

Town Clerk's Report for the meeting of 1st July 2010

This month I have attended a meeting at the Scout Hut with representatives of Framlingham Sports Club/Scout and Guide Group and the Suffolk Foundation East, to discuss the future development of Police site in Badingham Road. I was invited as a guest to The Technology Centre Breakfast Club meeting, where there was a presentation by Marie Roberts on 'Getting the Most from Your Team'.

I attended the SNT Tasking Meeting where Framlingham was top of the list due to the recent problems with arson and criminal damage.

I also attended the quarterly Town Clerks and Strategic Management Meeting at Suffolk Coastal District Council, where there was a chance to speak to Tim Collard from Suffolk Coastal Services Ltd and Hilary Hanslip who gave an update of the Local Development Framework. There was some interesting discussion on the joint working with Waveney, with CEO Stephen Baker and Tony Osmanski, and an information sheet from Andy Smith on the new planning policies, also Ray Herring who robustly defended the work of the Council's planning service, after it was strongly criticised by three of the districts parish councils.

There was also a presentation from Parish Online – GIS Mapping Service. The Town Council subscribed to the service in order to get the maps for our walk card project, and I was able to provide copies of our Walk Cards for everyone at the meeting as an example. What I didn't realise is that the possibilities are endless! The GIS (Geographic Information System) can be used to map where dog/ litter bins/seats/street lights etc are located and to show listed buildings, alcohol designation zones, flood risk areas etc, which would be very useful to us, I just need a few more hours in my day to do it all! As always, this was a very useful meeting, and I could probably fill another two pages of interesting facts and information!

The Vice Chairman attended the Suffolk Coastal District Council Planning Forum on 8th June. I have copied two documents for Councillors information 'Your Role in Local Planning Decisions' and 'The Local Development Framework: Update' which I thought may be useful information to have to hand. The District Council hopes to hold more Parish Forums, and there is to be a feed-back system on any planning applications that are contrary to Parish and Town Council recommendations. Decisions will also be more accessible when plans go online.

I have sent an article and some photographs to SALC and Clerks and Councils Direct, relating to our recent successful launch of the Walk Cards and our Go Cart Race event, which has been published in the most recent edition of the Local Councillor.

I met with the CCTV engineer; one of the camera lenses was stuck, this has now been rectified and all the cameras checked and cleaned. I have had a request from Martlesham for help and advice on allotment management and a request from Saxmundham for information on our markets, a request for information on freehold business properties available in Framlingham, also several enquiries relating to MSM, no not this year! I have met with F Masters Ltd relating to discuss the cleaning and repair of the war memorial and Ian Moore to discuss matters relating to the cemetery and allotment tenants with my ball of string and stakes!.

I have arranged for the Town Council Office to be host to our MP Daniel Poulter, for his Advice Surgery on Saturday 3rd July, and hope this will become a regular event. The Town Council Office will be open on these days, but Daniel will only receive visitors by appointment through his secretary.

I have agreed to attend the next Business Association meeting representing the Town Council. Agenda items include: Business Association Structure (Volunteers for chairperson/secretary/treasurer etc); Local Support - Business List/Database; Public Awareness of what Framlingham has to offer; Town Council Liaison and Logistics - Parking, better signage.

I will be meeting with the School Council at Sir Robert Hitcham's Primary School, for it's opinion on the replacement multi play unit on the Pageant Field. The designs and options will be left at the school for one week to enable everyone to have a closer look. Having been invited before this is a

meeting I always enjoy, as the children have some wonderful ideas and opinions, so it should be fun!

David Drummond and Simon Taylor have kindly offered to carry out the annual painting of the skatepark ramps, and I have equipped them with paint brushes, rollers, wet paint notices and temporary fencing.

The quarterly Market Invoices have been completed along with the annual Market Licence documents.

Finally, you may recall that I spent some time last month preparing a comprehensive document on the differences over 10% for each expenditure code for 2009/2010, as required by the Auditor. This obviously was not enough, as I have received a letter advising that debtors have decreased and creditors increased, which have not been sufficiently explained in the supporting document! Quite simple really; there were fewer transactions in March and some large invoices were not received by 31st March! So, I have responded and hopefully less is more this time?

Quite a lot of extra work has been undertaken this month, as well as the normal duties of the Town Clerk/RFO. Summer holidays are coming next, looking forward to some R and R!

Eileen A Coe (Town Clerk)