

Minutes of the Framlingham Town Council Meeting – Wednesday 3rd August at 7.00pm

Present:

Cllrs Eastwood (Chair), Culemann, Jones, Hine, Dean, Bennett, Seinet, Garrett and Williamson

In Attendance:

Mrs EA Coe (Town Clerk/RFO), James Overbury (Deputy Clerk) and seven members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from
Cllr Higham
Cllr Benbow
CClr Burroughes
DCllr Cook

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Hine declared an interest in 13.1 and 13.2 (Castle Community Rooms)
The interest was categorised as an 'other registerable interest'

3. Dispensation requests

The Town Clerk advised that Dispensation requests should properly be submitted in time to be circulated with the agenda.

She noted that Dispensations can be considered under the LGA Code for any of the three types of interest (DPI, ORI or Non-registerable interests NRI) but only in the circumstances specified in s.33 of the Localism Act 2011. if it is in the interests of people in the area, or if considered 'otherwise appropriate'. She also noted that Dispensations should only be granted in exceptional circumstances and not as a matter of course.

The Town Clerk added that in her view a Dispensation should not be granted in this instance as the reasons for the request did not meet the above criteria.

Cllr Eastwood shared the concerns of some members on whether a declaration of interest was necessary but noted that Cllr Hine had declared an interest and had submitted a dispensation request for the Castle Community Rooms and therefore this should be considered and Cllr Eastwood proposed a motion.

FCM 2022-08-03 1 Cllr Eastwood proposed to grant Cllr Hine a dispensation regarding the funding and construction of the Castle Community Rooms, which was seconded by Cllr

Bennett and with 6 in favour and three abstentions the motion was carried. The dispensation would remain in force until the next election in 2023.

4. Minutes of Previous meeting

Cllr Garrett alerted the Council to item 3.1.1 in the minutes where the name of a seconder had been omitted. It was agreed to amend the minutes by deleting the words 'which was seconded by'.

FCM 2022-08-03 2 Cllr Eastwood proposed, with the amendment above, to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr Garrett with all in favour.

5. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting for the following agenda items.

5.1 Police Matters

5.1.1 Report on attendance at recent Police Meetings

No report or meetings.

5.2 Report by County Councillor

No report received.

5.3 Report by District Councillors

No reports received.

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

A representative from the PCC added to the written report received with updates on the project.

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

No further report.

5.6 Report by Fairtrade Representative – Cllr M Hine

Cllr Hine reported on her attendance at the Fair Trade AGM and said that further details regarding the future would be announced in due course.

5.7 Report by Framlingham Business Association representative – Cllr J Jones

No report.

5.8 Public Comment

Three people spoke in opposition to the funding of the CCR project, the Councillors' interests and the breakdown of the monies spent.

Cllr Jones responded to some of these comments.

6. Reconvene:

The Chair Reconvened the meeting.

7. Correspondence

None.

8. Attendance at events, conferences and training:

None.

9. Covid Response Team:

A recent update had been circulated, but the officially recorded statistics were recognised to be an under estimate.

10. Planning and Environment Committee:

10.1 Planning decisions received prior to the meeting:

None.

10.2 Planning Applications and any others received prior to the meeting:

10.2.1 DC/22/2632/FUL - Holly Tree Cottage 37 Saxmundham Road IP13 9BY

Proposed two-storey extension to create an open plan kitchen and dining area and provide a master bedroom on the first floor, with proposed single storey entrance porch and single storey lean-to extension on the rear elevation of No.37 Saxmundham Road.

FCM 2022-08-03 3 Cllr Garrett proposed to support this application which was seconded by Cllr Bennett with all in favour.

10.2.2 DC/22/2524/FUL - The Lodge Rookery Farm Saxmundham Road IP13 9PH Extension to form annexe

FCM 2022-08-03 4 Cllr Garrett proposed to support this application which was seconded by Cllr Dean with all in favour.

It was agreed to add to the next PAE agenda the better use of Supplementary Planning Guidance documents.

10.3 Matters of report and items of information only.

Cllr Garrett reported that a survey of ESC's planning performance conducted by SALC had been circulated to members of the planning committee and asked they give him his views before the end of the following week.

Cllr Hine reported that she welcomed the use of hyperlinks to the ESC planning portal in information circulated regarding planning applications.

11. Communication, Events and Partnerships Committee:

11.1 FCM 2022-08-03 5 Cllr Hine proposed to approve the committee's recommendation to accept the quotation of £19,267.00 plus vat from Homeview Surveillance Ltd for town centre CCTV installation from EMR 358, which was seconded by Cllr Williamson and with one abstention all were in favour and the motion was carried.

11.2 Matters of report and items of information only

Cllr Hine reported she would be on a stall on the Market at the weekend selling Jubilee mugs, tea towels and the 2023 Calendar.

12. Highways, Rights of Way and Parking Committee:

12.1.Matters of report and items of information only:

Cllr Eastwood reported that the on street parking changes were now subject to a review by ESC and any changes would now not be in force before April 2023.

He added that the LED replacement for the sodium street lights was underway with a number already converted.

He concluded by reporting that the parking bay lines on Market Hill would be repainted. The Deputy Clerk advised that there had met the ESC Parking Manager that day and there were possible changes to design that may be necessary.

13.Strategy and Development Committee:

13.1 To approve the committee's recommendation that the Town Council fund the Castle Community Rooms Project with an additional £100,000 from local CIL.

Before a motion was proposed, Cllr Jones outlined the history of the project. Cllr Williamson requested some financial and contractual details regarding the project. Cllr Jones was unable to answer and suggested the PCC representative would be able to answer.

Cllr Eastwood adjourned the meeting to allow questions to be put to the PCC representative and for them to answer.

The PCC representative clarified the details and Cllr Eastwood reconvened the meeting.

Cllr Garrett wished to correct and challenge some public comments on social media regarding the facts of the process, but also added that he felt the Town Council should have consulted the public in a more effective fashion.

Cllr Jones proposed the following amendment to the proposal:

“Framlingham Town Council confirms its decision to fund the castle community rooms project with an additional £100,000 from local CIL following legal advice given by Counsel which was seconded by Cllr Eastwood.” There were no further amendments proposed.

FCM 2022-08-03 6 Cllr Jones proposed that Framlingham Town Council confirms its decision to fund the castle community rooms project with an additional £100,000 from local CIL following legal advice given by Counsel, which was seconded by Cllr Eastwood, and with six votes in favour, one abstention and two against the motion was carried.

13.2 Budgetary and legal implications of any further contract or agreement and timescales for the CCR project.

Cllr Jones outlined the issues and the action required.

FCM 2022-08-03 7 Cllr Jones proposed to spend up to £1,500.00 on legal fees funded through local CIL to draft a relevant agreement for the grant to the PCC which was seconded by Cllr Culemann and with one abstention all were in favour.

13.3 Matters of report and items of information only:

Cllr Jones reported that the review of the Strategic Plan had been circulated to all Councillors and Staff. He reminded the meeting that the deadline was September 2nd and urged everyone to look at the review and make as many comments as possible.

14. Lands and Markets Committee:

14.1 FCM 2022-08-03 8 Cllr Culemann proposed to approve the committee's recommendation to accept the cost of £900 for the annual summer cut and rake of the cemetery wildflower area at £900 (G&P Contract- same cost since 2011), from Budget 1617, to be carried out during August, which was seconded by Cllr Bennett with all in Favour.

14.2 FCM 2022-08-03 – 9 Cllr Culemann proposed to approve the committee's recommendation to accept the quotation from Eastwood Tree Services Ltd for the felling of 4 x Lime trees in the Churchyard, including grinding the stumps and arranging a road closure and parking suspension along Church Street and other necessary highway licences as required with all tree waste removed from site and recycled for biomass at a total cost of £7,950.00 from Budget 1613 with the shortfall of £1,185.00 from EMR 321, which was seconded by Cllr Bennett and all were in favour.

14.3 FCM 2022-08-03 – 10 Cllr Culemann proposed to approve the committee's recommendation to accept the quotation from Suffolk Punch Construction of up to £5,500 (to allow for any increase in the cost materials), from EMR 351, for the work required to the Pageant Field Pavilion roof, and with one abstention all were in favour.

14.4 Matters of report and items of information only:

None.

15. Finance and HR Committee:

15.1 Cllr Eastwood 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.

15.2 FCM 2022-08-03 – 11 Cllr Eastwood proposed to approve the payment of current invoices, which was seconded by Cllr Bennett and with one abstention all were in favour.

15.3 Cllr Eastwood 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.

15.4 Matters of report and items of information only:

None.

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

Cllr Hine reported that the town Council was losing sales due to it not having a functioning card reader and requested this issue be placed on the Finance Committee's agenda.

Cllr Culemann reported that he had circulated his report on the Sir Robert Hitcham's Trust.

17. Date and time of the next Full Council Meeting:

Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 7.00pm – United Free Church, Riverside, Framlingham

The meeting concluded at 8:36pm