



FRATING PARISH COUNCIL

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

MINUTES of the FRATING PARISH ANNUAL MEETING held on Monday 14th April 2025 at 1930hrs.

Present: Cllr Paula Bland (Vice-Chairperson)
Cllr Terry Cuthbert (Chairperson)
Cllr Jean Hynes
Cllr Veronica Morris
Cllr Sally Potter
Kay English, Clerk to the Council
Six Members of the Public

1.0 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Cllr Cuthbert welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Terri Philp, Cllr Carlo Guiglielmi and Cllr Aimee Keteca were invited to the Annual Parish Meeting, however, they were unable to attend.

3.0 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 8 April 2024 were agreed.

4.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Cuthbert's outlined his annual report, which was available on the website and attached here.

5.0 OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

5.1 Planning: residents expressed their concern about the Local Plan review and proposals to build extensive housing in the area. One resident contacted Tendring District Council for a copy of the Local Plan and was asked to pay a fee of £76.50. Some residents found the location of the consultation hubs inconvenient.

The Chairman responded by saying the Director of Planning & Community gave an outline of the Local Plan Review at the Parish Council Meeting on 3 March 2025. He further added that a formal response to the consultation on behalf of Frating had been submitted expressing concerns regarding the proposals.

5.2 Frating Sign: A resident proposed cleaning and replanting around the Frating sign. This would be taken forward to the next Parish Council Meeting for consideration, which will be held on 12 May 2025.

5.3 Expression of Thanks: The Chairman was thanked for his efforts and hard work throughout the year. A welcome was also extended to the new Clerk.

The meeting closed at 19.45 hours.

Signed..... Date.....
Chairman

Contact Details:

Clerk to the Council: Kay English
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**FRATING PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
April 2024- March 2025
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Introduction:

The Parish Council ended the year with six councillors, leaving one vacancy. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in becoming a Councillor. As Chairman, I thank all Councillors and our Clerk/Clerks for their contributions over the past year.

All meetings were held in person at the Memorial Hall.

County Councillor Carlo Guglielmi (Tendring Rural West Division) participates in our meetings when possible, to provide updates on county-level policies and initiatives. In his absence, Carlo submits written reports and supports our highway requests with Essex County Council.

District Councillor Lynda McWilliams resigned from her position due to ill health. Aimee Keteca was elected as her replacement in March.

As in preceding years, planning continues to play a vital role in the Council's operations due to its considerable influence on the parish's welfare. While we are generally consulted, we are not the decision-making authority. The feedback from residents is incorporated into our consultations with County and District Planners.

We await Essex County Council's (ECC) decision on preferred mineral extraction sites. Tendring District Council (TDC) are updating the Local Plan, possibly expanding housing in Frating and Great Bromley. We represent our interests at various associations and regularly liaise with other councils.

Terry Cuthbert,
Chairman

Planning

The application to develop part of Holly Farm for five houses was approved by TDC, and construction has begun. Another application for three single-storey properties at the rear was also approved.

Stonebridge, the company that owns the Kings Arms Public House, applied for permission to build two houses on the car park. The Parish Council objected to this proposal, and the application was subsequently refused by TDC.

Due to the Government's policy to build 1.5 million houses, TDC must revise their Local Plan to meet a new target of 1034 houses per year, doubling the original goal. They are considering building a Garden Community with 1500 to 5000 properties in Frating and Great Bromley. The Parish Council will submit concerns about this expansion. A leaflet was circulated to Frating households encouraging residents to give views on the proposals to TDC.

The company building two reservoirs on Great Bentley Road has applied to ECC for a Batching Plant. The Parish Council has expressed their concerns to ECC.

Local Issues of Concern

Many residents in Frating have welcomed the relatively dry winter, as it has prevented flooding that previously affected their properties. As reported last year, we are awaiting Anglian Water to conduct a survey of their sewer system to identify the issues compromising and overwhelming it. Over the past six months, the Parish Council has held monthly meetings with Anglian Water and Essex Flood Management in an effort to find solutions to the flooding problems. We are pleased to report that Anglian Water began conducting the survey at the end of February. This process will take several weeks to complete, but we will keep all those affected by flooding updated with the outcome.

A public meeting was convened on 4th March 2024 to provide attendees with information regarding the proposal by the landowner at Frating Hall to offer 47 hectares to ECC for mineral extraction. It was clarified that this is merely the initial stage of the process, and the final decision will rest with ECC as to whether this site will be included in their preferred list. Attendees were encouraged to submit their objections to ECC to prevent this inclusion. The Parish Council resolved to object to this site (A69). At the time of compiling this report, due to the volume of objections raised for all sites across Essex, the preferred list has yet to be determined. We anticipate soon being informed if A69 is included.

The Parish Council continues to ensure that the Public Rights of Way in Frating remain accessible for public use. The parish works with the ECC P3 Scheme, which provides equipment and signage as needed. The Parish Council appreciates the efforts of local landowners to maintain clear footpaths for public use, despite challenges like cropping. We also thank the Morehams Hall landowner for permitting public access on the track from Clacton Road/Bromley Road to Harwich Road.

We consistently report issues with roads and signage to Essex County Council. Fly tipping continues to occur. These incidents are reported to TDC, for clearance to be undertaken as soon as possible.

The Parish Council has installed two VAS signs on the A133 to monitor vehicle speeds. The data shows that speeding has reduced from 6% to 5% year on year. Some residents have requested a Speed Watch scheme, which requires volunteers to operate speed guns. Training is available; please contact the Parish Clerk if interested.

Grass Cutting, Tree Maintenance and Lighting

The Parish Council hires a contractor to regularly maintain grass areas for good appearance. A tree surgeon is employed to survey and prune the birch trees on Bromley Road. We appreciate residents who tidy their frontages and plant flowers around the Memorial Hall and Frating village sign.

TDC currently maintains the old Frating Church graveyard, but the parish aims to take over its management in 2025.

Streetlights on Bromley Road, Great Bentley Road, and Haggars Lane are managed independently of the ECC street lighting policy.

Dog Fouling

The Parish Council is monitoring dog fouling in public areas and urges owners to bag and bin their dog's waste. Some owners are also not controlling their dogs on public paths. Issues should be reported to the Dog Warden at TDC.

Frating Memorial Hall

The Parish Council, acting as Custodial Trustees of the Frating War Memorial Hall and Institute (a registered charity), is represented on the Management Committee. The Management Committee has ensured that the hall is well-maintained and fully operational. The Hall adheres to established governance policies and undergoes regular electrical and fire safety inspections. It is self-regulated for food service operations on the premises but does not possess a license for alcohol.

Parish Council Administration

The Annual Report for 2023/24 was created and published on our website to reach residents who do not attend meetings. The Minutes of all Parish meetings are available on the notice boards, website, and social media.

Parish Clerk- Remuneration and Working Hours

At the December meeting, it was agreed to increase the Clerk's remuneration from April 2024, as approved by the NJC. We will review working hours and adjust remuneration based on NJC's guidance.

Frating Parish Council Governance and Meetings Attended

The Parish Council reviews its annual governance according to TDC and County and National guidelines. Frating's Emergency Plan is lodged with TDC and updated as Councillors attend workshops.

Parish Councillors have attended various meetings in 2024/25 to represent Frating in multiple forums, with details reported at each parish meeting.

Frating Parish Councillors 2024/2025

Cllr. Terry Cuthbert- Chairman
Cllr. Paula Bland – Vice Chairman
Cllr. Jean Hynes
Cllr. Veronica Morris
Cllr. Terri Philp
Cllr. Sally Potter