 contributions</li> <li>• a recommended response to the outline planning application</li> <li>• the opportunities that may arise from the Frontier scheme in terms of the delivery of the Council's strategy in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remodelling of the Town Centre</li> <li>• The provision of new workspace</li> <li>• The provision of training and other community facilities</li> <li>• The provision and long term management of open spaces including the Frome River Corridor</li> <li>• Other projects that are designed to improve</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
		<b>PWh</b>
		<b>PWh</b>

# FROME TOWN COUNCIL

*making Frome a better place*

	<p style="text-align: center;">community resilience</p> <p>4. Ask MDC how much they received from the sale of the car park site</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Macfadyen, seconded Cllr Sprawson - White, agreed unanimously.</p>	<b>PWh</b>
<b>2013/66/FC</b>	<p><b>5 SHORT TALKS FROM:</b></p> <p><b>a. Nikki Cox, Frome Resilience Project Worker</b> Nikki had been employed by FTC to organise a resource centre to help those living in Frome affected by poverty. She was currently focusing her work around where the gaps are in services and finding out what would have the biggest impact. Her next steps were to create a business plan and talk to people who would most benefit from this work.</p> <p>Cllr Sprawson – White suggested to Nikki speaking with Cllr Phripp as he is the shadow portfolio holder for access to services at MDC.</p> <p><b>b. Kate Hellard, Participate Frome! Co – ordinator</b> Kate explained that her aim for Participate Frome week would be to engage local people in becoming active participants. She intended to hold a conference for local organisations, run events such as a pop up soap box, workshops and seminars. She hoped that Frome residents will become enthused enough to be more involved into the future.</p> <p>A member of the public noted they were organising a day where they collapse the curriculum for year 9’s and would be keen to liaise with Kate to see how they could become involved.</p> <p>Emily Osler, from Knightstone Housing also expressed a keen interest in working closely with Kate and Nikki in order to widen their community reach.</p> <p><b>c. Tessa Hibbert, Youth Research Manager</b> Tessa had had to leave earlier in the meeting so the Mayor for Young People, Cara Honey, who had been working closely with Tessa asked to provide an update.</p> <p>Cara explained that they had been working on a questionnaire, which aims to look at changes that can be made to improve existing youth services. They were currently processing replies and planning question and answers sessions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>KH</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>KH</b></p>

# FROME TOWN COUNCIL

*making Frome a better place*

<b>2013/67/FC</b>	<b>6 A QUICK UPDATE ON PREVIOUS ACTIONS AND A LOOK AT WHAT IS COMING UP</b> Cllr Golinski provided a verbal update on the bus services to the Medical Practice. She noted a successful meeting had been held with First Bus who was looking to reinstate the 161 service. In addition they were looking into re-routing the 264 and 267 services to the practice in November.	
<b>2013/68/FC</b>	<b>7 FOR INFORMATION – CHEESE &amp; GRAIN</b> The EDRM noted that the public toilets at the Cheese & Grain would be available at the end of the week and the external works were proceeding well. The next area of work was on the bar, café and reception area.  Although a week behind schedule the work was still expected to be completed by 22 November and on budget.	
<b>2013/69/FC</b>	<b>12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> The next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 6 November at The Merlin Theatre.	

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.20pm