



FRATING PARISH COUNCIL

Memorial Hall, Main Road, Frating, CO7 7DJ.

Clerk to the Council: Jim Morris

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MINUTES of the FRATING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at Memorial Hall on Monday 2nd December 2024 at 1930hrs.

Present: Cllr Paula Bland (Vice-Chairperson)
Cllr Terry Cuthbert (Chairperson)
Cllr Jean Hynes
Cllr Sally Potter
Jim Morris, Clerk to the Council

12.24.98 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Veronica Morris, Cllr Terri Philp, Cllr Lynda McWilliams (The Bentleys & Frating Ward) and Cllr Carlo Guglielmi (Tendring Rural West Division).

12.24.99 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

It was RESOLVED: That members would raise relevant disclosures of interest at applicable Agenda items.

12.24.100 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

N/A.

12.24.101 MINUTES

Members received and considered the draft Minutes of the Frating Parish Council (FPC) meeting held on Monday 4th November 2024.

It was RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4th November 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairperson.

12.24.102 MATTERS PENDING

Members received and considered a list of the parish council's current outstanding actions (attached to record Minutes). All matters had been addressed or were due to be considered during the meeting.

It was RESOLVED: That the council's matters pending be noted.

12.24.103 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Cllr Cuthbert offered a report to the meeting. Cllr Guglielmi had informed the Chairperson that works at Alresford Viaduct were expected to be completed by March 2025. The viaduct had been closed over two weekends in November, possibly for surveying, with a rail replacement service operating. The PRoW from Frating Hill to Elmstead Market had been cut back and, although still narrow, was passable. A response from Cllr Guglielmi on works at Frating Park was expected; the large pothole opposite the Kings Arms had been reported; and a query over responsibility for tree management in Fenn Close would be discussed with a representative from Tendring District Council (TDC) at a forthcoming site meeting.

It was RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

12.24.104 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

i. Cllr Lynda McWilliams had offered apologies.
ii. Cllr Carlo Guglielmi had offered apologies. The monthly report had been circulated via email.
iii. Cllr Bland reported on the recent meeting of the Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC). Another proposal for an offshore wind farm with connection to the National Grid had come forward. More details were expected at a future meeting. A proposal for a Tendring Orbital Coastal Route had been discussed. The scheme would likely cost in the region of £800,000-£900,000 but could generate an estimated £6m in revenue from tourism. There were plans to resurrect Emergency Planning & Community Resilience meetings. The Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) had appointed a new Chairperson, and it had been intimated that staff changes would be enacted as well as closer working partnership with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC). NALC was formulating its response to a government Consultation on enabling remote attendance at local council meetings. In Tendring, the possible parishing of Jaywick and other communities within the wider Clacton area was being discussed.

Cllr Bland also noted the success of the recent litter pick in Frating, and thanked the local Plymouth Brethren church for its support. An offer of providing contact details to other members of TDALC had been made.

It was RESOLVED: that the report be noted. Cllrs Cuthbert and Morris were the council's representatives for attending future meetings regarding Emergency Planning & Community Resilience.

12.24.105 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

Members received and considered current and ongoing planning issues and associated matters:

i. Planning Applications:

a. Ref: [24/01661/VOC](#)

Address: Holly Farm, Main Road, Frating, Essex.

Proposal: Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for Variation of Conditions 2 (Approved Plans) and Condition 7 (Size 3 Turning Area) of application (24/00326/FUL) to enable/allow substitute of new drawings (attached to record Minutes).

Frating Parish Council declined to offer comment on the proposal, but noted the recent professional removal of asbestos from the development site.

b. Ref: [EN010115](#)

Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Project – Change Request. Notice of proposed changes to an accepted application for a Development Consent Order. Regulation 7 of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (attached to record Minutes).

Frating Parish Council declined to offer comment.

ii. Planning Decisions: none received.

iii. Planning Appeals: none received.

iv. Flooding – Essex Surface Water Management meetings. Cllr Cuthbert was due to attend an online meeting. Local property owners had been contacted regarding clearing ditches adjacent to their land.

It was RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

v. Parking issues on Bromley Road. A *Teams* meeting had been held with Paul Seabright of North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) to discuss possible solutions to the ongoing parking issues being experienced at Bromley Road. Paul Seabright had noted that it was unusual to see double yellow lines painted at such distance from a junction, indicating that the area was known to be problematic. NEPP would not recommend the introduction of double red lines as they would not offer a significant difference in enforceability. Double red lines can be patrolled by a camera car, but Tendring District Council did not allow NEPP's camera cars within its area. NEPP would increase its patrols in the area, and asked for a timetable of particularly problematic days and times to be provided.

It was RESOLVED: That the report be noted and the information mediated to the owner of Frating Pool.

vi. Essex wide Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan - Consultation (attached to record Minutes).

It was RESOLVED: That the Consultation be noted.

vi. Vehicle-Activated Sign reports 26.10.2024-25.11.2024 (attached to record Minutes). Around 6% of vehicles both entering and leaving the village were shown to be exceeding the speed limit.

It was RESOLVED: That the data be noted.

12.24.106 FINANCE

i. Schedule of accounts received and paid for the period 01.05.24 – 18.09.24 (attached to record Minutes).

It was RESOLVED: That the schedule of accounts be noted.

ii. Members received and considered invoices presented for payment by the Parish Clerk.

It was RESOLVED: That the invoices be approved, uploaded and paid.

iii. The Clerk noted that moving the accounts to Unity Trust Bank was progressing.

It was RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

iv. Members received and considered further information and pricing for moving to .gov.uk: *With the email costings, it is such a small amount per councillor per year we normally just invoice once for the number of seats to reduce admin. Website hosting is already sorted so no need to worry about that. Email hosting will be set up with email address & password, and will need to be configured for collection. There are many ways to do this and it varies between devices (phone types, windows, macs etc) and is literally impossible to explain in an email to cover all scenarios. The email will be independent of any other supplier (like Outlook). It can be collected to a computer and/or phone and/or ipad/tablet, and also can be viewed online in what is known as "webmail" by login. When we get to set up stage I will need details of what people use or want to use to collect email and help set it up as necessary. Can't see why people would have problems with their Hotmail (not that it is a good system to choose) but with our system they will have personal support to solve issues! Just to add to this – once set up, the email just works reliably and no issues!*

Set up costs:

Purchase .gov.uk domain (10 years)	£196.00
Domain application and website transfer	£25.00
Clerk mailbox setup and email transfer	£30.00
Annual running cost Clerk emails and website	£55.00
Seven councillor email setup	£35.00
Annual running cost Cllr emails	£28.00
Total:	£369.00

Ongoing annual costs:

Annual running cost Clerk emails and website	£55.00
Annual running cost Cllr emails	£28.00
Total:	£83.00

It was RESOLVED: That .gov.uk website domain and email addresses be purchased from VCS.

v. Frating Parish Council budget 2025-26. Members considered likely additional items for expenditure, such as bus shelter refurbishment, footpath maintenance, and the likelihood of needing to use Planning Consultants to help formulate responses to TDC's forthcoming Local Plan review.

It was RESOLVED: That the precept requirement be increased by 3%.

vi. Members received and considered a request for funding from Essex & Herts Air Ambulance (attached to record Minutes) and whether to provide further charitable donations to other organisations. It was noted that the Air Ambulance had recently attended an incident in the parish.

It was RESOLVED: That a donation of £200 be made to Essex & Herts Air Ambulance.

12.24.107 LEISURE & FACILITIES

Members received and considered matters arising and/or ongoing regarding Leisure & Facilities:

i. Litter pick. At least four parishioners had attended the recent litter pick along with members of the local Plymouth Brethren congregation. Around 35-40 bags of litter had been picked from local roadsides and verges, including half a divan bed. The council was grateful to the Plymouth Brethren, who had been very well organised and keen to help.

ii. Warm Hub. A proposal for providing a Warm Hub at the Memorial Hall had been made at a previous meeting. A parishioner had run the scheme in 2023-24, and it would require volunteer help to organise.

iii. Dog fouling. There was a clear issue with dog fouling in certain areas in the village, despite notices regarding TDC's Public Spaces Protection Order being present.

iv. Transfer of Open Spaces. Cllrs Bland and Cuthbert were due to meet with TDC Open Spaces to discuss the transfer of both the playground and the Closed Churchyard to Frating Parish Council. Confirmation of Section 106 monies due was being sought.

12.24.108 GOVERNANCE

i. Members received and considered the 'Civility & Respect Pledge' promoted by NALC (attached to record Minutes). The Pledge did not appear to offer any greater sanctions for poor behaviour than the council's Code of Conduct.

It was RESOLVED: That the 'Civility & Respect Pledge' be noted.

ii. Declarations of Pecuniary Interests. The Clerk had received updated Declaration of Pecuniary Interests forms from Cllrs Bland, Cuthbert, and Potter.

It was RESOLVED: That members would complete and return the updated DPI forms.

iii. The Clerk had given notice of resignation from the role due to a change in circumstances. The job was to be advertised via EALC, with a closing date of 16th December and interviews to take place on or around 20th December. The Clerk would stay in position until the new appointment had been adequately trained for the role.

It was RESOLVED: That the appointment of a new Clerk & RFO be progressed.

12.24.109 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting would be held in January only if Planning Applications were received.

12.24.110 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next parish council meeting was scheduled to take place on Monday 3rd February 2025 at 1930hrs at Frating War Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 2045hrs.

Signed..... Date.....