

Minutes of the Framlingham Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th August 2021 at 7.00pm

Before the meeting began, the Town Clerk was presented with a rose bush and a blackberry bush in recognition of her 20 years' service to the Town Council.

PRESENT:

Cllrs D Carter, P Collins, J Culemann, S Davis, P Dean, C Eastwood (Chair), S Garrett, M Hine, T Higham, J Jones, N Williamson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs E Coe (Town Clerk RFO), Mr J Overbury (Deputy Clerk), DCllr Cook and five members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from CCllr S Burroughes

2. Minutes of Previous meeting

FCM 21-08-05 1 Cllr Eastwood proposed to approve the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr Higham and with two abstentions due to absence all were in favour.

3. Dispensation requests received

None

4. Declarations of interest

Cllrs Davis and Higham declared a non pecuniary interest in 10.3 and signed the interest book.

5. Adjournment

The Chair proposed to adjourn the meeting which was agreed.

5.1 Police Matters

No report.

5.1.1 Report on attendance at recent Police Meetings – Town Clerk

The Town Clerk reported she had attended the Police ABS Meeting, where there were 25 attendees present. She noted that Leiston, Aldeburgh and Saxmundham were experiencing similar anti social behaviour problems in the towns but these were being addressed. Access to Community Trust were organising summer holiday activities for 8-14 year olds in the Leiston/Saxmundham areas. With regards to licensing matters the onus was on individual businesses regarding covid guidelines and the advice was to book a taxi in advance of an evening out. Police Direct had advised that the commercial vehicle unit had detected over 1,000 offences since it launched on 23rd November 2020 and this information had been circulated to members via email. The next meeting would be held on 16th September.

The Town Clerk had also attended the Quarterly Safer Neighbourhood Police meeting at which Framlingham, Leiston, Saxmundham and Friston were represented. The purpose of these informal meetings is to consider operational issues, not funding or budgets. The Police have been concentrating on the Pageant Field and Castle areas through the summer and there will be some outcomes shortly relating to recent incidents. The Inspector reiterated that reports should be made direct to the Police and can be anonymous. However, as always if a crime is in progress 999 should be used so that the Police can witness the event as it is taking place.

5.2 Report by County Councillor

A Written report had been received and circulated prior to the meeting.

5.3 Report by District Councillors

DCllr Cook reported that along with CCllr Burroughes a survey was being conducted on WIFI connectivity in village halls to allow remote meetings. Many had poor or no bandwidth and solutions were being sought. He added that the Young people task and finish CPA group had re-started and the first task was to review last year's work and then to look to the next round. The application for a Solar Farm in Parham was a large local issue and DCllr Cook would be supporting the local PCs' views as much as he could. He reported that largely due to central government grants and ESC investments there had been a surplus in the District Finances.

Cllr Hine asked whether the solar farm project in Parham had been suggested initially by the local community. The answer was that it arose out of low carbon energy initiatives.

Cllr Higham wished to draw to DCllr Cook's attention to his view that ESC were not following the Disability Discrimination Legislation when it considered planning applications and cited two recent cases where the needs of disabled people had not been catered for. He also called for DCllr Cook's help in resolving why ESC Officers did not respond to Town Council Communications. DCllr Cook replied by agreeing to speak to the head of planning

at ESC

to try and find some answers. **Cllr Eastwood also reported** that several communications from the Town Council to ESC about off-street parking had not been answered and asked for DCllr Cook's support in resolving this issue.

5.4 Report from PCC on the St Michael's Rooms (Castle Community Rooms) project

Noted

5.5 Report from Castle Community Rooms Fundraising Committee Representative – Cllr M Hine

Cllr Hine reported that there was nothing new to report

5.6 Report by Fairtrade Representative.

Cllr Hine reported that the group was moving forward cautiously due to Covid 19 restrictions.

5.7 Report by Citizens Advice Bureau Representative – Town Clerk/RFO

The Town Clerk reported that she had attended CAB AGM on the 28 July and reported on the CAB's increased activities during the Covid-19 pandemic. The CAB Annual Report was available in the office for examination.

5.8 Public Comment

A resident spoke in support of the application to create an Asset of Community Value on Victoria Mill Road that was the agenda. The representative from Hour Community spoke in support of the agenda item regarding the Town Council's support of the WHO Age Friendly Communities programme. He suggested a Town Councillor join the group. A person also spoke in support of this scheme and urged the Town Council to support it. She also asked if there had been any progress for a Tourist Information Service in the Town Council Offices.

A Person spoke in opposition to the planning application by Leaperland at Victoria Mill Road.

Simon thanked the person for their comments and explained the Town Council is pressing for ESC to decide the case at committee. Cllr Garrett also asked if the person would like to join the Neighbourhood Plan Review Group, Cllr Jones echoed this. Cllr Higham said that the Town Council had made a strong objection to the application and reported that ESC were working on inaccurate plans – in particular concerning the width of the road.

6. Reconvene. The Chair reconvened the meeting.

7. Correspondence

7.1 The Lanman Museum:

Letter asking if the Town Council would like to nominate a Trustee

Cllr Garrett gave greater detail to the background of the request. The Chair asked if any Councillor would like to be nominated. No one came forward and the request will be widened to the greater community. Cllr Higham expressed his willingness to stand if no other volunteer came forward.

7.2 HOUR Community:

Email requesting that the Town Council endorse the World Health Organisations initiative on Age Friendly Communities.

Councillors spoke in support of this consideration.

FCM 21-08-05 2 Cllr Garret proposed that the Town Council endorse the World Health Organisations initiative on Age Friendly Communities which was seconded by Cllr Hine with all in favour.

8. Attendance at events, conferences and training:

None

9. Covid Response:

9.1 Covid Response Team update:

Cllr Hine reported a local spike in cases was possibly due to two local events. The old signage had been removed and new signs would be installed on the 18th August

9.2 To adopt the Framlingham Town Council Emergency Plan

FCM 21-08-05 3 Cllr Eastwood proposed that the Town Council adopt the Framlingham Town Council Emergency Plan which was seconded by Cllr Hine with all in favour.

9.3 To adopt the Framlingham Town Council Emergency Volunteer Handbook

FCM 21-08-05 4 Cllr Eastwood proposed that the Town Council adopt the Framlingham Town Council Emergency Volunteer Handbook which was seconded by Cllr Higham with all in favour.

9.4 To retrospectively approve the cost of £119 from Leiston Press for 10x A4 and 4xA1 Correx Covid-19 Boards using the Covid-EMR 348

FCM 21-08-05 5 Cllr Eastwood proposed to retrospectively approve the cost of £119 from Leiston Press for 10x A4 and 4xA1 Correx Covid-19 Boards using the Covid-EMR 348, which was seconded by Cllr Davis with all in favour.

10. Planning and Environment Committee:

10.1 Planning decisions received prior to the meeting:

10.1.1 DC/21/0561/FUL

To re-build ticket office in brick as an anti arson ticket office with wheelchair access. Ticket office is required to meet ground rules of league competition. Roof will be supported on a steel ridge beam with brick gable walls.

Planning Permission Granted (revised application with minor amendments) FTC Supported

10.1.2 DC/21/1911/FUL

Conversion of existing garage to home studio, changes to fenestration and construction of pitched roof

6 Victoria Mill Road Framlingham Suffolk IP13 9EG

FTC Supported ESC granted Planning Permission

10.1.3 DC/21/2194/FUL

For the demolition of an existing garage and for the erection of a new home office and workshop

Lincolns Meadow Brook Lane Framlingham Suffolk IP13 9RH

FTC Supported ESC Granted planning permission

10.2 Planning Applications received prior to the meeting:

10.2.1 DC/21/3484/FUL

Construction of a 6m rear extension single storey, including demolition of existing conservatory

30 Pembroke Road Framlingham Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 9HA

FCM 21-08-05 6 Cllr Garrett proposed to support this application which was seconded by Cllr Collins with all in favour.

10.3 To approve the Committee's recommendation that the grassed areas along Victoria Mill Road identified and supported by a submission from residents be nominated as an Asset of Community Value

FCM 21-08-05 7 Cllr Garrett proposed to approve the recommendation that FTC submits to ESC that the grassed areas along Victoria Mill Road identified and supported by a submission from residents be nominated as an Asset of Community Value which was seconded by Cllr Higham and with one abstention all were in favour.

10.4 To approve the committee's recommendation to nominate 10 Church Street and The Fens for the East Suffolk Council Quality of Place Awards

It was agreed to nominate 10c Church Street in the Community Category as well as the build environment. The application would be reviewed before submission.

FCM 21-08-05 8 Cllr Garrett proposed to submit an application for a quality of place award for 10c Church street which was seconded by Cllr Davis with all in favour.

FCM 21-08-05 9 Cllr Garrett proposed to submit an application for a quality of place award for the Fens in the Community and Green Space category once the application had been reviewed which was seconded by Cllr Collins with all in favour.

10.5 Matters of report and items of information only:

Cllr Garrett reported that the Environment advisory Group had attracted volunteers from the Community and would hopefully meet before the end of the month

Cllr Garrett reported that the PAE Committee were exploring the potential for a local 'Blue Plaque' scheme for Framlingham. Cllr Jones noted that this could also put forward to the People and Places project for funding support.

11. Communication, Events and Partnerships Committee:

11.1 FCM 21-08-05 10 Cllr Hine proposed to approve that the Christmas tree cost up to £2,885 be met by Budget 2205, 2208 and 2110 with the remainder from EMR 327 (Christmas) which was seconded by Cllr Jones with all in favour.

11.2 FCM 21-08-05 11 Cllr Hine proposed to approve to use the Covid EMR 348 up to £2,000 for the Christmas Event 2021 which was seconded by Cllr Jones with all in favour.

11.3 Matters of report and items of information only

Cllr Hine reported that ESC had agreed to extend subsidising the free town WIFI scheme up to a further 4 years

Cllr Hine reported that plans had begun to prepare for the HM Queen's platinum jubilee event next year.

12. Highways, Rights of Way and Parking Committee:

12.1 Matters of report and items of information only:

Cllr Eastwood reported that the recent Rights of way walk was very successful with a record 22 people and 7 dogs taking part. The next walk was planned for 2nd October.

Cllr Eastwood reported that CCllr Burroughes had written that day calling for three Councillors to attend a speed and safety summit.

13. Development and Strategic Planning Committee:

13.1 FCM 21-08-05 12 Cllr Jones proposed to approve the Committee's recommendation to accept the revised DSP Terms of Reference which was seconded by Cllr Garrett with all in favour.

13.2 Matters of report and items of information only:

Cllr Jones reported that the Town Council was actively working with the FBA on the People and Places project. The next meeting was to be on 17th August

13.2.1 Skills and Community Engagement Audit

Cllr Jones reported that a form has been created and will be sent to all Cllrs to voluntarily complete.

14. Lands and Markets Committee:

14.1 FCM 21-08-05 13 Cllr Collins proposed to approve the committee's recommendation to accept the quotation of £900 from the G&P Contractor (no increase since 2011) to carry out the annual summer cut and rake of the wildflower area of the cemetery, which was seconded by Cllr Carter with all in favour.

14.2 To consider communication relating to the town clock chiming at night

Cllr Collins explained that communication had been received from a resident of Great Glemham who owns a holiday rental property in Market Hill, which asked that the Town Clock be silenced between the hours of midnight and 6am. Cllr Collins noted that the Town Council had taken advice from the volunteer clock expert who confirmed there is no mechanism on the clock to achieve a reduced chiming period.

FCM 21-08-05 14 Cllr Collins proposed that the Town Council take no action to reduce the hours the clock chimed which was seconded by Cllr Jones with all in favour.

14.3 Matters of report and items of information only

14.3.1 Pageant Field Open Day – Sunday 29th August 2pm – 4pm

Cllr Collins outlined the afternoon's activities. He also reported that a replacement playhouse has been ordered, the electrical boxes would be repaired and that Norse had been asked to mow the grass.

15. Framlingham Neighbourhood Plan Review Committee:

15.1 To report on meeting with Framlingham Medical Practice

Cllr Jones reported that the local primary health care is under review and a request made that FTC be involved. Cllr Hine reported on comments on social media and that a statement had been issued by the medical practice to counter these and incorrect reports in EADT.

15.2 Matters of report and items of information only

Cllr Jones reported that the inaugural meeting of the NP Review group had been held on 3rd August and the process to review to NP had begun. The next meeting would be on September 1st and a drop in event was being planned.

Cllr Carter reported anecdotal evidence of problems accessing medical help at the practice during Covid restrictions and suggested this subject be a regular agenda item and that the Town Council set up regular meetings with the practice.

16. Finance and HR Committee:

16.1 Cllr Carter confirmed BACS payments approved at the July meeting had been paid as agreed and the bank print out verified and signed by two Councillors. A copy of the list of current invoices had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting and would be published on the website when approved.

16.2 FCM 21-08-05 15 Cllr Carter proposed to approve the payment of current invoices which was seconded by Cllr Garrett with all in favour.

16.3 Cllr Carter reported that the Town Clerk/RFO had circulated a copy of the balances of all bank accounts, to all Councillors prior to the meeting and the details were noted.

16.4 Matters of report and items of information only

Cllr Carter reported that the new HR sub-committee would have its first meeting on Thursday 16th September at 7pm.

17. Matters of Report or Items for the next Agenda only:

Cllr Higham reported that ESC Planning had advised that the planning application from Leaperland for Victoria Mill Road was 'highly likely' to be determined by Committee rather than by an officer.

18. Date and time of the next Full Council Meeting

Thursday 2nd September 2021 at 7.00pm – St Michaels Rooms, Church Street

The meeting closed at 21:18

