

**DRAFT Minutes of the Framlingham Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 2nd
September 2021 at 7.00pm in St Michael's Rooms.**

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

In Attendance: Mrs E Coe (Town Clerk RFO) Mr J Overbury (Deputy Clerk) CCllr Burroughes and seven members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from DCllr Cook.

2. Minutes of Previous meeting

21-09-02 1 Cllrs Carter and Higham suggested two minor amendments. With these amendments Cllr Eastwood proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true record, which was seconded by Cllr Carter with all in favour.

3. Dispensation requests received

None.

4. Declarations of interest

None.

5. Adjournment The Chair proposed to adjourn the meeting which was agreed.

5.1 Police Matters

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

5.1.1 Report on attendance at recent Police Meetings – Town Clerk

No meeting had been held during August.

Cllr Carter asked if the meeting had been arranged with the Police Inspector. The Town Clerk reported that the next quarterly meeting had been arranged for 16 September,

5.2 Report by County Councillor

CCllr Burroughes referred to the situation in Afghanistan and the refugees in the UK. He was aware that there was a feeling from the public to help these people and urged people to contact the relevant specialist charities who are in the best place to support them, rather than the County or District Councils.

Turning to the Speed and Safety Summit he is organising, he noted that he was to attend the Town Council Highways, Rights of way and Parking Committee and hoped that action would follow to address the concerns.

Cllr Burroughes reported that the County Council had created a 'Carbon Budget' to help address the climate emergency. Cllr Collins asked what the purpose of fixing a solar panel on a fire engine and Cllr Burroughes would ask the relevant officer at County to explain the reason.

Cllr Jones asked if the County would be supporting Parishes financially with the climate emergency and Cllr Burroughes replied that he was certain that money would be available and urged the Town Council to create realistic plans which could attract funding.

Cllr Garrett asked if there was any central government funding for the Afghanistan refugee crisis and Cllr Burroughes replied that there would be some funding as Ipswich was a designated town to accept and support refugees, but also felt that the county and districts would have to fund some of these activities themselves.

Cllr Carter asked if CCllr Burroughes was involved in the recent report by the BBC regarding Climate Change and where Suffolk was placed regarding the issues. CCllr Burroughes replied that he could not comment on the BBC report but assured the meeting that the County was in a very good place to tackle climate change.

Cllr Higham noted that the mention of solar panels was welcome in CCllr Burroughes report and hoped that both the Environment Committee and the Communication Committee would look at how best to exploit any opportunity.

5.3 Report by District Councillors

No report had been received prior to the meeting. Cllr Jones asked if both District Councillors had been invited to the meeting. The Town Clerk reported that both had been invited to the meeting but only one apology had been received.

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

Cllr Eastwood reported that he had learned that the design and construction was being planned.

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

Cllr Hine reported that there was nothing to report this month. Cllr Jones felt the need to understand how the funding gap was to be met and Cllr Hine reported that details of this would be ready by the October Full Council meeting.

5.6 Report by Fairtrade Representative – Cllr M Hine

No report

5.7 Public Comment

One resident commented that cars were being parked legally but on occasion blocked the view of the road. She also felt that a number of 'green' initiatives by the district were disappointing as they involved supplying new plastic containers such as bins rather than reusing existing ones. The person pointed to a number of issues where she felt the Town Council was at fault and was spending money unnecessarily, and was not communicating fully with the public over aspects of anti-social behaviour. She also felt that all voluntary acts in the town should be recognised and thanked publicly by the Town Council, regardless of whether these had been supported by the Town Council. She concluded by asking when the 30-year agreement with the PCC regarding the use of St Michael's rooms began. Cllr Eastwood replied on a number of points where he had the information to hand, and would look to find answers for the other issues. Cllr Jones was able to confirm the agreement with the PCC began from the moment of funding.

Five people spoke in opposition to the planning application for the old Assembly Rooms with regard to noise, parking and operating hours. Two people representing the applicant presented their view and the history of the project

A person noted that she was disappointed not to learn of the Town Council's consideration for a Tourist Information Service from the Town Council. Cllr Eastwood responded that this was on the CEP agenda. The person also asked why all papers associated with Town Council Meetings were not available. Cllr Hine reported that this should be addressed when the new website was in operation.

The representative from Hour Community was delighted to report that both they and the Town Council were members of the UK network of age friendly communities. He was very pleased that Cllr Williamson had volunteered to help. He suggested that the Town Council contact CCllr Mallinder with regard to the climate emergency.

6. Reconvene.

The Chair Reconvened the meeting.

7. Correspondence

None.

8. Attendance at events, conferences and training:

None.

9. Covid Response:

9.1 Covid Response Team update:

Cllr Hine reported that the team had not met in August. The Deputy Clerk reported that he had written to 150 Covid Volunteers asking if they wished to continue volunteering and reported that so far most of those that had responded were willing to continue and to offer their services for other volunteering activities in the town.

10. Planning and Environment Committee:

10.1 Planning decisions received prior to the meeting:

10.1.1 DC/21/2901/FUL 14 Saxtead Road Framlingham IP13 9HE

Removal of existing single storey rear extension. Construction of two storey rear extension, front porch and detached garage

ESC approved planning permission FTC supported

Noted.

10.1.2 DC/21/2759/FUL

Removal of existing menage & construct new implement storage building for use with equipment for parkland wooded areas & vineyards

Broadwater Woodbridge Road Framlingham Suffolk IP13 9LL

FTC Supported ESC granted planning permission

Noted.

10.2 Planning Applications received prior to the meeting:

10.2.1 DC/21/3737/FUL The Theatre , 10B Church Street, Framlingham, IP13 9BH

Alterations to residential flat and a new external stair and platform lift access to flat. Reduction to residential area within the existing theatre to form new studio, a new kitchenette, an enclosed staircase, new W.Cs, and a new event room within the floorspace of the current retail unit and front of the flat. Internal walls to form new mezzanine studio/office at west end. Single storey extension of the flat into enclosed yard at east end.

The issue of whether Town Councillors had a declarable interest in this application by virtue of the applicant being the Town Council's landlord was discussed. The Deputy Clerk outlined the rules around interests and it was agreed to note in the Town Council's response to the consultation the fact that the applicant was the landlord for the Town Council's Office.

The application was discussed at length and a further period of suspension was agreed to allow more comment by the public present.

Cllr Garrett proposed a resolution to support the application with conditions around noise, parking and opening hours but this was not seconded.

21-09-02 2 Cllr Jones proposed that this application be deferred to the next Planning and Environment Committee which was seconded by Cllr Williamson and with 7 votes in favour and 4 against the motion was carried.

10.3 Matters of report and items of information only:

10/3/1 DC/20/3326/OUT

Cllr Garrett reported that the application on Victoria Mill Road had been added to with a revised Flood Risk assessment from SCC and further comments from SCC Highways. It was agreed that Cllr Higham and Cllr Garrett would draft a reply.

10.3.2 DC/21/1985/FUL

Cllr Garrett recounted the draft response to the amended application which was agreed to be submitted.

10.3.3 Cllr Garrett reported that Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council had contacted Framlingham Town Council for support with its concerns regarding the referral process operated by ESC. The Town Council had supported these efforts and Cllr Garrett would attend a Zoom meeting arranged by SALC on the matter.

10.3.4 Environmental Advisory Group

Cllr Garrett reported that this had held its first meeting and Cllr Davis reported on the substance of the meeting.,

11. Communication, Events and Partnerships Committee:

11.1 Matters of report and items of information only

11.1.1 Events Sub Committee

Cllr Hine reported volunteers had been recruited and its first meeting would be on 13th September

11.1.2 Christmas celebration

Cllr Hine reported that plans were progressing and that a 25' tree had been ordered. The group organising the Double Street Advent Calendars would be offered support if required.

11.1.3 New Website.

The working group was working up the brief to the new contractor. It was also investigating how the Town Council could use social media.

12. Highways, Rights of Way and Parking Committee:

12.1 Matters of report and items of information only:

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None

13. Development and Strategic Planning Committee:

13.1 Matters of report and items of information only:

Cllr Jones reported that ESC had been met informally regarding the People and Places meeting and that a further meeting was being planned to include the FBA.

14. Lands and Markets Committee:

14.1 Matters of report and items of information only

Cllr Collins reported that there had been an open day last weekend which was well attended. FAYAP was organising a Skate Jam event on the Pageant Field for 25th September.

15. Framlingham Neighbourhood Plan Review Committee:

15.1 Matters of report and items of information only

Cllr Jones reported that the first meeting had been cancelled due to lack of volunteers. Unless more volunteers could be attracted then it was likely the approach to the review of the NP would have to be considered. Cllr Jones noted that 12 volunteers were required. Cllr Higham reported that he had received reports from residents that they had little confidence in Neighbourhood Plans and this could be a reason for the lack of interest. It was agreed to look at how to sell the concept better to attract more volunteers.

16. Finance and HR Committee:

16.1 Cllr Carter confirmed BACS payments approved at the August 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 21-09-03 3 Cllr Carter proposed to approve the payment of current invoices which was seconded by Cllr Jones 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

None.

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

None.

18. Date and time of the next Full Council Meeting

Thursday 7th October 2021 at 7.00pm – St Michaels Rooms, Church Street Framlingham

The meeting concluded at 9:27pm