

FRANSHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 21st May 2019 in the Village Hall.

The Chairman of the Parish Council was present together with all five parish councillors, District & County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris, PC Paula Gilluley and the Clerk. There were no members of the public present.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Pamela Lippett (Fransham WI) and Diane Taylor (Village Hall Committee).

2. To accept the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2018.

Cllr Taylor proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Sheringham and agreed by those present.

3. To receive a report from the Chairman of the Parish Council.

A copy of the Chairman's report is attached. Cllr Sheringham, on behalf of all those present, thanked the Chairman for his hard work over the previous year.

Item 10 was then brought forward to allow the PC to leave the meeting.

10. To receive a report from the Norfolk Constabulary.

PC Paula Gilluley introduced herself as the Community Engagement Officer for Breckland, the link between communities and the police. Engagement with communities is carried out in many different ways; education, attendance at fetes and other events, newsletters, twitter, facebook, Next-Door etc.

PC Gilluley stressed that crime statistics in the newsletter are for the ward rather than the parish but if anyone has concerns regarding local crime she is always available for parish enquiries. The statistics available on the website Police UK were usually eight weeks behind and the locations were not always accurate, due to privacy laws.

A query was raised regarding cars parking on public grass areas to the front of properties and the Cllr was advised to speak to the owner of the land. It was not a police matter unless an obstruction was being caused.

A Cllr suggested that it would be good to have a visible police presence occasionally and was advised that the resources must target where the demand is, hence all local crime must be reported.

The Chairman thanked PC Gilluley and she then left the meeting.

4. To receive a report from the County Councillor.

A copy of the County Councillor's report is attached.

A query was raised regarding the requirement for property developers to install broadband direct to new properties but was informed that BT will only automatically connect developments of over 30 dwellings, however, this is not mandatory. The Cllr will have a look at this issue in respect of planning policy.

5. To receive a report from the District Councillor.

There was no report from the previous District Councillor. The Chairman congratulated D/Cllr Kiddle-Morris on his recent election to the post.

6. To receive a report from the Church Representative.

A copy of the Church Representative's report is attached.

7. To receive a report from the Village Hall Committee.

A copy of the Village Hall Committee report is attached.

8. To receive a report from Fransham Women's Institute.

A copy of the Fransham Women's Institute report is attached.

9. To receive a report from the Fransham in Relief Charity.

A copy of the Fransham in Relief Charity report is attached.

10. To receive a report from the Norfolk Constabulary.

Dealt with earlier in the meeting.

11. To receive a report from Necton Church of England Primary School.

No report was received from Necton School.

12. To receive a Financial Report for the year end 31st March 2019.

A copy of the financial report is attached – there were no questions.

13. Open Forum - an opportunity for residents of the parish to express their views on matters of interest or concern relating to the village and to suggest ideas for the future.

There were no members of the public present.

14. To note the date of the next Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 19th May 2020.

The date of the next meeting was noted.

The meeting closed at 7.10pm.

Fransham Parish Council – Chairman’s Report for 2018/19

We have been working for several years now to bring the council up to its full strength of seven members and I’m pleased to say that in 2018 we finally achieved this, so thank you to the new members who have joined recently. I’m also pleased to say the our new clerk, Sheryl Irving, has settled in really well so please don’t hesitate to contact her if you have any local issues and I’m sure she will be pleased to help.

After a very long haul we now have managed to get shelters installed at both the East & Westbound bus stops, which will hopefully make waiting for buses it bit more comfortable for people, and both include a seat. Thanks are due to Councillor Andrew Lake for his persistence in seeing this project through to completion. If the shelters had not been on a trunk road they could have been installed in a couple of week but the A47 is the responsibly of Highways England and dealing with them has been exasperating to say the least.

In response to requests from residents we have had a footpath (technically a trod) installed around the blind double bend after the bungalows in station Road. This will improve the safety of walkers by taking them off the road and we hope everyone will make full use of this. County councillor Mark Kiddle Morris has helped us achieve this and the bus shelters through county grant support.

One of our primary ongoing tasks is to monitor planning applications and make recommendations regarding the suitability of proposed developments. This year has seen a significant increase in this work with ?? applications processed. Our aim is always to protect the rural nature of the parish and try to guard against over development. For various reasons our recommendations are not always accepted however the new local plan and the required 5 year supply of building land will hopefully help with this in the future, but we will have to see. The plan is quite an extensive document and it has taken the district council a while to put together, but we have kept in touch with its development and made various submissions at the consultation stage.

As an ongoing activity we continue to monitor and report highway issues, including potholes, footpath clearance and any lighting failures. This year, this has included getting the hedge at the bottom of Station Road cut back to effectively increase the road width and improve visibility. We have also managed to have the overhanging trees, just after the bungalows in Station Road, cut back which will help reduce the mess of straw being stripped from trucks passing through.

In closing I must thank our hardworking clerk Sheryl, my fellow councillors for their time and also our county councillor, Mark Kiddle Morris, for his ongoing support.

Russell James
Chairman

County Councillor for Necton and Launditch Annual Report Report 2018-2019.

Norfolk County Council agreed a net revenue budget of £409.293m on the 11th February. It was agreed that Council tax would rise by 2.99% adding £39.51 per year to a band D property and that an adult social care charge of a further 3% rise was not to be made. The financial climate in which local government operates continues to be challenging with significant and ongoing reductions in core funding at the same time as substantial service cost pressures. The agreed council tax increase of 2.99% will enable the Council to protect vital services and will help to ensure a robust and sustainable financial position in future years. This years budget is balanced, robust and allocates our resources across Norfolk's people and communities in the best way we can.

The Council has absorbed significant and ongoing cuts in government funding, a total of £204m between 2010-11 and 2018-19. There are significant cost pressures such as inflation, demographic changes, unfunded burdens such as the National Living Wage and the need of vulnerable social care users becoming increasingly complex. Despite those pressures the Council is continuing to deliver savings and has plans in place to deliver £79m of savings by 2021-22. This includes £32m of saving in this financial year.

The Council has also agreed a £549m, 3 year, capital programme which will pay for investment in infrastructure, property and equipment. £120m will be spent on new special schools and resource bases for children with special educational needs, £120m on the third river crossing at Yarmouth, £9m for extra care housing to help older people live independently as part of a total investment of £29m. Most of the expenditure for capital projects is borrowed from the Public Works Loan Board, a department of HM Treasury, and repaid from revenue over a long period.

Adult social care costs continue to escalate, and the Council has made provision in the budget to invest £6m to address growing demand. Although the 3% adult social care precept was not raised this year all council tax rises from 2016-17 to 2018-19 are expected, by government, to be spent on adult social care. Thus, this year's council tax bill shows an adult social care precept of £96.05 for a band D property with no increase for this year. Additionally, government has awarded the Council a grant of £4.2m to help alleviate winter pressure on the Counties health and social care services. The money will go towards measures to avoid unnecessary delays in hospitals for people with mental health difficulties; bolster the short term capacity in the care market

and to provide reablement support to enable people to regain their ability to live independently.

There are also substantial financial pressures on Children's Services. The Council has around 200 statutory responsibilities for children and the government has increased the top of the age range from 18 to 25. There are 1200 children in the care of the Council (the numbers have stabilised), 3000 children in special and complex needs schools, 2,900 children in need (590 with CP plans) and 20,000 children with special educational needs. The under 25 population of Norfolk is 243,00. As an example, home to school transport costs £27.7m pa, placements and support for looked after children costs £57m pa and education and care for children with SEN £56.4m pa out of a total budget of £186m.

The government awarded the Council £12.7m to fund pot hole repairs and highway improvement schemes. The highway team have been doing a good job over the summer and have largely caught up with the backlog of work. The extra cash must all be spent by the end of the financial year so some improvement schemes which have been shelved though lack of funding have been resurrected. In my area much needed resurfacing of 2 miles the B1145 was completed in February. Resurfacing work at 3 busy junctions will be carried out before the end of March. Norfolk has been ranked 4th out of 28 similar councils in a national highways and transport survey. The highest scores for the county were for traffic levels and congestion and the condition of roads and footpaths.

The Council continues to lobby government and the Highways Agency, through the A47 Alliance, to fund the dualling of the A47 from Peterborough to Yarmouth. The stretch of road between Tuddenham and Easton has been approved and work will start in 2021/22, this will provide a continuous dual carriageway link between Dereham and Norwich. Other schemes in Norfolk to 2020 include junction improvements at Thickthorn and at Yarmouth and dualling between Biofield and North Burlingham. Another top priority for the Council is the so called western link, the construction of a road between the A1067 and the A47. This would link the newly completed Broadland Northway (the NDR) with the A47. The final account for the construction of the Broadland Northway has been settled in the sum of £205m.

Last May the Council took the decision to revert to the Cabinet system of governance from May 2019 (an earlier transition was not possible legally). The

recent departure of the Managing Director has given rise to an opportunity to move to an Executive Leader model. This would mean that the Council would be run on a day to day basis through weekly meetings between Cabinet members and the Senior Management Team (the paid Directors) with the Leader as Chair with all decisions being put through Cabinet or promulgated for consideration by Members. A Scrutiny Committee chaired by a member of the opposition will monitor outcomes and will run a call-in system where decisions taken by the Executive Members and Cabinet can be called in by Members for discussion. 3 Select Committees will develop policies and make recommendations to Cabinet.

An additional £11m contract has been let to increase the superfast (>10mbps) broadband coverage from 92% to 95% in Norfolk. This will typically give coverage to properties and businesses that cannot be connected by Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) solutions and will use other technologies including Fibre to the Premises (FTTP). The small improvement in coverage for a sizeable investment reflects the difficulty in reaching premises remote from the FTTC solution. NCC have secured a government grant of £8m to allow a full fibre broadband connection to 208 of Norfolk's schools, 108 of NCCs corporate buildings and 34 fire stations. This will allow broadband speeds of 1Gigabit (about 20 times faster than the average speed currently). Additionally, nearby businesses will be allowed to piggyback on to these connections and government grants will be available to cover part of the cost of the connection.

NCC has won praise for its approach to improving mobile phone coverage. A survey was carried out on mobile phone signals across the county and the results were used to create an interactive map and more than 200 council owned sites have been identified in areas of poor mobile phone reception. These sites are being offered to mobile operators as potential sites for new masts.

Mark Kiddle-Morris.

April 2019

Church Report 2019

Gt and Lt Fransham Churches have been in regular use through out the year for Services, Weddings, Christenings and Funerals and are open to all. A list of all church services can be found in the parish magazine.

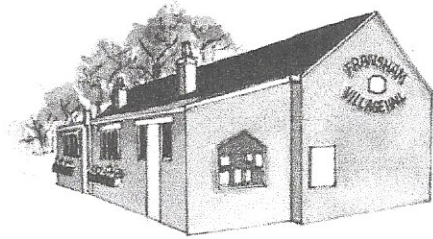
St Marys Church at Lt Fransham will have essential maintenance repairs carried out this summer.

Our fundraising activities have been put on hold until the Village Hall reopens later in the year.

The Fransham Parochial Church Council would like to thank the Parish Council for their continual support with the cutting of the Churchyards.

Fransham Village Hall

Report to Parish Council
May 2019



Events 2018

The village hall has held no events during 2018 due to the extensive damage to the hall floor by woodworm.

Maintenance and Improvements

The meadow and hedges have been kept in good order this year thanks to Mr Edward Spratt and Mr John Clancy of Dogz Academy.

Woodworm has got as far as the kitchen door. The floor in which the parish council has its meetings is ok for the moment. The local and European elections will be going ahead in this part of the hall only, Mr Gerry Taylor of the Village Hall Committee has informed Breckland Council regarding the state of the floor, they sent out someone to inspect the hall and they are happy for the elections to go ahead but in this part of the hall only.

Programme for 2019/2020

The PCC has been busy raising funds but, we are still short for what is needed to be done. There have been a few hurdles along the way as the Diocese wants the hall to be repaired but not willing to help with funds, we are relying on the generosity of residents from both Great and Little Fransham.

We will be starting work on the hall floor with the funds we have after the European elections at the end of May, hopefully we will be able to have the harvest supper.

Summer fete has been cancelled again for 2019 as we do not want public in hall as it is not in a safe condition. The Parish Council meetings can continue we feel as any public movement can be controlled whereas an event such as the fete would see the public less so controlled

Dogz Academy can still use the meadow and the use the W.C. facilities, Mr Clancy and his pupils are aware of the issues.

N Taylor.

Diane Taylor
Fransham Village Hall Committee

Fransham Village Hall Report - 2019

This year started badly with the discovery of wood worm in the floor, but ended well, after having raised £11,000. We have now booked a builder for June, to start repairing and relaying the floor. To save money the committee will pull up the old floorboards. We are hoping we will be back in action for the Harvest Supper.

Mr Clancy continues to hire the field for dog training and we still hire out chairs, tables and crockery.

I have to give a huge thank you to everyone who has donated money and the church and village hall committee for all their constant help and support. Without any of these people, there would be no village hall. We hope to arrange many events when it is finished.

Report on FRANSHAM WI May 2018 – May 2019

The last year has been another successful one for the Fransham branch of the WI. We continue to welcome 30 members which include Members from Fransham as well as the surrounding villages. We have become a diverse group of all ages. This past year has been a special year for two of our Fransham members as one celebrated her 90th birthday and one recently got married.

Our President Pamela Lippett completed her first years term and was honoured that the members voted her back in to take on the role for another year

Due to the problems with Fransham Village Hall we moved the location of our meetings and they are now held at Wendling Village Hall. We seem to have settled in well and we have been made very welcome. We always meet on the second Thursday of every month but December to February we meet at 2.15pm and March to November we meet at 7.15pm. We always welcome new members, so why not come along and take a look!

SPEAKERS We have enjoyed a wide variety of fascinating speakers – these have included talks on: Tulipmania, A Policeman's Lot, The life of a Submariner, The History of the Broads, A Print Making Demonstration and we even had a go at Yoga from our armchairs! Suggestions for speakers are always welcomed as we would love to hear about a hobby or experience from a Fransham resident.

COMPETITION A competition is held almost every month which relates to the speakers subject. At the end of the year the monthly points are totalled the goal is to win the yearly trophy.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS Our members continue to enjoy our Quilting and sewing groups and often have sales of work. This year has however seen the addition of a Gin Club which has grown and now includes wine as well as non alcoholic drinks so has become more of a social evening.

SOCIAL EVENTS: As usual we held a Summer buffet and a very enjoyable Christmas Lunch for our members and their partners at Swaffham Golf Course. Both events were filled with fun, food and friendship and attended by members along with their family and friends.

OUTINGS: We have had a very enjoyable and varied year. Outings continue to be an important part of WI life especially as these outings always manage to squeeze in lunch or coffee and cake. This year, to list a few have seen us walking the streets of Kings Lynn with a guide, walking the fields with Alpacas, visited various beautiful gardens, having fun with willow, creating fabric pictures and having a good days shopping in Spalding. Thanks go to our outings team who yet again excelled themselves this year and we look forward to the visits they have planned this coming year.

The WI recognise that there are still many issues with the village hall We were however somewhat disappointed not to be included in the Franshams recent report on the halls progress in the Church and Village especially as we have been supporters of the hall for many

years. We all appreciate that the hall committee are doing their best to address the huge problems they face and the WI continue to offer their support in any way they.

Finally thank you to all our WI members and supporters and we look forward to the year to come.

Fransham Trustees

The Fransham Relief in Need Charity distributed 15 grants to beneficiaries within the Parishes of Gt and Lt Fransham.

**FRANSHAM PARISH COUNCIL - YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2019
FINANCIAL REPORT AT YEAR END**

BUDGET UPDATE	Budget		Year		%
	2018/19	End	End	Spend	
PAYMENTS*					
Admin	1128	924		82%	
Salary	1015	1119		110%	
Maintenance	100	0			
Grass Cutting	825	737		89%	
Donations	100	50		50%	
TOTAL	3168	2829		89%	
Bus Shelter	21000	12700		60%	
TOTAL	24168	15529			
RECEIPTS					
Precept	3500	3500		100%	
Breckland Grant	91	91		100%	
Admin	0	44			
Bank Interest	0	20			
Grants	0	0			
Recycling	0	65			
TOTAL	3591	3719		104%	
SURPLUS/DEFICIT**	423	890			

BANK RECONCILIATION	
Bank Balance at 01.04.2018	
Current Account	19,886.90
Savings Account	2,007.04
	21,893.94
Plus Receipts at 31.03.2019	3,852.12
Less Expenditure at 31.03.2019	15,552.42
	10,193.64
Balance at 31.03.2019	
Community Current Account	10,203.01
Business Savings Account	26.63
	10,229.64
less outstanding cheques	36.00
	10,193.64
Less Grass Cutting Reserve	89.00
Less Bus Shelter Reserve	8,299.80
General Reserve	1,804.84

A VAT refund of £23.33 is due.