

# FROME TOWN COUNCIL

*making Frome a better place*

Minutes of a meeting of Frome Town Council

Wednesday 23 March 2016 at 7pm  
Rook Lane Chapel, Bath Street, Frome, BA11 1DN

Present:

Councillors: Richard Ackroyd, Kate Bielby, Colin Cobb, Gary Collinson, Toby Elliot, Tricia Golinski, Pippa Goldfinger, Sheila Gore, Peter Macfadyen, Tim O'Connor, Al O'Kane, Mel Usher, Nick White

In attendance:

Gloria and Ian Buchan (Frome Park Bowling Club), Caroline Wood (Frome Standard), Adam Boyden (MDC Cllr), Paul Wynne (Town Clerk), Peter Wheelhouse (Economic Development and Regeneration Manager), Chris Stringer (Environment Manager), Ruth Knagg (Community Projects Officer), Kate Hellard (Community Projects Officer), Laura Poulton (Administration Officer)

18 members of the public

Minute Ref	Agenda Item	Action
2016/33/FC	<p>The meeting started at 7.00pm</p> <p><b>1a. Apologies for absence</b> Received from Ali Barclay, Jean Boulton, Cath Puddick and Heather Wride.</p> <p><b>1b. Declaration of members' interests</b> None was received.</p> <p><b>1c. Minutes from the last meeting on 24 February 2016</b> Paul Wynne noted that since the last meeting Louise Jones had been given the Fundraising and Support contract and would begin work in mid-April.</p> <p>The minutes of the Frome Town Council meeting held on 24 February 2016 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.</p> <p>Proposed Pippa Goldfinger, seconded Gary Collinson, agreed unanimously.</p>	
2016/34/FC	<p><b>2. Questions and comments from the public</b> None was received.</p>	
2016/35/FC	<p><b>3. Short presentation from Gloria and Ian Buchan, Frome Park Bowling Club</b></p>	

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	<p>Ian gave a comprehensive history of Frome Park Bowling Club as well as the improvements that have been necessary to the club house throughout the years. He explained that they currently have 70 members but were always looking to welcome new members and often put adverts into the local papers.</p> <p>Mel Usher asked if it was possible for a member of the public to play without needing to contact the club first. Ian explained that although they would not be able to turn up and play immediately it could be arranged if they were contacted in advance to ensure a club member was available.</p> <p>Kate Bielby asked Ian if the club had experienced any benefits in terms of increased membership from the multiple events held in Victoria Park. Ian noted that they had and had always encouraged anyone who has shown interest in playing to attend games and meet other club members.</p>	
<p><b>2016/36/FC</b></p>	<p><b>Questions and comments from Cllrs</b></p> <p>Pippa Goldfinger noted that the application for housing on the old Butler Tanner and Dennis site had been approved. However it was approved on the grounds of commercial viability for the developer which also meant they were only providing 5% affordable housing.</p> <p>MDC Cllr Adam Boyden noted that the feedback he had received from residents with regards to the plans for the Old Showfield were very positive. Adam was meeting with Fusion Leisure who were refurbishing the leisure centre and he was hoping to find out an opening date which he anticipated to be May. He was also attending a meeting about the problem of littering on the Stonebridge estate and seeing if more bins that were paid for by FTC or Tesco's could help.</p>	
<p><b>2016/37/FC</b></p>	<p><b>4. For information: Project Updates</b></p> <p>Mel Usher highlighted the Health Connections initiative whereby volunteers in the town signpost patients to relevant health services. He noted it be worth looking into whether FTC could help fund further posts in the future.</p> <p>Richard Ackroyd congratulated the Rangers and volunteers for the improvement works on the river at Rodden Meadow.</p>	
<p><b>2016/38/FC</b></p>	<p><b>5. Presentation from Chris Stringer: Planned work for 2016/17 for the environment team</b></p> <p>Chris explained that he and Paul Wynne had put together an ambitious programme of work in 2015/16 for the environment team to complete. He noted that the work had been completed</p>	

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	<p>and thanked and congratulated the Rangers for their hard work and noted that they have received many positive comments from the public.</p> <p>Chris noted that the team had begun implementing the recommendations from the Keep Frome Clean panel; a part time Town Ranger was being recruited who would focus improving the state of the town centre; MDC and The Landscape Group were completing a town wide bin survey and pressure was being keep up to make sure TLS achieve the state of cleanliness their contract; unfortunately, SCC was not keeping on top on road drains and this has created localised flooding. Chris also said there will be a continuation of community clean up events and the Ranger Days.</p> <p>As part of general parks and green spaces Chris explained grass cutting and florals would be the majority of work through the summer. The river bank improvements at Rodden Meadow were being completed after which this project would move onto Waylands. The first design meeting had been held at Foundary Barton and plans for the open space were being drawn up. A meeting was being held within a week to kick off a project to explore the history of Victoria Park and Mary Baily. The Critchill Ranger scheme was also going to be extended.</p> <p>Mel Usher noted that The Landscape Group were still not fulfilling their contract and the service was below standard. He suggested giving regular updates at Council meetings and putting more pressure on MDC. Peter Macfadyen noted that he would continue to do this as well as with Harvey Siggs.</p>	<p><b>CS</b> <b>PM</b></p>
<p><b>2016/39/FC</b></p>	<p><b>6. For decision: Management plans for Victoria Park and Mary Baily Playing Field</b></p> <p>Chris Stringer explained the management improvement plan was an updated version of the emerging plan that had been agreed in 2014 with some minor changes.</p> <p>Peter Macfadyen asked if it was possible for some improvements to be actioned later in order to see the impact of other improvements. Chris said that it was and inevitably the improvements will be phased over the coming years as funding becomes available. Nick White asked what the plans for the pavilion were. Chris explained that the pavilion could offer a range of services such as toilets, a café, a community room and store and that probably the biggest constraint was the cost. Kate Bielby asked if it was possible to look at an accessible swing when looking at the children’s area.</p> <p>Sioux How spoke on behalf of a number of residents who were concerned that the proposed path to cross Victoria Park and asked</p>	<p><b>CS</b></p>

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	<p>whether this would restrict ball games and encourage vehicles to use it. Sioux also said that the toilets should be replaced as a priority. Chris noted that £20k was allocated to keeping the toilets clean and safe during 2016/17 and agreed that the toilets were very near to the end of their lives.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agree the 'Management &amp; Improvement Plan' as proposed</li> <li>2. Request that the identified s106 funds amounting to £25,953 are designated and secured for the improvement of the site footpaths</li> <li>3. Delegate responsibility to the Environment Manager to identify funding for the plan as a whole; or elements of the plan with the Pavilion as a key consideration</li> <li>4. Review the funding situation before setting next year's budget in order that decisions can be made surrounding the existing public toilets and other parts of the MIP</li> </ol> <p>Proposed Richard Ackroyd, seconded Pippa Goldfinger, agreed unanimously.</p>	<b>CS</b>
<b>2016/40/FC</b>	<p><b>7. For decision: Management plans for the Old Showfield</b></p> <p>Chris noted that the management plan reflected the discussions from the last public meeting and much of the work could be achieved within the year.</p> <p>Gary Collinson asked that members of the sports panel are included and involved in the plans for the outdoor gym equipment.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agree the 'Management &amp; Improvement Plan' as proposed</li> <li>2. Request that the identified s106 funds amounting to £44,398 are designated and secured for the improvement of the site footpaths</li> <li>3. Note the other financials</li> <li>4. Delegate responsibility to the Environment Manager to start delivering the plan</li> <li>5. Delegate responsibility to the Environment Manager to identify and apply for funding to deliver the elements of the plan without funding at the present time</li> </ol> <p>Proposed Peter Macfadyen, seconded Toby Eliot, agreed unanimously.</p>	<b>CS/GC</b>          <b>CS</b>
<b>2016/41/FC</b>	<p><b>8. For decision: Management and improvement plans for other smaller open spaces</b></p> <p>The recommendations were:</p>	

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agree the proposed MIP for The Roundhouse &amp; The Otherside</li> <li>2. Request that the identified s106 funds amounting to £19,005.79 are designated and secured for the improvement of the main footpath at The Dippy</li> <li>3. Note the approach to MIPs and strategic documents generally</li> </ol> <p>Proposed Pippa Goldfinger, seconded Richard Ackroyd, agreed unanimously.</p>	<b>CS</b>
<b>2016/42/FC</b>	<p><b>9. For decision: Proposed use of s106 funding to promote walking and cycling in Frome</b></p> <p>Ruth Knagg noted that the figures in the report were estimates and subject to change. She noted that the hope was to put the majority of the s106 funds towards the Missing Link project in order to match fund the money from the Heart of Wessex Local Action Group.</p> <p>Tricia Golinski noted that more work needed to be done on the signage to Commerce Park. She explained that there was a possibility of funding from the park developers.</p> <p>Pippa Goldfinger asked to ensure that all signage matched up and was co-ordinated with the rest of the signage in town.</p> <p>The recommendation was to request that section 106 funds of c £38,000 from the Mendip Lodge Hotel site be ring-fenced for the above purposes.</p> <p>Proposed Richard Ackroyd, seconded Pippa Goldfinger, agreed unanimously.</p>	<b>PWh</b>  <b>RK</b>
<b>2016/43/C</b>	<p><b>10. For decision: Changes to FTC community grants 2016-2019</b></p> <p>This paper was deferred to the next meeting for decision.</p>	
<b>2016/44/FC</b>	<p><b>11. For decision: Arts, Music and Entertainment panel</b></p> <p>Al O’Kane noted that the proposed panel was to hold six meetings. Each one would individually focus on; venues, performers, professionals and promoters, charities, audiences and finally a summary meeting to decide on recommendations.</p> <p>A member of the public enquired as to what the purpose of the panel would be. Al explained that it would be to understand the needs of organisations in town and make a series of recommendations including the possibility of the role for FTC. Mel Usher also noted that the panel would help to inform priorities for future investment.</p>	

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	<p>It was agreed to amend the name of the panel to 'Performing Arts Panel' and to bring the recommendations to the Council meeting in October for approval.</p> <p>The recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agree the formation of the Performing Arts Panel</li> <li>2. Approve remit and the timescale outlined above</li> <li>3. Appoint Al O'Kane as Chair of the panel with support from Kate Hellard and Mark Brookes.</li> </ol> <p>Proposed Pippa Goldfinger, seconded Richard Ackroyd, agreed unanimously.</p>	<p><b>A O'K and MB</b></p>
<p><b>2016/45/FC</b></p>	<p><b>12. For information: Health and safety update</b> The Town Clerk advised there was nothing to report.</p>	
<p><b>2016/46/FC</b></p>	<p><b>13. The next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 27 April at Selwood Academy</b></p>	
	<p>Because the following item discussed the financial situation of an organisation in the town the press and public were asked to leave.</p>	
<p><b>2016/47/FC</b></p>	<p><b>14. For decision: Finance</b> Sheila Gore left the meeting at 8.55pm</p> <p>The recommendations to provide funding for the organization was agreed.</p> <p>Proposed Peter Macfadyen, seconded Pippa Goldfinger, agreed unanimously.</p>	<p><b>PWh</b></p>

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.10pm