

FRANSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a virtual meeting of Fransham Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 21st July 2020.

Under the Coronavirus Act, the Secretary of State has published meetings regulations which remove the requirement to hold annual meetings and allow virtual meetings up to 7 May 2021. These are contained in The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Present: Cllr Russell James (Chairman)
Cllr Richard Watts (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Emma Spratt
Cllr Brian Drewitt
Cllr James Sheringham

Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received from Cllrs Gerry Taylor and Andrew Lake and District/County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were none declared.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26th May 2020.

Cllr Brian Drewitt proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Watts and agreed by Council. The Chairman will sign the minutes in due course.

4. To receive County/District Councillor reports.

Written reports regarding the ongoing Covid-19 situation had previously been received from the District/County Cllr and there were no further updates were available.

5. Open Forum for Public Participation.

There were no members of the public present.

6. To receive a report in respect of the Proposed Vattenfall Wind Farms, including a report from Cllr Drewitt re an Offshore Ring Main.

Cllr Drewitt reported that the Vattenfall Wind Farm had received approval from the Secretary of State and the Offshore Ring Main was not part of that approval and will not be taken forward. Cllr Sheringham reported that an appeal of the decision had been submitted.

7. Highway Matters.

a) To receive updates in respect of issues previously reported.

Council noted the following updates:

- Pot Holes – Station Road, nr Ash House and the Old Rectory – these had been repaired but at separate times which will be reported to the County Cllr.

- Broken street light adjacent to westbound bus shelter – Highway England works programmed and no further update was available.
- Obstructing Hedge at 3 Station Road – the resident had taken some action to cut back the overgrowth but Highways had not yet removed the hedge and this will be followed up.

b) To receive an update and consider any further action re the trod.

The County Cllr had previously indicated that works to improve the surface of the trod would be carried out, however, this was yet to happen and will be followed up.

c) To receive an update regarding the significant HGV use of Station Road.

Council noted the increased use of Station Road by HGV's and agreed to request a 'not suitable for HGV's' sign as this may stop some of the vehicles who were using a sat-nav for directions, although it was noted that it would not stop any local drivers currently using the route.

d) To consider options for an application to the Parish Partnership Scheme.

There were no new projects raised but it was noted that the scheme was open for applications until December 2020 and Councillors were advised to bring forward any ideas they may have.

e) To consider the shared-purchase of a SAM II sign to assist with speeding issues.

Council agreed that there were few suitable sites for a speed sign which would meet with Highways approval and a vote was taken on whether to proceed, for – 1, against – 4. Accordingly, Council agreed not to go ahead with the shared-purchase of a speed sign.

f) To consider any new highway issues.

There were no new highway issues raised.

8. Planning Issues.

g) New Applications.

- 3PL/2020/0625/F – Peridaal, Beeston Lane - Change of use of outbuilding (currently gym/spa) to annexe – Council agreed to comment on the access road which had a lack of visibility for highway users.
- 3PL/2020/0604/F – Field House Farm, Station Road - change of use of land for proposed manege & associated fencing – Council agreed, subject to it being for personal use, not to make any comment on this application.

h) Decisions Due.

Council noted the following application had been approved.

- 3PL/2020/0513/VAR – The Willows, Station Road - Variation of Condition No 2 on 3PL/2018/1486/HOU - Change to the approved plans - single storey changed to flat roof.

9. To receive a report on the Bus Shelter Project & Repair.

Council noted that the mini 278 agreement was awaited from Highways England and gave approval for the Clerk to sign off the agreement once received. Following this, the new shelter should be in place within weeks.

10. To receive a report from the Village Hall Committee regarding repairs.

Cllr Spratt reported that fund raising continued for damp works to the Hall but it was challenging in the current times as the Hall was not in use and there was no regular income.

11. To receive a report re grass cutting at the churchyards.

Complaints had been received regarding the overgrown verge at Little Fransham Church and the contractors had been contacted and agreed to resolve the issue.

12. To receive a Crime & Policing report.

The Chairman reported that there had been no reports of any crime in April with one ASB and two other unspecified crimes in May.

13. Financial Matters.

a) To receive a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2021.

Council noted the financial report.

b) To consider a donation towards repairs to the Village Hall.

Council agreed to consider the request for a donation at the end of the current financial year.

c) To consider approval of the following payments.

Cllr Watts proposed approval of the following payments, this was seconded by Cllr Sheringham and agreed by Council.

• Clerk Salary & Allowance – June/July	£217.80
• HMRC	£0.20
• Grass Contractor (paid on 3.6.2020)	£600.00

14. Correspondence for circulation.

Council noted the following correspondence:

- Covid-19 related correspondence
- Norwich Western Link – Public Consultation

15. To receive any new items for the next meeting.

There were no new items raised for the next meeting.

16. To confirm the next meeting of Fransham Parish Council will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 15th September 2020.

Council noted the date of the next meeting and the meeting then closed at 7.34pm.

Signed:

Date:
