

**Minutes of the 2022 Framlingham Annual Parish Meeting
Held on Wednesday 27th April 2022 in the United Free Church at 7:00pm**

The Chair advised that the meeting was being recorded.

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllr S Garrett, Cllr J Culemann, CCllr Burroughes, DCllr Cook and PC Simon Green.

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. 20 people were in attendance.

3. Town Council Chair's Welcome

Cllr Eastwood welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that it was good to meet in person following easing of Covid restrictions. Reflecting on the pandemic, he wished to thank everyone involved in helping the residents cope with the situation. He highlighted Gary Kitching, Alan Davidson, Gill Clare and Hour Community for their dedication and hard work. He also thanked the Town Council staff for their work over the past year.

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

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

5. Police Report:

A report had been received by the Police and was appended to the file copy of these minutes.

5. Guest Speakers:

5.1 Vivia Bamford – Framlingham Library.

Vivia began with a short History of the Library service and how today it was run as a charity, part funded by Suffolk County Council. Providing a library was a statutory duty for the County Council who would be recommissioning the service in the near future. Framlingham Library was a small library, open 38 Hours a week and mainly staffed by a single person. There was a friends' group and many volunteers who were greatly valued. Vivia explained that holding a Suffolk Library Card gave a person access to the entire reservable information held by Suffolk Libraries. More than books; films, music, and national and international news media were all available though the card. At a local level the library offers printing, copying and IT services to the community. As such it is an information hub but its activities do not end with information. Regular creative, cultural and educational events take place in the library. It also offers varied volunteering opportunities. Recently the old Court Room has been refurbished and is now an exciting space for all kinds of events. The only drawback was the access to the court room via challenging stairs.

The Chair thanked Vivia for her presentation and a member of the audience voiced their appreciation for the wonderful service the library offered the town.

5.2 Dr Ben Anderson – What does the Climate Emergency Declaration mean for Framlingham?

Ben spoke to a projected presentation, the slides of which would be appended to these minutes. He outlined the causes of Global warming and what needed to be done in terms of carbon emission to prevent the Earth's temperature rising too far. He then related this to Framlingham and demonstrated the level of carbon dioxide emissions in the town and where they came from. He illustrated ways in which these emissions could be reduced through planning requirement and other methods. What was essential was that a system change needed to happen to ensure that carbon emissions were reduced to safe levels in time. After the presentation Dr Anderson took and answered questions from the audience.

Cllr Eastwood thanked Dr Anderson for his very informative presentation.

6. Reports from other organisations

Cllr Eastwood reported that a number of reports had been submitted to the meeting, which would be appended to these minutes. From within the room, John Brassey outlined the progress of the Castle Community Rooms.

7. Public Forum

The Chair opened up the meeting for public comments.

A person wanted to know why the Police seemed unable to investigate instances of vandalism and why was the Town Council not asking what the reasons were for this. The Chair replied by stating that the Town Clerk would ask the question at the next liaison meeting.

A person asked if a notice could be put outside the public toilets alerting people to the fact that the gents were out of operation.

A person questioned how long was the Town Council going to allow the Pavilion to run at a loss and sustain the level of vandalism. The Chair replied that the toilet is now kept closed at night. A member of the audience commented that they were more than happy for the town to subsidise the Pavilion as it was a worthy resource.

The final question was relating to when the planned CCTV cameras were to be installed. The Chair replied that only that day had permission been given to mount the cameras on SCC owned lamp columns and that, as this was the final hurdle, work was expected to begin soon.

8. Close of meeting:

Cllr Eastwood thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8:15pm.