

# FRAMINGHAM EARL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm at Framingham Earl Sports Centre

**Present:**

Cllr Dave Todd – presiding (DT), Cllr Rodney Aldis (RA), Cllr Louise Bishop (LB), Cllr Libby Cook (LC), Cllr Steven Peet (SP), Cllr Jane Walker (JW), Sandra Cornell – Tree Warden (SC), Lynn Thomas – Tree Warden (LT), District Cllr John Overton (JO), County Cllr Vic Thomson (VT) and Yvonne Wonnacott – Parish Clerk (YW).

**Apologies:**

None.

**Members of the Public:** None.

**2021/077 Chair's welcome (to include any apologies for absence for approval)**

Chair welcomed all attendees to meeting.

**2021/078 To receive declarations of interest**

None.

**2021/079 To approve a time limit for the meeting**

All agreed to aim for meeting to finish by 9.15pm.

**2021/080 To agree minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

Cllr Cook proposed the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 to be agreed as correct, seconded by Cllr Bishop, unanimously agreed. Minutes signed by Chair.

**2021/081 Matters arising from the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

Breakdown of S106 money, Earlsmead Estate

Chair advised received preliminary information from County Cllr Thomson. Money allocated to Poringland Primary School, Framingham Earl High School, Poringland library and green play areas.

Inspection manhole cover situated at The Dell

Chair advised this was a soak away. County Cllr Thomson advised further investigation to include lifting of cover to be carried out by Norfolk County Council (NCC) in near future.

Litter Picker

Chair advised agreed in principle with Chair of Poringland PC to utilise their litter picker to cover the Framingham Earl side of the B1332, PC would pay extra hours. Item to be pursued once replacement Parish Clerk (Poringland) is in position – DT.

Salt/grit bin

Chair advised enquiry with regards to additional bin, and/or relocation of existing bin still outstanding with NCC Highways, Parish Clerk to hasten – YW.

### **2021/082      Adjournment for public participation**

Tree Warden raised item as a member of the public. Raised issue that there was no bus shelter or official marked bus stops on the Framingham Earl bus route. Experienced first-hand a new bus driver having difficulty identifying the bus stops as not marked. County Cllr Thomson to speak to NCC Passenger Manager – VT.

### **2021/083      County/District Councillors report(s)**

County Cllr Thomson provided brief report to meeting, key points summarised below;

- Reminded meeting of the Norwich South Recycling Centre
- Pot holes need to be reported on the NCC website
- There was a proposal for a Park & Ride at Trowse, this will no longer happen due to the close proximity of two other Park & Ride sites
- Concerns have been raised with regards to the overnight lighting at County Hall. Several organisations occupy the County Hall, which include 24 hours working. All lights are on proximity sensors. NCC has reduced carbon in all buildings
- NCC have funded two NALC (National Association of Local Council) employees, with £160,000 committed over next two years. The new roles will help local councils stay up to date on key initiatives and policies that affect them, while ensuring that local voices are heard at a county level. They will also work to raise the profile of Parish Councils across Norfolk and the work they do for their communities
- September intake for both Poringland Primary School and Framingham Earl High School is looking to fall within the bands
- Confidential survey open with regards to local pharmacy services
- Recommend registration of electrical equipment

Chair raised question as to current position with regards to replacement of street lights to LED. County Cllr Thomson advised an on-going project, vast majority are now LED. If anyone is aware of any non LED street lights to let County Cllr Thomson know and he will ascertain replacement dates.

District Cllr Overton provided brief report to meeting, key points summarised below;

- Budgets were approved last week
- Aggressive capital programme, borrowing £20 million to support various projects
- Looking to fund electric charging points across parishes, to decarbonise The Broads, bio-fuels for waste disposal lorries, fit solar panels on leisure centre, £6 million CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) settlement programme
- Appointed new position to focus on flooding, looking at Riparian rights and ditches
- Local plan: Issues at moment with the Inspectorate querying some of the proposed clusters, new village/town and gypsy/traveller sites
- Poringland Men's Shed have commenced work on new site (old bowling green by footpath near Primary School). Grant received from NCC, hope for new site to be up and running by end of April 2022

Cllr Peet raised question if there is the opportunity for small PC's to apply for CIL money? District Cllr Overton to clarify – JO.

### **2021/084      Councillor vacancies**

Chair advised two vacancies at present moment. As per emails previously circulated, one interested candidate, Rodney Aldis. Chair proposed Rodney Aldis to be co-opted onto the PC with immediate effect, unanimously agreed. Rodney Aldis co-opted onto PC and signed Declaration of Office. Cllr Aldis to complete Register of Interests form and return to Parish Clerk within 28 days – RA. Chair proposed leaflet drop of Earlsmead Estate with regards to

remaining vacancy, unanimously agreed. Chair proposed use village sign for interim logo, all agreed. Chair to re-visit draft leaflet previously provided by Cllr Peet and amend as appropriate, PC to then undertake leaflet distribution – **ALL**.

## **2021/085 Finance matters**

### Finance and admin report

Finance and admin report with financial summaries unanimously approved.

### Expenditure for approval/to be noted, as per Finance and admin report

Following items of expenditure were formally noted and/or approved;

- The Garden Guardian @ £930.50 + VAT
- South Norfolk Council, class room hire @ £33.33 + VAT
- Westcotec Ltd @ £3,300 + VAT (reimbursement received for full amount from NCC, Members grant)
- CPRE annual membership @ £36, as agreed in budget
- SLCC annual membership @ £46.50 (£45 allowed for in budget)
- Reimbursement to D Todd for padlocks for SAM2 @ £20.41 + VAT
- Ben du Brow @ £250, half of costs of tree works at The Dell
- Parish Clerk December, net pay @ £333.02 & expenses @ £8.41
- Parish Clerk January, net pay @ £296.38 & expenses @ £62.58 (includes reimbursement re Citizens Advice donation @ £40)
- Parish Clerk February net pay @ £314.70 & expenses @ £6.50
- Norfolk Parish Training & Support, subscription 2022/23 @ £113.33
- Community Action Norfolk, membership renewal @ £20

Chair advised that the pay award for local government staff had been agreed @ 1.75%, changes are effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. Unanimously agreed for Parish Clerk pay to be amended as per award and backdated pay to be paid in March salary – **YW**.

### Dual signing authority

Chair to meet with Cllr Peet to progress further – **DT/SP**.

## **2021/086 Planning**

### Proposed development Land North of Caistor Lane

Chair referred to email correspondence received from neighbouring Caistor St Edmund and Bixley Parish Council requesting PC's support in objection to application. No official application received to date. PC to review upon submission of application to District Council – **ALL**.

### Applications received to date

2022/0121, Framingham Earl High School – All agreed PC to respond “no objection to application, on condition that if sports are played on the playing field suitable fencing to adjacent properties in Earlsmead is provided.” – **YW**.

2022/0092, 1 Oakcroft Drive – All agreed PC to respond “PC objects to this application due to lack of sufficient information/detail provided and concerns as to the impact of this proposal on the existing street scene” – **YW**.

2022/0139, Threeways, Yelverton Road – All agreed PC to respond “PC approves this application on the condition that the roof specification is changed to a more traditional roofing material in keeping with the surrounding properties as this property is a focal point within the rural aspect of the village” – **YW**.

2022/0133 and 2022/0134, The Old Oak Barn, Yelverton Road – All agreed PC to respond “no objections to this application” – **YW**.

2022/0210, 23 Long Road – All agreed PC to respond “PC would request that any external lighting is only activated by sensors when approaching or leaving the building in order to preserve the dark sky environment of the village” – YW.

Decision notices received to date

None.

**2021/087      Administrative updates**

Queen’s Platinum Jubilee

Chair advised himself and Parish Clerk had attended joint working party with Poringland PC and referred to minutes as previously circulated. Preferred date is Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June subject to availability of vendors, entertainment etc. Chair advised hope that event will be self-sufficient and revenue received will cover costs. However, proposed budget of £1,500, £1,000 contribution from Poringland PC and £500 from Framingham Earl PC, unanimously agreed PC’s proposed budget contribution. Chair requested Councillor support nearer to the date. Cllr Walker raised parishioner suggestion of asking residents to plant a tub or flower pot with red, blue or white theme, to be raised at next meeting – DT/YW.

Six Strategic Group

Chair advised group met in January and decided to work collaboratively on three initiatives;

- The provision of Post Office services in the area
- The volume and speed of traffic moving in and between the parishes
- The assimilation of local resilience plans. Cllr Peet had kindly agreed to be the PC’s representative on this item.

SAM2

SAM2 in place and data being collected. Approximately 8,000 vehicles a day travelling from the north direction. Next location will be Tulip Tree Drive.

**2021/088      Environmental matters**

Tree Warden Report

Tree Warden(s) advised a fallen dead tree blocking the footpath on the children’s play area, Earlsmead Estate, had been reported and subsequently removed.

Footpath Warden

No report as position currently vacant.

The Dell

Chair referred to The Fringe Projects management plan and subsequent on-site meeting with representative and members of the PC. The Fringe Project recommended opening up The Dell to allow more light, this would involve some coppicing, haloing and the removal of some weaker trees. Any works would need to be carried out before 15<sup>th</sup> March or in the autumn after the nesting season. Chair advised that the Oak positioned near the Methodist Church, had its roots exposed and PC may need to protect. Chair proposed the following;

- An overall strategy to be to “actively manage the area and create a balance between improved access and enjoyment and the retention of habitat-friendly features”
- To work with the Fringe Project on staged improvements over the next few years as budget and resources allow
- To begin with coppicing and the opening up of light to the Dell from the boundary with Pigot Lane and Long Road
- Some selective removal of dead trees and “haloing” to allow other trees to flourish with less competition v. Specific attention to trees of significance
- To monitor changes and improvements to see what priority subsequent stages should have

Unanimously agreed to Chair's proposal. Chair advised that many of the trees are on the part of The Dell in NCC ownership and that County Cllr Thomson had confirmed that NCC would not have any issues with the proposed works being undertaken. Chair proposed PC allows for £1,500 to carry out proposed works, £1,000 allocated in the 2022/23 budget and any remainder to be taken from reserves, all agreed. District Cllr Overton advised Members grant available and proposed £500 grant towards The Dell, PC kindly accepted this offer – **JO**. Cllr Cook raised item of the poor condition of the seat located on the footpath on the opposite side of St Andrew's Church. Parish Clerk to confirm a PC asset – **YW**.

#### **2021/089 Correspondence and consultations**

##### Parishioner correspondence – Request for keep left signs

Chair referred to parishioner email as previously circulated requesting PC to consider suggestion of keep left signs either side of the signpost at the junction of Yelverton Road and Gull Lane/Hall Road. County Cllr Thomson advised that the use of keep left signs would be confusing and that this item had been previously discussed with NCC Highways at which it was agreed that there was no signage solution, and to note that there were no reported traffic accidents. All agreed no further action to be taken at present time. Parish Clerk to contact parishioner thanking them for their comments and advise PC was not able to find a practicable solution, but would keep item under review – **YW**.

#### **2021/090 Date of next meetings, Annual Parish meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022)**

Next meetings, Annual Parish meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022.

#### **2021/091 Chairman's urgent business**

##### Damage to verge near speed camera

Chair raised issue of damaged verge near speed camera and proposed re-seeding of area over Easter holidays.

##### Wildlife Activities Afternoon, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March

Cllr Aldis advised of Wildlife Activities afternoon at Poringland Community Centre. Parish Clerk to add poster to website – **YW**.

##### Recycling Centre visits

Cllr Cook asked if visits to recycling centre were still running, County Cllr Thomson to ask and advise PC accordingly – **VT**.

##### Parking on Pigot Lane before the Nook entrance

Chair advised parking is on remnants of the verge and gets potholed and muddy in wet weather. Possible option would be to improve hard-standing area in the same way as work that was carried out outside St Andrew's Church, in conjunction with the Parish Partnership Scheme. No current budget for such works, so would likely have to wait until 2023/24 budget allocation. County Cllr Thomson to liaise with NCC Highways to ascertain what improvement work could be carried out – **VT**.

Meeting closed 9.18pm.

Minutes prepared by Yvonne Wonnacott, Parish Clerk, 02/03/22

Approved:

Date: