

Framlingham Town Council
Minutes of the Lands and Markets Committee Meeting held in the Town Council
Meeting Room, 10c Church Street on Wednesday 19th January 2022 at 7pm

All documents relating to this meeting were made available to Councillors (Cllrs) in advance

1. APOLOGIES:

None, all present.

2. Present:

Cllr D Carter, Cllr P Collins (Chair), Cllr J Culemann and Cllr C Eastwood and Cllr T Higham

3. In attendance:

Eileen A Coe (Town Clerk/RFO)

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllr Culemann declared a personal interest in item 8.1.2 and 8.1.3 and signed the Interest Book.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

61151221 Cllr Collins proposed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15th December 2021 (circulated in draft form prior to the meeting), be approved as an accurate record, with one typographical amendment, which was seconded by Cllr Higham with all in favour.

Cllr Collins signed the file copy of the minutes.

7. Cemetery:

No business.

8. Trees:

8.1 Churchyard Tree Work and Inspection report:

8.1.1 Haydon's Arboricultural Consultants – Report circulated to committee members. Following receipt of the report and due to the urgent nature of the recommendation to fell two lime trees the Town Clerk had submitted an application to East Suffolk Council and the Archdeacon. A meeting had been arranged by the DAC Secretary on 26th January and the Town Clerk/RFO and Cllr Collins would attend and report back to the next meeting.

The Town Clerk reported that the agreed tree work would be carried out within the next two weeks and she had requested a quotation to fell the two lime trees in order that the committee could expedite this matter.

8.1.2 East Suffolk Council – application to fell T003 and T006 due to advanced decay fungus in the base of both Lime trees. Trees identified as being in a dangerous condition in

a high risk area.

The Town Clerk noted that the acknowledgement to the application as above had been received and if no objections were received then work could be carried out after 8th February.

8.1.3 St Michael's PCC/Diocese/Archdeacon – application as above

It was noted that a meeting had been arranged for 26th January and the Town Clerk/RFO and Cllr Collins would attend.

There followed some discussion on the maintenance of the trees and the Church Street wall. It was noted that both the wall and the trees in the Churchyard are owned by the Church, and the Town Council maintains the trees but not the wall which is part of a quinquennial inspection carried out by the Church. As the Church owns the trees permission has to be obtained from the Archdeacon before any work can be carried out either under List B or a Faculty – which needs an advertising period and further approval from the Archdeacon as well as East Suffolk Council as the trees are within the Conservation Area.

It was agreed for the Town Clerk to advise the Town Council's insurance company of the demise of the wall and the close proximity of the lime trees, both owned by the Church but noting that the maintenance of the trees is carried out by the Town Council.

8.2 Walnut tree:

Cllr Eastwood reported that he had investigated and the tree is too heavy and large to move without causing damage to both the tree and the house as there is no access to the garden except through the house. It was felt that if the owner could make arrangements for the tree to be collected from the pavement, then arrangements could be made to collect it and transport it to the Fens for planting.

Cllr Collins proposed to thank the resident for the kind offer and if the above arrangements could be made then the tree could be re-located which was seconded by Cllr Higham with all in favour.

8.3 To consider any Tree Work Applications received prior to the meeting:

8.3.1 DC/21/5759/TCA – St Michael's Churchyard – To fell Limes T003 and T006 due to advanced decay fungus in the base of both Lime trees. Trees identified as being in a dangerous condition in a high risk area.

It was agreed to Support the application.

8.3.2 DC/22/0035/TPO – 17 Warene Close – T1 Ash crown reduction, reducing the height and spread of the tree by 2 – 2.5 meters over the garden and bend to shape.

It was agreed to Support the application.

8.3.3 DC/22/0028/TCA – The Mere, New Road – White Willows on west side of Mere T6797,6798,6802,6801,6800 – re-pollard to reduce risk of tree collapse because of varying degrees of main stem decay. T6824 – crown reduce by 2-3 m because of excessive weight bias over road.

It was agreed to Support the application.

8.3.4 DC/22/0024/TCA – Framlingham College, College Road - Oak (College tree number 6209) - upper canopy dieback, north side main limb almost dead, Ganoderma fungus at base. Remove northern dying limb and other deadwood, crown reduce by 2-3m.

Ash (College tree number 0920) - deep decayed cavity on north side of stem, main stem bark decline and white rot; tree to be felled.

Oak (College tree number 6207) - remove deadwood.

Oak (College tree number 6210) - remove deadwood.

It was agreed to Support the application.

8.4 Hawthorns for Cemetery and Flowering Cherry for Pageant Field:

It was noted that three flowering hawthorns had been delivered and planted in the Cemetery by the G&P Contractor as previously agreed, with donations for two along with plaques received.

It was noted that the flowering cherry to commemorate HM Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee had also been delivered and planted in the Pageant Field by the G&P Contractor as instructed.

9. Pageant Field:

9.1 Pageant Field Inspection Reports: To note Inspection Reports and update on actions by G&P Contractor:

Fido Dog Bin relocated at Castle Meadow

Pavilion Roof repaired

Cllr Higham had removed the Commemorative Sign from the Oak tree in Victoria Mill Road which had been repaired and re-installed by the G&P Contractor.

9.2 Pavilion:

9.3.1 Caretaker/Cleaner Contract and advertising

Cllr Collins noted that a draft contract had been circulated to members and this was considered along with a quotation for toilet cleaning from SCN.

Cllr Collins agreed to amend the document and the Town Clerk/RFO would clarify the quotation with SCN.

It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

9.3.2 Review of Pavilion hire charges to become effective 1st April 2022:

The Town Clerk/RFO advised that the costs associated with the Pavilion were not being covered by the hire fees so the facility was currently running at a loss. She suggested a separate hire fee for one-off uses such as children's parties etc which are normally held on a Saturday or Sunday, in order to cover the costs of electricity, cleaning and opening, closing the facility as well as administration.

Block bookings could remain the same in order to attract regular usage. She noted there was no Wifi coverage at the moment which would be beneficial in attracting new users.

It was agreed for the Town Clerk to investigate Wifi coverage with Frambroadband and the committee would consider the hire fees again at the next meeting.

CCTV:

To consider quotations for replacement CCTV cameras and re-siting of existing equipment from the cabinet in the pole to the Pavilion Storeroom along with a cost for annual service and repairs budgeting purposes from:

Westrock CCTV
Homeview CCTV

The documents had been circulated to members and there were several questions raised.

It was agreed for the Town Clerk to investigate this further and provide the information required in time for the next meeting

10. Skate-Park:

No business.

11. The Fens:

11.1 New Memorial seat:

The Town Clerk reported that the donated seat had been ordered and delivery was awaited.

11.2 To report on meeting with Suffolk Wildlife Trust:

Cllr Collins reported that he and the Town Clerk had met with the SWT Community Wildlife Advisor who agreed that the Fens is a well-used and much loved green space in the town and the current management regime is going well. She noted that it can take time for the restoration process to reap rewards and small improvements over a long timeframe can sometimes be difficult to perceive.

She suggested that the Friends of the Fens get some biological records over the growing season. This will offer a good way of public engagement as well as provide some baseline data by which to monitor the effects of management going forward. She noted that there are many forms wildlife recording can take but can be more widely beneficial if lodged with Suffolk Biological Records either directly or through i-Record. The i-record platform allows for groups to set up their own space for collective records and has a process for verification. There is also an app-based platform i-naturalist and she provided some links for the Friends of the Fens to use.

Fixed point photography can help to identify small changes over time and provide a great archive for a community group. For extra 'buy-in', effort could be made around the Big Butterfly Count which runs from the middle of July to the first week in August. Likewise, moth night runs from 19th – 21st May this year.

SWT provides a resource kit with further ideas for community engagement as part of their Team Wilder initiative. Team Wilder aims to harness the collective energy and talents of our county by bringing everyone together into a movement for nature's recovery. Individuals and groups can sign up to receive updates or to volunteer as a Wilder Champion.

She also noted that thistles are a valuable plant for wildlife, some insects feed on foliage, pollinators on the nectar source and birds on the seed heads and are usually less of a problem in wet meadows, so the problem may resolve itself in a wet year. She advised that if there are swathes of spear or creeping thistle then they can be controlled by cutting

just before the flower bud turns purple, as this is when the maximum reserves from the thistle roots are being used to produce seed. Remove cuttings to prevent seed ripening. For spear thistles only, digging out the root or destroying the rosette can work. Remember though, check what species of thistle you have first, most thistles species are not a nuisance, and all are a valuable plant for wildlife so only seek to control if they are becoming dominant.

She also suggested in future years the committee may like to consider the application of green hay from the Cemetery summer cut and Natural England provide a guidance sheet in relation to this.

It was agreed for the Town Clerk to circulate the information as above to committee members and the Friends of the Fens.

11.3 Friends of the Fens:

It was agreed for the Town Clerk to contact the members (details provided by the DTC) to ask if they would be willing to undertake any of the suggested advice from SWT and to see if the DTC would like to lead on these initiatives.

11.4 'Talking bench' Application for funding from East Suffolk Community Partnership:

It was noted that the Town Clerk had submitted an application via DCllr Cook for two wooden 'Chat Benches' for the Fens.

12. Churchyard Maintenance:

12.1 Town Clock:

12.1.1 Annual Service – a date was still awaited.

13. Riverside:

Response from Co-op Retail on management of the river – none to date

14. Allotments:

No business

15. Jeaffresons Well:

No business

16. Correspondence:

16.1 Steve Calver:

Request to use the Market Hill parking area for Sausage Fest on either 9th or 16th October 2022.

It was agreed to approve the request subject to satisfactory insurance being obtained for any damage to the electrical points and surface of the parking area owned by the Town Council. It was also agreed to recommend the promotion and use of sustainable packaging and vegan/vegetarian options locally sourced.

16.2 Fram Flyers:

Request for access to the Pageant Field for the annual Friday 5 running race to be held on

Friday 10th June 2022.

Agreed.

17. Markets:

To consider the following Market Application:

17.1 Planet Oeuf – Saturday Market Application

Planet oeuf scotch eggs – various flavours, sausage rolls and sourdough breads prepared at Halesworth premises.

The Town Clerk/RFO advised that this would duplicate goods already provided by two regular traders on the Saturday Market and may cause some upset.

Cllr Higham noted that the products were completely different to what was currently offered as there was a variety of different flavours including vegetarian options. There followed some further discussion.

Cllr Collins proposed to approve the application which was seconded by Cllr Higham and with 2 abstentions the motion was approved with 3 in favour and 2 abstentions.

17.2 Market Electricity:

It was noted that the quarterly inspection had been carried out in December and the report had been circulated to members and was noted as satisfactory.

18. Review of Committee's Terms of Reference:

Cllr Collins proposed one minor amendment which was agreed.

19. Action Plan:

19.1 Updates:

Completed and all agreed.

19.2 Projects for Local CIL funding:

None.

20. Matters of Report or Items for next agenda:

None

21. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 7.00pm.

Meeting Closed 20.54pm