

**Minutes of Framlingham Town Council Strategic Planning Committee
held via Zoom on Wednesday 13th January 2021 at 7.00pm**

All documents relevant for this meeting have been circulated to Councillors (Cllr) in advance

1.APOLOGIES:

None, all present

2 Present:

Cllrs C Eastwood, S Garrett, M Hine, J Jones (Chair), G Kitching, P Wraight.

3 In attendance:

Eileen Coe (Town Clerk/RFO) and seven members of the public (Nick Corke -HOUR Community/Mills Charity) and six representatives of the Scout & Guide Groups

4. Declarations of interest:

Cllr Wraight pecuniary interest in Agenda item 7.2 and the Interest Book would be signed on her behalf

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

5113121 Cllr Jones proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th December be approved as an accurate record, which was seconded by Cllr Wraight and with one abstention due to absence all were in favour.

6113121 The Chair proposed an adjournment for the next item which was agreed.

6. Public Comment:

Mr Corke commented that he had consulted with the Trustees of HOUR Community following the last Full Council meeting when recycling issues had been discussed and reported that a site for the small electrical items facility had been found. He noted that statistically half the electrical items thrown away could be re-used, which is something the Men's Shed and Furniture Project could look into.

He also commented that when looking at housing need perhaps the future housing of the town could focus more on the affordability of housing rather than being swamped with expensive open market housing.

Six representatives of the Scout and Guide Groups spoke in support of the CIL application item 7.1

6213121 The Chair reconvened the meeting.

7. Applications for CIL Funding:

7.1 Framlingham Scout and Guide Headquarters Refurbishment- £100,000

7.1113121 The Chair adjourned the meeting to allow questions to be put to the Scout and Guide Group representative's

There followed a question and answer session between Councillors and the Scout and Guide Group representatives present, which mainly concerned the lack of information in the application. There were several questions relating to sustainability, users of the facility, layout, plans, ownership, impact of the new housing on the Old Police House site, funding from other sources and also whether the future plans of the Sports Club would have an impact.

It was noted that the Scout and Guide HQ was a 30 year old building owned by the Framlingham Group which was in need of refurbishment and modernisation. There was a good relationship between them and the owners of the Old Police House site. The membership comprised of several groups; Scouts, Beavers, Guides, Brownies, Explorer Scouts etc and the building was very well used and important to the youth of the town and surrounding area.

They confirmed that they did not have full knowledge of the Sports Club future plans.

It was noted that the Town Council had only been made aware very recently and suggested the Scout and Guide Group representatives contact the Sports Club to discuss their future plans

7.1213121 The Chair reconvened the meeting

There followed some discussion and it was agreed that it was difficult to make a proper decision on this application in its current form as there was insufficient information and details to support what was in fact quite a significant sum of money.

There was no criticism of what had been done, but it was felt that the application just needs more detail and a Business Plan with a breakdown forecast of expenditure, which would enable the committee to consider the application further, with a possible phasing of funds.

7.1313121 The meeting was adjourned again to allow the Scout and Guide Chair to respond

Mr Collins advised that there were currently 200 children that used the facility but they were limited in numbers that could be accommodated until the building was refurbished. There are several groups such as 1st Guides, 2nd Guides, 1st Beavers etc and as they owned their building they were looking to stay where they are rather than move elsewhere.

He confirmed that there were currently no access issues to the site and they were working closely with the Mills Charity. The layout of the inside would not be changed significantly but would be refurbished. The building was owned by the Framlingham Scout Group and held in trust by the Scout Association.

7.14130121 The Chair reconvened the meeting

There followed some discussion and it was noted that the application lacks detail and information and is for over 20% of the overall CIL funding, therefore an application of this kind is certainly short of information such as a business plan, forecast of future membership and whether there is opportunities within the building to meet the current population within the town. It would also be helpful if the expenditure was broken down into individual amounts for a phased works programme.

This was in no way a criticism of what has been done just a need for more information and details in order to work with the Scout and Guides Group to bring this application to a satisfactory conclusion.

It was noted that it was important to invest in the young people in the town and this was a good project, and it was suggested that the committee could also consider an application for CIL funding towards the possibility of survey and cost estimate fees. It was also suggested that the applicants talk to the Sports Club so that they are aware of their future plans.

7.15130121 Cllr Jones proposed to defer a decision on this application and request that the Scout and Guide Group re-submit their application with supporting information including a business plan, finance and seed funding for more detailed quotations along with possible phasing of the project, which would enable a phased funding application to be considered. This would allow the committee to make an informed judgement on this application for which the committee were in favour in principle, as no disagreement had been voiced, which was seconded by Cllr Eastwood with all in favour.

Cllr Wraight declared a pecuniary interest in the next item and was removed from the meeting to the Zoom waiting room

7.2 HOUR Community – replacement wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) - £7,495

7.21130121 Cllr Jones proposed to recommend approval to Full Council to accept the application for £7,495 of Local CIL funds to be given to HOUR Community towards a replacement wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV), which was seconded by Cllr Kitching with all in favour.

Cllr Wraight was re-admitted to the meeting.

8. Framlingham Infrastructure Investment Plan: (Identifying and prioritising infrastructure)

Cllr Jones reported that he had started work on the quarterly review, and the final draft would be circulated to Councillors for comment.

Cllr Hine agreed to compile a news item for the website to publicise the availability of the document.

9. Strategic Plan – next steps

It was agreed that a series of Forums to discuss this matter involving all Councillors would be productive.

It was agreed to set the agenda for the first Forum as follows:

- Resource, Roles and Responsibilities of Committees and individual Councillors
- Communication Strategy and Consultation particularly in current climate
- Prioritising Expenditure
- Implementation Planning and Action Plans

Cllr Jones agreed to circulate the Agenda details for agreement and the Town Clerk would circulate dates for the first Forum to be held between now and the end of March.

It was agreed to form a list of items identified from the Forums and then consult with the public for their priorities.

9.1 Framlingham Integrated Transport Strategy - Working Group

Cllr Eastwood reported that they had come up with a comprehensive list and the next stage would be for the Deputy Clerk to investigate other organisations that already have a IST. The public were not involved at this early stage. It was noted that a mapping exercise would be undertaken in due course.

10. Housing Need:

No further information currently available.

11. People & Places

It was noted that there had been no further communication from ESC on this subject, but a meeting was expected to be set up by them, together with the People and Places Consultant to discuss a Town Centre Action Plan and funding.

Cllr Hine reported that the PR&Markets Committee had deferred this as an agenda item as it was more suitable for the Strategic Planning Committee.

It was agreed to keep this item on the next SP agenda.

12. Correspondence:

12.1 East Suffolk Council- Anthony Taylor

Letter regarding ESC draft Cycling and Walking Strategy:

It was agreed for the Town Clerk to set up a meeting as requested to discuss this matter. The date would be circulated to all.

13. Action Plan:

It was noted that the layout of the Action Plan would be revised by Cllr Jones and the Town Clerk in time for the new fiscal year.

14. Projects identified for Local CIL funding by Town Council Committees:

14.1 PRM – CCTV for town centre

Cllr Kitching reported that the preferred bidder would be recommended for approval to Full Council in February and the next stage would be to identify and agree the final costs.

15. Matters of Report and items for the next agenda:

Cllr Hine reported on the recent circulation of the SCC document electric charging point support project, which may be of interest to Councillors.

Cllr Jones reported on the informal meeting held via zoom to discuss the Sports Club's future plans. It had been agreed that a presentation, by the Sports Club would be made to all Councillors hopefully within in the next two weeks.

16. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 7:00pm via Zoom

The meeting closed at 20.27