



## FRAMSDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**All Councillors are reminded of their obligations under the Code of Conduct Regulations.**

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at Framsdon Village Hall

Attendance Dominic Vaughan (DV) Nicola Whitmore (NW) Neil Mellor (NM)  
Claire Macauley (CM) Sarah Clare (Clerk)  
Matthew Hicks (MH)  
County Councillor

Public present at the meeting: 3

### FPC 22-05-01 Appointment of Chair

The Clerk asked for nominations for the office of Chair.

CM was nominated as Chair by NW, DV seconded, all voted in favour and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**

The acceptance of office form was signed

### FPC 22-05-02 Apologies for Absence

Glen Buckingham (GB) offered apologies due to work commitments. The Council accepted.

### FPC 22-05-03 Declaration of Interests

CM declared interest in FPC 22-05-09 a) ii. and iv. as close neighbour of the site.

### FPC 22-05-04 Public Forum

A parishioner raised concerns about the Council meeting minimum statutory requirements. The Clerk apologised for the lateness of the minutes from the AGM and agreed that unfortunately on this occasion the statutory requirements had not been met.

A query was raised about the use of the new noticeboard, asking that more information be displayed about Parish Council activities. This was noted and discussion took place as to what sort of information would be published.

Finally, thanks were expressed to the organisers of the Jubilee celebrations, although it was noted that the Parish Council had not sent anything out about the events to date. It was noted that this is a matter that is on the agenda for discussion.

### FPC 22-05-05 To Receive District Councillor's Report – District Councillor Suzie Morley

No further report had been received from the District Councillor's Report since the Annual Parish Meeting in May, which had previously been circulated to the Council and has also been posted on the village website [www.framesden.onesuffolk.net](http://www.framesden.onesuffolk.net)

### FPC 22-05-06 To Receive County Councillor's Report – County Councillor Matthew Hicks

The County Councillor's Report for July had previously been circulated to the Council and has also been posted on the village website [www.framesden.onesuffolk.net](http://www.framesden.onesuffolk.net)

MHi brought attention to the following:

The East Anglia Green pylon network from Norwich to Tilbury is to be opposed by Suffolk County Council, who are pushing for alternatives to be considered, including an off-shore ring main. DV asked about the

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consultation process, MHi stated that at the moment it is listed as a "pre-consultation", but the main problem seems to be the lack of options being offered.

There is ongoing investment in the provision of SEND places for Suffolk, but there are currently stumbling blocks around recruitment of staff, particularly speech therapists. NW asked about whether the recruitment was an issue just in Suffolk, or whether it was nationwide. MHi was uncertain on this point.

CM praised the information in the report about the water recycling facility helping agriculture in the Felixstowe area, but raised concerns about the Quiet Lane scheme. Although very much in favour of Quiet Lanes, CM expressed concern that, as a resident of a lane recently included in the scheme, it doesn't seem to have changed the behaviour of drivers, whilst pedestrians and cyclists seem to think they don't need to be quite so aware, as they feel safer. MHi was surprised, as he had been shown research that demonstrates people usually respect the Quiet Lane signage, but he would report the feedback to the relevant people.

CM also asked about the apparent changes in airline flight paths, as there are noticeably more aeroplanes flying over Framsdén, many at low altitudes. MHi understood that there had been some changes to the Luton approach, but suggested CM make contact with the National Air Traffic body to raise concerns, as this was out of Suffolk County Council's jurisdiction.

Finally, a parishioner raised a query about the installation of Superfast Broadband in the village, there had been some activity seen in the area, but nothing is yet connected. MHi did not have a definitive date, but understood that connection dates are not too far away.

#### FPC 22-05-07 Minutes of previous meetings

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 as a true and accurate record, were proposed by NM, seconded by DV and **WERE SO RESOLVED**. The Minutes were signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

#### FPC 22-05-08 Matters Arising and Action Points from May minutes

Physical inspection of trees on the boundary of the Village Hall Garden, as per minute FPC 22-04-10 d)The Council inspected the trees and the volunteer who cares for the Village Hall Garden advised that he had now received verbal agreement from the Treasurer of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) that the tree is dead and needs to be removed. The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk should make contact with the PCC asking that this work be carried out by the end of year to avoid any dangers of the tree falling during the upcoming winter.

- 8.1 Check on date of expiry on dispensations granted to the Parish Council in May 2020. DISCHARGED The Clerk confirmed that the dispensations were valid until May 2023.
- 8.2 Check insurance documents to see if the Village Hall is required to have a fire alarm installed. DISCHARGED – There appears to be no formal requirement, but if an alarm is installed it must be routinely inspected, tested and serviced.
- 8.3 Forward list of Framsdén Fundraisers assets that are being proposed to be transferred to the Parish Council. Check with insurers to see what the additional items may cost the Parish Council as regards insurance. DISCHARGED – The asset insurance is banded, with the Parish Council currently in the band of up to £50K, so no specific changes to the premium would be needed, as the current Asset Register is just over £28K
- 8.4 Agenda item – view tree of concern on Village Hall Garden Boundary – see above
- 8.5 Publish newly adopted Code of Conduct on village website. DISCHARGED
- 8.6 Advise SALC payroll of the Council's acceptance of the NJC recommended pay settlement. DISCHARGED
- 8.7 Submit and publish CIL statement. DISCHARGED
- 8.8 Submit Exemption from External Audit certificate and publish on website. DISCHARGED
- 8.9 Publish AGAR information on website. DISCHARGED
- 8.10 To set up payments as approved at the May meeting. DISCHARGED

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a) To consider planning applications that had been submitted since the last meeting:

- i. DC/22/02890 & 02897 – Householder Application & Listed Building Consent – Erection of porch to front. Insertion of 2 no. roof windows and alteration/replacement of 2 no. windows to rear. Removal of French doors to side. Potash Farm, Ashfield Road, IP14 6LR

Councillors had all studied the application in advance of the meeting. After discussion it was decided to **SUPPORT** the application based on the following:

- Subject to confirmation from the District Council Heritage team that the proposed work is suitable for a listed building.

NW proposed, CM seconded, all voted in favour **IT WAS SO RESOLVED.**

- ii. DC/22/03270 – Planning Application – Change of use and conversion (including extension) of traditional farm buildings to 3 no. dwellings. Red House Barns, Red House Farm, Otley Road

Councillors had all studied the application in advance of the meeting. After discussion it was decided to submit an **OBJECTION** to the application based on the following:

- There have been no significant changes that address the concerns previously raised by the Parish Council, other than the retention of the historical machinery.
- The plot size has been reduced to avoid social housing charges – thus the site is even further overdeveloped than the original plan.
- The area in question currently has poor infrastructure. There are no plans to bring in a telephone line to the property and with poor mobile reception in the area this could lead to potentially life-threatening risks, as residents cannot reliably contact emergency services.
- Current residents in the area experience problems with low water pressure, which will only be exacerbated by increasing the demand and adding properties.
- The proposed properties are isolated and any resident will need to use a car to access services, as the road in question has recently been granted Quiet Lane status adding additional traffic is counterintuitive.
- There seems to be no consideration of environmental concerns - such as eco-friendly heating systems – when there are stated aims of Zero Carbon.
- Concerns have been expressed by residents that to allow such a development could set a dangerous precedent for similar developments in a village which is already stretched to the limit with its infrastructure, particularly in relation to broadband provision.

NW proposed, DV seconded, all voted in favour **IT WAS SO RESOLVED.**

- iii. DC/22/03351 – Householder Application – Erection of single storey studio outbuilding (following demolition of existing shed). Moat Farm, Birds Lane, IP14 6HP

Councillors had all studied the application in advance of the meeting. After discussion it was decided to submit a **NEUTRAL COMMENT** to the application based on the following:


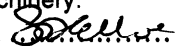
- The Parish Council would ask that consideration is made as to whether this application could lead to overdevelopment of the plot; as the existing house has been extended considerably already.

NW proposed, CM seconded, all voted in favour **IT WAS SO RESOLVED.**

- iv. DC/22/03389 – Application for Prior Approval for a proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to form 1 no. Dwellinghouse (C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for conversion. Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 as amended schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q. Agricultural Barn, Red House Farm, Otley Road

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- There have been no significant changes that address the concerns previously raised by the Parish Council, other than the retention of the historical machinery.

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- The plot size has been reduced to avoid social housing charges – thus the site is even further overdeveloped than the original plan.
- The area in question currently has poor infrastructure. There are no plans to bring in a telephone line to the property and with poor mobile reception in the area this could lead to potentially life-threatening risks, as residents cannot reliably contact emergency services.
- Current residents in the area experience problems with low water pressure, which will only be exacerbated by increasing the demand and adding properties.
- The proposed properties are isolated and any resident will need to use a car to access services, as the road in question has recently been granted Quiet Lane status adding additional traffic is counterintuitive.
- There seems to be no consideration of environmental concerns - such as eco-friendly heating systems – when there are stated aims of Zero Carbon.
- Concerns have been expressed by residents that to allow such a development could set a dangerous precedent for similar developments in a village which is already stretched to the limit with its infrastructure, particularly in relation to broadband provision.

NW proposed, DV seconded, all voted in favour **IT WAS SO RESOLVED.**

b) To consider any planning applications which have been submitted since agenda published: None.

c) Updates and outcomes on previous planning applications: None.

FPC 22-05-10 Parish Council Activities & Projects

a) To consider co-option to the Council - Nobody came forward for co-option. The Clerk confirmed that the vacancies are published on the village website.

b) VHMC Report to include – Consideration of transfer of assets from Framsdon Fundraisers and the implications therein


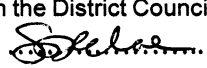
- i. Asset Transfer – Further to a meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) it had been agreed that at present the VHMC does not have the resources to manage the additional assets, so no transfer would take place at present.
- ii. Loft – The VHMC need to purchase the materials to board out the loft, this is well within budget, but there is a need for volunteers to come forward to help. NM will liaise with the Clerk to send out a request on the village email system, asking for people to give up a few hours of their time to help with the task.
- iii. Kitchen Steps – It had been noted that the steps need to be repaired, a volunteer bricklayer has come forward, but the VHMC are concerned that if the work is carried out by a volunteer whether there would be any insurance issues. The Clerk will check with the insurers in case there is any risk of professional indemnity not being in place.
- iv. Soleplate – NM wanted to get moving on this matter, but the main issue is obtaining funding. The Clerk will check up on the Locality Budget Funds application, CM will liaise with NM over finding suitable funding sources.

c) Update on the Play Area installation to include – Post Installation Inspection

- i. Post Installation Inspection – CM had kept an eye on the progress of the installation and had repeatedly raised complaints about the lack of welfare facilities on site and the amount of littering that was occurring. There had been no response to these complaints, but at the point of billing a deduction had been made and it is understood the contractors will not be used by Sutcliffe Play again.

CM had also been surprised by how uneven the ground had been left. Following a meeting with Sutcliffe Play and a parishioner who is versed in such matters, there was an agreement that some remedial works need to be carried out, but these would not be done until the RoSPA Post Installation Inspection had been completed, so all snagging could be completed in one go.

The Clerk had requested that the annual play inspection that is usually done by the District Council in August be brought forward to enable the new play area to be opened in time for the summer. Initially she had been advised that this would not be a problem, however, when the District Council was notified

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that the equipment was now ready for inspection the Clerk was informed that no inspection could be done until October. As a result, a direct booking with RoSPA has now been done and it is hoped that the inspection will be completed in the next week or two.

- ii. Removal of Old Equipment – CM had been in contact with the parishioner who had removed the old equipment. As the job had involved a lot more in the way of backfilling and the parishioner had offered help in dealing with some of the issues that had arisen with the installation, it was agreed that no further donation would be necessary. The contractor has agreed not to charge the Council for the removal of the old equipment, thereby there is a saving in kind.
  - iii. Funding – A parishioner thanked the Council for listing grants that are covering the cost of the new Play Area in the last set of minutes, with especial praise to CM for her working on securing the grants. However, queried that the published overall bills are in excess of the grant funding. CM advised that the grants do not include the VAT element, that the Parish Council can reclaim.
  - iv. Parking – CM advised that the matter is in hand to make the parking area better.
- d) Debrief of Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – Following very successful events the Parish Council offered their heartfelt thanks to all who had been involved in setting up, running and organising the schedule, with particular mention to Mrs Lori Eaton for all her hard work.

FPC 22-05-11 Finance

- a) To review the Financial Statement for the month, as supplied by the Clerk - The Clerk had previously circulated the Financial Statement for July. There were no queries. CM proposed acceptance, NM seconded and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**. The Chair signed the corresponding Bank Statements to confirm the figures.
- b) To agree payments as detailed on Payment Schedule – It was noted that some of the payments will not be able to be made until the funding for the Play Area had been received by the Parish Council, but with the authorisation in principle the payments will be made as soon as the funds are available. Items 13-22 were cleared for full immediate settlement. Item 23 will be settled in full once funding is released. Item 24 will be settled subject to the installation passing the Post Installation Inspection and CM checking the figures include the deduction for the removal of the old equipment, (as this element was carried out by a parishioner). Therefore Item 24 may be less than currently listed on the Payment Schedule.  
  
DV proposed authorisation, NW seconded and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**. The Clerk will set up payments accordingly.
- c) To review and re-adopt the Financial Regulations - CM proposed adoption of the Financial Regulations as circulated, DV seconded, all voted in favour and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**. The Clerk will publish the adopted regulations on the village website.

FPC 22-05-12 Matters of urgency to be brought to the attention of the Council

- a) The Clerk advised that the insurance claim made against the Council following the accident at the play area in May 2021 had now been settled in full with Court approval.
- b) Items for next agenda:
  - Pub ACV
  - Speed Limit at Mill Hill

Items for the September Agenda – please notify the Clerk of any further items for the agenda as soon as possible and by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August at the latest, with any accompanying paperwork ready to be circulated with the agenda upon publication.

There being no further business requiring the attention of the Parish Council, the meeting was closed at 8.51pm. The next Parish Council meeting is set for **Thursday 8th September 2022** at 7.30pm, in Framsdon Village Hall

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