

**DRAFT Minutes of the 2021 Framlingham Annual Parish Meeting
Held via Zoom on Wednesday 5th May 2021**

The Chair advised that the meeting was being recorded.

1. Apologies:

None received

2. Present:

Invitations had been sent to various organisations in the town and the event had been advertised on www.framlingham.com and several posters displayed around the town. 26 residents were in attendance.

3. Town Council Chair's Welcome

Cllr Collins welcomed everyone to the meeting. He particularly wanted to thank the many members of the community who had worked so hard to support the town during the past 14 months of the Covid-19 pandemic. He highlighted the staff and fellow Councillors and in particular the residents who had volunteered to help co-ordinate the cocoons in the town. He noted that the Annual Newsletter had been printed and residents should receive their copy with the Community News. Copies were also available from the Town Council Office and the Library. He reported that there were three vacancies on the Town Council and any resident who is interested in becoming a Councillor to contact the Town Clerk for advice on how to stand for election.

4. Minutes of the last APM – 7th May 2019

Cllr Collins proposed to accept the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting as a true and accurate record, which was seconded by Cllr Eastwood with a majority in favour.

5. Police Report:

The Town Clerk reported that whilst a written report had been expected none was forthcoming. Any report received after the meeting would be posted on the Town Council Website.

5. Guest Speakers:

5.1 Rev Chris Davey: Castle Community Rooms

Rev Davey thanked the Chair for the opportunity to speak and updated the meeting on the progression of the transformation of St Michael's Rooms into the Castle Community Rooms. Planning permission had been granted and a committee had been formed from Church and Community to work together to raise the funds needed – which he was confident of achieving. The Committee was on target to be able to appoint a contractor for the works by June and work was expected to start on the site in early 2022. He ended by reiterating St Michael's Church's commitment to creating a building for the community, but one that the Church would use as well.

5.2 Alan Davidson and Nick Corke: HOUR Community – Covid-19 Team

Alan Davidson introduced himself as a new resident who moved into Framlingham in March 2020. His role in the Covid-19 support was to deputise for Cllr Kitching. He wanted to extend his thanks to Cllr Kitching and also Nick Corke of Hour Community for their support and help both in his role and to the town.

Nick Corke looked back to the meeting held in St Michael's rooms on the 16th March 2020 when the plans to support the residents of Framlingham through the lockdown were first mooted. He remarked that Framlingham had really stepped up to the mark and within a few days of that first meeting there were over 100 volunteers ready to support those in need in the town – mostly through delivering food and prescriptions but also ensuring people could get to hospital visits. He extended his most sincere thanks to all those that volunteered and it was a measure of their effectiveness and success that the district wide support service had little call on them from residents of Framlingham. He noted that only 2% of all the calls to the District support service had come from the town. He ended by expressing the wish to tap into this body of good will and felt that with the new developments in the town there were more people who would step forward to help others.

Alan outlined how the central support team worked during the lock downs. Under Cllr Kitching's leadership a system of local 'cocoon's' was created with residents taking on the role of area coordinators for 10 discrete areas in the town. Meeting via Zoom on a daily basis the central team worked to provide a strong safety net for residents in need. Layers of support were co-ordinated between Hour Community, and local residents. The Central Team organised signage in the town, public sanitising stations and co-ordinated communication within the town for residents to be sure of knowing where to go for help. Central to this was the newsletter 'Fram at Home' which was produced regularly and delivered to residents in the town by the cocoons. Alan wished to thank Cllr Hine for her role as editor of the magazine. Alan showed the meeting the certificate of thanks that was given to every volunteer and noted that in comparison with many other towns, Framlingham had offered a level of support that stood out.

5.3 Paper House Properties – Redevelopment of the old Con Club: Mark Hoare and Ted Ridge.

Ted began by describing how Paper house properties had purchased the building in April 2019. He and Mark both felt that the building was an amazing space in the town and did not want to see the community lose the space to residential development. After an extensive period of consultation and a year of construction work the building is functioning again. The building is fully let with the Town Council offices, a small residential flat, the Common Room Café, 9 studios/work spaces and 3 rooms for public hire. The latter would hopefully begin to be utilised once the lockdown restrictions are further eased, along with the space for FAYAP. Mark continued by reflecting on their stalled ambitions to open the public part of the building a year ago, but which had been dashed by the covid-19 pandemic. Looking to the future Mark reported that Paper House Properties had taken the opportunity of purchasing the Old Theatre next door to the Con Club and outlined their plans for the space. Paper House were working towards applying for planning permission for the work needed to bring the building back to public life. Following consultation, it was hoped a small holiday let flat would be created along with a public art and performance space and associated amenities. Their prime concern was not to be in competition with the proposed Castle Community Rooms across the street and Paper House had reached agreement with the PCC for the Old Theatre's operation to be complimentary and not in competition to the Castle Community Rooms. Mark ended by

expressing his thanks to the community who had been 100% supportive of Paper House Properties endeavours in the town at the Old Con Club.

5.4 Framlingham Sports Club – Plans for future redevelopment: Nathan Berkley.

Nathan introduced himself and outlined his role as Chair of the Youth Football Club. He remarked that the town has an amazing facility in the Sports Club but with the growth of the town there were waiting lists for many of the activities organised by the club. He noted that sport and music went hand in hand and outlined the plans of the sports club were developing to create and extend opportunities for people to enjoy. Plans were progressing for a 3G pitch, a Gym and Café facility which would be split into sections to include space for treatment and nutrition etc. There were plans too for extending the clubhouse to create a space for music and film and potentially a larger space for community use. Investigations were taking place to extend the area owned by the Sports Club which was in the early stages of fund raising to achieve these ambitions. The Sports Club had prepared an extensive presentation which had been sent to the Town Council and could be distributed via the Town Council.

6. Reports from other organisations

The Town Clerk reported that reports had been received from the Pryke Trust, St John Ambulance and DCllr Cook. These would be made available on the website or could be emailed to residents wishing to read them.

7. Public Forum

The Chair thanked the guest speakers and those who had submitted reports and invited questions.

A resident congratulated Nathan Berkeley on his presentation to the meeting and spoke in support of the efforts of the Sports Club to extend its offer to the town. He voiced disappointment both in the lack of attendance or a report from the police to the meeting. He remained concerned about the Town Council's performance in addressing the anti-social behaviour in the town.

Cllr Collins responded by reporting that the Town Council was making every effort to engage with the Police – who alone had the power to intervene over anti-social behaviour – and the Town Council would continue to apply pressure for a more effective response to these problems. He reported that the Town Council had learnt that it does not require planning permission to install CCTV cameras in the town and this would now be progressing. He added that the Town Council had written to all prospective candidates for the Police Commissioner and was disappointed by receiving only one reply. He assured the person that the Town Council shared the concerns relating to anti-social behaviour.

Cllr Collins reported that Local CIL funds were still available and that the Town Council welcomed any application that met the criteria for consideration.

8. Close of meeting:

Cllr Collins thanked all those present, especially the guest speakers and those that had submitted reports. He closed the meeting at 7:47pm.