

Framlingham Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Development and Strategic Planning Committee held in the Town Council Meeting Room, 10c Church Street, Framlingham

on Wednesday 13th October 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: S Davis, C Eastwood, S Garrett, M Hine, J Jones (Chair) and N Williamson

3. In attendance:

Mrs Eileen Coe (Town Clerk/RFO and two members of the public.

4. Declarations of interest:

None

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

51131021 Cllr Jones proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th September 2021 be approved as an accurate record, which was seconded by Cllr Williamson and with one abstention due to absence all were in favour.

61131021 The Chair proposed an adjournment for the next item, which was agreed.

6. Public Comment:

Two members of Badingham Playschool gave an update and provided further information which had been circulated with the agenda to members prior to the meeting.

Currently: 37.5% of Playschool children are from Framlingham. 8.5% of the children come from Dennington. Of the children not from Framlingham or Dennington 46% are from villages that have no Early Years provision e.g. Parham, Kettleburgh, Cransford, Sweffling, Earl Soham and Badingham.

The remaining children (8%) come from villages that have early years provision but their families choose to bring them to Playschool because of family or work commitments in this area.

Cllr Jones reported that a meeting had been held via zoom with Nicola Parrish (ESC) following the DSP meeting in September. The meeting had been very helpful and allow the Town Council to better understand the decision of ESC to award the £1.2m district CIL grant to Badingham Playschool.

ESC had confirmed that the CIL grant required a further £392k of funding and had considered that this amount could be provided by Framlingham Town Council.

ESC were informed of the advice given by SCC Early Learning Services that the Neighbourhood Plan requirement for additional early learning capacity in Framlingham had

been satisfied by additional provision in 2019 and the Framlingham Ward now had a surplus of 54 places.

ESC were also advised of the Town Council's concerns regarding the lack of communication from both ESC and Badingham Playschool and the assumption that the Town Council had funding available.

After further discussion with the representatives present from Badingham Playschool the committee recognised that there were several issues:

- Clarification was needed from HMRC on whether the vat element of £258,541.70 could be reclaimed. It was noted that BPS had made contact with HMRC, but the response was inconclusive therefore BPS Trustees felt it was too big a risk to take.
- 35 houses were to be built in Dennington in the next 2-3 years which would bring in a Developer contribution of £392k to the Playschool project and a significant sum of Local CIL to Dennington Parish Council.
- ESC had approved 74.2% of the estimated costs with the assumption that Framlingham Town Council would fund the remainder without any prior communication.
- ESC referred to £512k of Local CIL funds held by Framlingham Town Council, which was of 31st March 2021, since then further grants have been approved along with other committed expenditure for Framlingham projects.
- The Town Council does not have CIL funds of £392,750.56 requested in the application.
- Bearing in mind that the additional early learning capacity requirements have been met, there are bigger priorities such as parking in the town to consider.
- A response was still awaited from Suffolk County Council on the early years capacity detailing the breakdown of provision and surplus places.
- BPS needs to explore other sources for funding, a view which is shared by ESC
- Clarification is needed on the difference between Framlingham Ward and the FNP designated area which is used in the same context, but it is not, the Framlingham Ward is much bigger than the area covered by the FNP.

62131021 The Chair proposed to reconvene the meeting which was agreed.

7. Applications for Local CIL Funding:

7.1 Badingham Playschool - £392,750.56

Local CIL Application for a purpose built premises opposite Dennington Village Hall to accommodate children from Badingham, Dennington and Framlingham and surrounding villages – Local CIL Application and 14 attachments circulated to members with the agenda.

Cllr Jones advised that there were three options:

To refuse the application as it stands as there were insufficient CIL funds

To allocate a lesser amount

To defer a decision until further information had been received/ provided on the capacity and proven need, which needs to be evidence based and other issues.

Further discussion took place with each member of the committee providing input.

71131021 Cllr Jones proposed to defer a decision until information on capacity and the need is provided by SCC and to request that Badingham Play School:

- Tries to resolve the VAT issue
- Requests that Dennington PC ring fences the CIL monies expected from the 35 new dwellings
- Attempt to raise funding from elsewhere, which is a view shared by ESC,

And to discuss the outcomes further at the next meeting with a view to making a final recommendation to Full Council, which was seconded by Cllr Hine with all in favour.

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

None.

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

9.1 Update on CIL expenditure:

Cllr Jones confirmed the income and expenditure and committed sums to date and would be updating the FIIP accordingly.

10. Strategic Plan:

10.1 Framlingham Integrated Transport Strategy - Working Group meeting tbc

11. People & Places – Draft Framlingham Town Centre Forward Framework:

Cllr Jones reported that a meeting had been held with FBA representatives and a joint draft document had been produced which had been sent to the FBA for their comments. The document would be updated and circulated to all prior to the meeting arranged with ESC on 25th October.

12. Allotment provision:

12.1 Report on progress with Allotment proposals

It was noted that land allocation for allotments would be considered as part of the FNP Review.

13. Changing Places toilet provision update:

The Town Clerk reported that there had been no response from ESC to date despite reminders.

Cllr Eastwood agreed to pursue as part of a meeting with DCllr Cook.

14. Accessible viewing platforms for disabled people for the Mere:

The Town Clerk reported that she had contacted the Bursar and Assistant Bursar at Framlingham College and would chase a response for the next meeting.

15. Correspondence:

None

16. Action Plan:

Cllr Jones agreed to make any updates needed.

17. Budget 2022/2023

It was agreed that no budget was required as DSP was a facilitating committee rather than spending committee.

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

Cllr Hine reported that as part of the proposal to hire out the Old Court Room Wifi would be needed for the room – The Town Clerk advised that the Fram Free Wifi infrastructure was on the Library roof so this may be an option to pursue.

Cllr Hine reported on her suggestion of a Sound System for music events – It was suggested to put this forward for **CPA funding**

Cllr Jones requested that the Town Clerk contacts **Framlingham Sports Club** for an update on progress for CIL budgeting purposes – which would be considered as **an agenda item for the next meeting.**

Cllr Jones requested that the Town Clerk contacts the **Scout and Guide HQ** for an update on progress for CIL budgeting purposes – which would be considered as **an agenda item for the next meeting.**

19. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 7:00pm

Meeting Closed 20.37