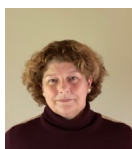


FRANSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
April 2021 to March 2022

Our Councillors



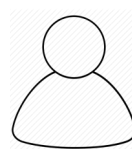
Richard Watts
Chairman
01362 681917



Emma Spratt
01362 687791



Russell James
Vice Chairman
01362 687148



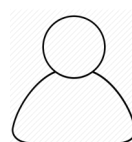
James Sheringham
01760 722159



Andrew Lake
01362 687537



Gerry Taylor
07711 082373

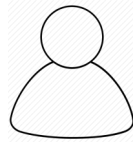


Brian Drewitt
(now resigned)

In August 2022, Brian Drewitt resigned as a Councillor. The Parish Council would like to thank Brian for all of his support and time he committed to the Parish Council.

It is hoped the vacancy will be filled quickly.

Our Staff



Sheryl Irving, Parish Clerk & RFO

01362 667756

franshamparishcouncil@gmail.com

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Chairman's Report

As a new chair, I would firstly like to thank the clerk and vice-chair for their support and advice which has been invaluable during the year.

Following the relaxation in the Covid restrictions, it has been a more normal year for the council with more face-to-face meetings. We have also been able to enjoy more interaction with public members attending the meetings for various reasons. As a Council we encourage the members of the community we represent to have their say. We are pleased that we have been able to action requests that are within the power of the council, mainly with positive outcomes.

The regular meeting location for the council is the Village Hall, however, with extensive building work being undertaken the hall has not been available for our use. We have been very fortunate in the use of Curds Hall Barn and would like to thank Councillor Sheringham for this.

(NB: Building works have been completed and we are now meeting back in the Village Hall.)

The council has implemented regular documented checks on the council's assets. This includes, assessing their condition and reporting the results at each meeting. The system has shown its value as it has already highlighted an issue with one of the benches that wasn't reported to the council. Since the report, and with considerable personal effort of a member of the council, the bench is now in great condition. Thank you Councillor Taylor.

The efforts of some of the members of the council putting aside their free time should also be recognised with the procurement, storage and planting of some trees in different locations of the villages mainly in commemoration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We also acquired enough plants to repair the damaged hedge next to the bus shelter that was replaced. Thank you to those involved.

The council has nearly completed the necessary steps to achieve acceptance in the Local Quality Council Award Scheme, it is a structure which will assist the council to improve performance and confidence, with policies in place to ensure continuous development and drive a high standard of operation. Once again, this is only being achieved by the dedication of individuals within the council and assisted significantly by the clerk.

The council are continuing to try and reduce the use of smaller roads as unnecessary thoroughfares by HGV's, it is proving to be a challenge, but we will endeavour to improve the safety our villages.

Planning is a constant item on the agenda of the meetings and the last twelve months have proved no different. As a council we are able to add a comment on the application and indeed we often put forward any views presented by either the council or members of the public. The comments are considered in the next stage of the planning application process and we are confident that our comments are considered.

The trod is mentioned at every meeting and although progress with repairs of minor damage and drainage has been made, as a council we are still sure that the overall quality can be improved, we will continue to seek that improvement.

Our remit only goes so far but if we can help, we will. If it is outside the scope of the parish council, we will endeavour to pass on your concern to the correct agency.

Finally, I would like to reinforce the point that we are representatives of the community. We all give freely our time to ensure the community has a voice. It is your views, comments, and questions that we are here to listen to and act upon.

Richard Watts

Chairman

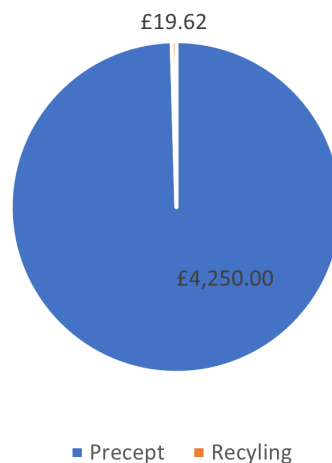
What we did during the year

- A Jubilee tree was planted in both churchyards to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. A plaque will be erected in due course.
- A Jubilee Orchard was planted in the Village Hall Field, again to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.
- Many highway issues were reported to the relevant agencies and monitored to ensure they were completed, these included the removal of an obstructing hedge on Station Road, potholes, dirty pavements and an abandoned vehicle.
- We continued to push Norfolk County Council to improve the quality of the road on Station Road and works will be carried out during the summer.
- Poor internet connectivity is an issue for many in the village and a working group was set up to try and make improvements.
- We have engaged with Vattenfall, particularly with regards to the Community Fund which will be available and this will continue during 2022/23.
- We are also part of the Parish Council group pushing for an Offshore Transmission Network to replace the current onshore cabling routes bringing power in from the windfarms offshore. This group has the support of George Freeman M.P.
- We continue our efforts to reduce the number of Heavy Goods Vehicles using Station Road.
- The bench on Station Road has been refurbished.
- We contribute to planning matters to ensure that the village voice is heard at Breckland and our concerns registered.

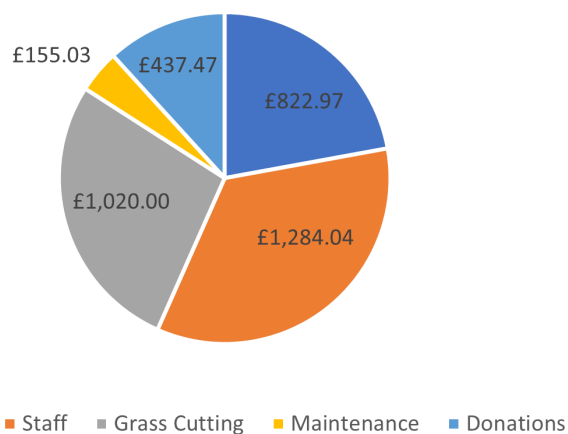
- We are ensuring we meet the criteria for the Local Councils Award Scheme— Quality Level. We want to serve our community as best we can and make a real difference in the lives of the people that live here. This Scheme provides a framework to support us in improving and developing to meet our full potential and will show that we meet the standards set by the sector.
- Most importantly, we engage with our local residents and do our best to take any concerns or ideas forward on their behalf. We always welcome their attendance at our Council meetings which are held at 7.00pm on the third Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November.

Finances

Receipts 2021 - 2022



Payments 2021 - 2022



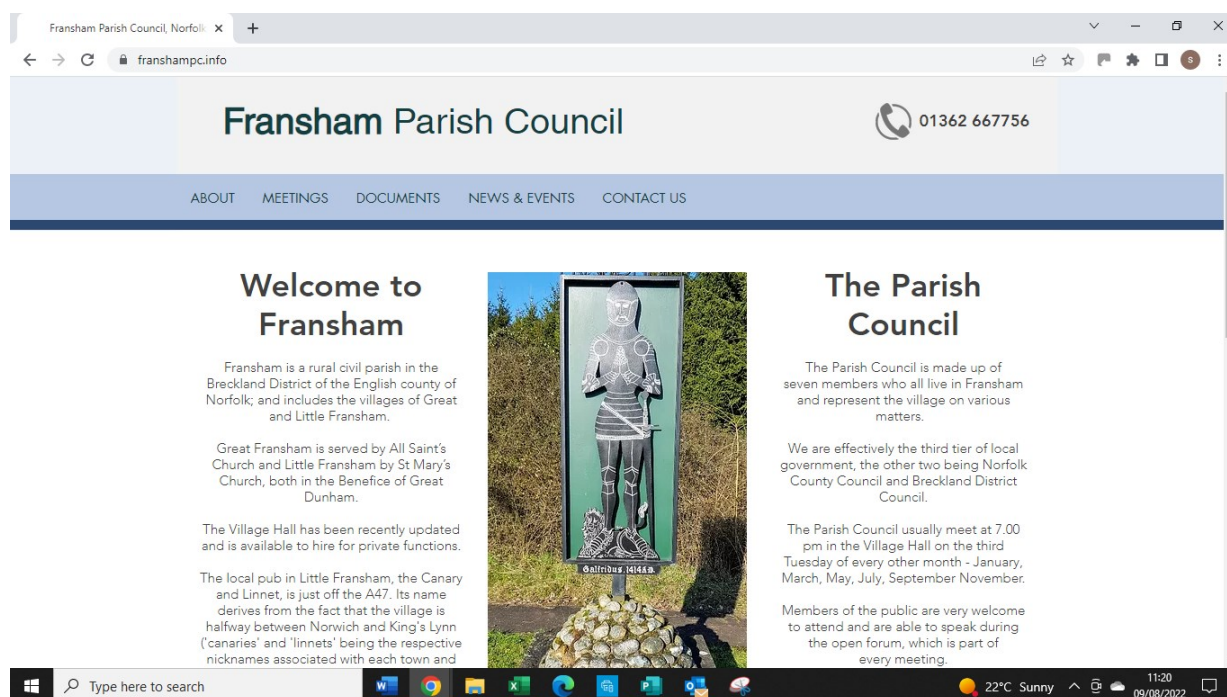
Administration includes insurance, office supplies, subscriptions etc.

Looking Ahead—Our priorities for 2022/23

- Vattenfall—to continue to engage and secure the best possible outcome in respect of the Community Fund for our community.
- To carry out a village survey to discover what residents want in their village.
- Local Council Award Scheme—to complete the work required to secure the Quality Award.
- To continue to ensure Fransham is well maintained, both by the Parish Council and other agencies where appropriate.
- To continue to try and improve internet connectivity for the community.

Our Website— www.franshampc.info

Our website is the best place to find information about your local council, its functions, governing documents, actions plans, minutes and finances etc.



Fransham Parish Council, Norfolk

franshampc.info

01362 667756

ABOUT MEETINGS DOCUMENTS NEWS & EVENTS CONTACT US


Welcome to Fransham

Fransham is a rural civil parish in the Breckland District of the English county of Norfolk; and includes the villages of Great and Little Fransham.

Great Fransham is served by All Saint's Church and Little Fransham by St Mary's Church, both in the Benefice of Great Dunham.

The Village Hall has been recently updated and is available to hire for private functions.

The local pub in Little Fransham, the Canary and Linnet, is just off the A47. Its name derives from the fact that the village is halfway between Norwich and King's Lynn ('canaries' and 'linnets' being the respective nicknames associated with each town and



The Parish Council

The Parish Council is made up of seven members who all live in Fransham and represent the village on various matters.

We are effectively the third tier of local government, the other two being Norfolk County Council and Breckland District Council.

The Parish Council usually meet at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall on the third Tuesday of every other month - January, March, May, July, September November.

Members of the public are very welcome to attend and are able to speak during the open forum, which is part of every meeting.

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