



FRAMSDEN PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 10th February 2022 at Framsdon Village Hall

Attendance Dominic Vaughan (DV) Glen Buckingham (GB) Neil Mellor (NM)
Claire Macauley (CM) Nicola Whitmore (NW) Sarah Clare (Clerk)

Public present at the meeting: 1

FPC 22-02-01 Appointment of Chair

The Clerk asked for nominations for the office of Chair.

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

The acceptance of office form was signed.

FPC 22-02-02 Apologies for Absence

None

FPC 22-02-03 Declaration of Interests

None

FPC 22-02-04 Public Forum

The parishioner who had raised concerns about Ash trees at the January meeting wanted to clarify that the 'group' of trees in the draft minutes was in fact a multi-stemmed tree and that he hadn't actually said he felt they were likely to fall, just that they were potentially dangerous.

FPC 22-02-05 Minutes of previous meetings

Regarding the meeting held on Thursday 13th January 2022, CM agreed an amendment relating to the comment raised under FPC 22-01-04 (the Public Forum) as per the clarification made by the parishioner who had raised concerns about the Ash trees

Subject to the above amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th January as a true and accurate record, were proposed by GB, seconded by CM and **WERE SO RESOLVED**. The Minutes were signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

FPC 22-02-06 Matters Arising and Action Points from the January minutes will be reported on at the March meeting

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FPC 22-02-07 Planning

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

- i. DC/21/05670 – Full Planning Application – Change of use of land and temporary siting of shipping container for storage equipment for maintenance of land. 2 Blackbird Cottages, Ashfield 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:

- The environmental impact on the area would be substantial, additional hard core being introduced to the site and a wider drive being incorporated would negatively impact drainage on the site and potentially raise the risk of flooding.
- The shipping container would be visually intrusive and not in keeping with the rural location as it would be clearly visible from the road.
- There is no definition about what constitutes 'temporary' and mention of planting hedges in order to screen the shipping container from view leads the Parish Council to believe that it is likely to be fairly long term as a hedge would take a number of years to grow substantial enough to provide such a shield.

GB proposed, NW 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:

- i. Appeal Dismissed - APP/W3520/W/20/3264485: Asbach House (Formerly Known As The Dobermann Inn), The Street, Framsdon IP14 6HG - LPA ref: DC/20/01048

FPC 22-02-08 Parish Council Activities & Projects

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



b) VHMC Report - NM updated the Council on the meeting that had taken place earlier in the week. The electrical works mentioned in the minutes have now been completed and are due to be paid on this meeting's payment schedule. There has been a delay in getting broadband connected, as until the Village Hall was registered as a separate address by Royal Mail, the connection could not be done. The address is now registered with Royal Mail, but when NM has approached broadband suppliers the Village Hall is still not coming up on their databases. NM will continue to work on this issue.

NW raised concerns about having a letterbox put into the door of the Village Hall, as this would mean any user could access the post. NM explained that installing an outside post box would cost more than installing an ordinary letter box, but the VHMC would look at ways in which to ensure that any post delivered to the Village Hall was secure.

CM asked NM if the VHMC could consider ways to provide an emergency contact, should a hirer arrive at the Village Hall and have any problems. NM agreed to take this up with the VHMC.

c) Play Area Update – CM reported that she had received the final quote, which had been circulated to the Councillors. The contractors had assured CM that the work would be completed in time for the summer holidays. The Clerk will put images of the plans on the website for the public to view.

GB asked about the equipment that was being removed and asked whether any of it could potentially be used in alternative situations, such as the gazebo being used as a 'den' in the woodland. CM explained that the wooden posts are rotting in the ground, so any future use in such a way would be very time limited. GB suggested that an email be circulated to the village asking if anyone would be interested in taking any of the items for their personal use (without any liability on the Parish Council), as this would be a way of recycling if someone wanted to refurbish items and it could potentially save the Council funds, as the quote currently includes a fee for removal of items. The Clerk will circulate an email to find out if there is any potential interest

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CM said that the current quote has come in slightly under budget compared to the funding secured, so it is hoped that there can be some work done on improving the parking area further, reducing the bank, stabilising the ground and removing part of the hedge to improve visibility to allow for safer access.

- d) Mill Hill Speed Limit – County Councillor Matthew Hicks (MHi) had forwarded a report to the Council, showing that there is clear agreement that the road at Mill Hill is dangerous. However, the cost of extending the speed limit has been estimated at between £5K and £10K with some logistical issues on installing new signs relating to the width of verges. MHi has indicated that he may not be able to fund a speed limit change from his Highways Budget in the near future, as he has just spent a large amount on the A1120 speed changes.

The Clerk will contact MHi thanking him for his efforts in getting the matter to this point and asking how it would be best to proceed now that Suffolk Highways have essentially acknowledged the danger of the location.

- e) Quiet Lane Update – GB advised the Council that after asking MHi to investigate why the QLS scheme was now apparently going to cost the village so much more, he had been advised that the confusion had been because an email had been sent out from Highways to the QLS team in error which showed internal costings, not what the villages would need to contribute. GB has now had confirmation that it will only cost Framsdén around £150 for the scheme and he has been advised that a package of sign posts will soon be installed (which would include repairs to some existing posts that are currently leaning). It is possible that volunteers will be needed to actually affix the QLS signs to the posts, but this is to be confirmed.
- f) Calendar for 2022-2023 – After discussion it was agreed to continue with meetings every alternate month on the second Thursday, unless matters arose which necessitated an extra meeting, as has been the case in recent months. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on the same evening as the Parish Council Annual General Meeting in May. The Clerk will publish the dates on the village website.

FPC 22-02-09 Finance

- a) To review the Financial Statement for the month as supplied by the Clerk – The Clerk had previously circulated the Financial Statement for February. There were no queries. CM proposed acceptance, GB 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 – CM proposed authorisation, NM seconded and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**. The Clerk will set up payments accordingly.

FPC 22-02-10 Matters of urgency to be brought to the attention of the Council

- a) GB noted that there had been no formal thanks given to Councillor Debra Pearce, who had stood down just before the January meeting. The Council were unanimous in their thanks for her work.
- b) GB also wanted to formally express thanks to the volunteers who had organised the Platinum Jubilee curry lunch on 6th February.
- c) The Clerk confirmed that she would look into applying to the locality budget funds for work on the Village Hall soleplate. NM confirmed that he will make contact with the surveyor to arrange for the investigative work to be undertaken when the weather improves.
- d) Items for next agenda:
- Next steps to be taken regarding Asbach House/Dobermann Inn, including renewal of Asset of Community Value.

Items for the March Agenda – please notify the Clerk of any further items for the agenda as soon as possible and by Monday 28th February 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 9.03pm. The next Parish Council meeting is set for **Thursday 10th March 2022** at 7.30pm, in Framsdén Village Hall

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