



Minutes of the Framsdens Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 10th April 2025 at 7.30pm at Framsdens Village Hall

16 in attendance, including 5 Parish Councillors.

1. Welcome

Chairman Glenn Buckingham welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting, noting it was the 131st Annual Parish Meeting, when the Act of Parliament in 1894 separated the church from local government.

2. Receive apologies for absence

Matthew Hicks (County Councillor), Nick Hardingham (District Councillor), Julia Green (Framsden Greyhound), Martin Creasey (Framsden Baptist Church),

3. Agreement of Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 18th April 2024

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2024 as a true and accurate record, were proposed by Councillor Nicola Whitmore, seconded by Councillor Dominic Vaughan, all voted in favour and **IT WAS SO RESOLVED**. The Minutes were signed by the Chair and the Clerk

4. Matters arising from the previous Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 18th April 2024

None

5. To receive report from Chair of Framsdens Parish Council, Cllr Glenn Buckingham

Councillor Glenn Buckingham presented the report, which is available in full on the village website.

6. To receive report from the County Councillor, Cllr Matthew Hicks

The full Annual Report from the County Councillor is available on the Framsdens village website. Summary given by Councillor Glenn Buckingham, along with an additional statement from Councillor Hicks that is specific to Framsdens:

“One specific area of focus for me is the S19 report and the recommendations in Framsdens. Thanks firstly to all those who over the last few days have sent in further information and comments and I have made sure the Floods Tema is fully sighted on this. I do share the frustration that while the S19 highlight concerns and solutions it comes with no enforcement powers.

From an SCC perspective we estimate we require £21million to do all the highways work across the area impacted by Storm Babet. We have put in £1million pounds but that is clearly insufficient. We have written to Government asking for financial support but so far had no reply. Other agencies like the EA are also short of funding and looking for further financial assistance.

I will continue to lobby for funding and do what I can re the S19 to see some progress. If you have not yet added further comment to the S19 report and would like to please do send it to me.”

7. To receive report from the District Councillor, Cllr Nick Hardingham

The most recent reports received from the District Councillor are available on the Framsdens village website. Summary given by Dominic Vaughan.

8. To receive report from the Village Hall Team

Councillor Neil Mellor presented the report, which is available in full on the village website. It was noted that the Village Hall Team currently only consists of four members, it would be nice to have additional members to help share the load of managing the site for the benefit of the whole community.

Signed ...G. Buckingham (Chair of meeting authorising minutes) Signed ... S. Clare (Clerk)

9. To receive reports from Local Area organisations:

The following offered reports on their activities in the past twelve months, those that offered short reports are included below, longer reports can all be viewed on the village website <https://framsdenparishcouncil.gov.uk> under Parish Council/Annual Parish Meeting tab.

- a. Framsdén Fundraisers – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Richard Green.
- b. Framsdén Community Benefits Society (incorporating Framsdén Pub Group) – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Councillor Glenn Buckingham.
- c. Woodland Group – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Charlotte Bell.
- d. Table Tennis Club – The full report is available on the village website - presented by Ian Seager.
- e. St Marys Church – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Councillor Nicola Whitmore.
- f. Framsdén Baptist Church – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Councillor Rob Swanscott
- g. Village Tree Warden – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Claire Macaulay.
- h. Sustainable Framsdén CIC – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Claire Macaulay.
- i. Garden Group – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Margaret Samain.
- j. Creative Craft Group – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Margaret Samain
- k. Any other organisations not listed above:
 - Speedwatch Group – Councillor Nicola Whitmore gave a brief update on the activities of the Speedwatch Group. Currently the group go out couple of times a month and on average catch about 20 motorists an hour travelling over the 30mph speed limit. The highest recorded speed has been 59 mph. The Group is always on the lookout for more members, so get in touch with the Parish Council if you want to get involved. Currently the group is only able to operate in 30 mph zones, but they are hoping soon to get permission to operate on a 40 mph stretch too. There was a request for speed checks along The Street, but in truth most vehicles are not actually going over the speed limit, it is likely just a perception with The Street being very closed in.

4. Open forum for questions and discussion

1. A query raised for Sustainable Framsdén, asking about what the Community Energy project that the group is working on will actually entail. It was clarified that it will be a combination of solar panels and wind turbines, but the village will be fully informed as and when information becomes available. The bid is currently into the next round with the Department of Energy for Net Zero funding the next stages.
2. A query was raised about the District Council report, whether the £550,000 in CIL funds that had been allocated to communities was for this coming year or from the last year. It was confirmed that the report is from the 24/25 financial year.
3. A parishioner raised a variety of issues:
 - a) Stating it was their belief that the decision by the Parish Council to shelve plans to update the village hall more extensively just after a resignation from the Council was not a coincidence. Bearing in mind the amount of time that had been spent on consultation, drawing up plans and negotiating a longer lease for the very purpose of updating the building they believed that it was wrong to abandon the plans without fully investigating grant availability when back in 2015/2016 Framsdén Fundraisers provided a significant sum for

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essential maintenance works and are continuing to pledge financial support to the Village Hall. The parishioner believes that the current Parish Council and Village Hall Management Team lacks vision, capacity and commitment to the Village Hall, which is an asset of community value and long overdue for updating to address identified deficiencies.

- b) The parishioner felt that in the Village Hall garden area, the use of ladders for fruit tree pruning and the application of herbicides around the building base and bottom of the perimeter fence is essential. As the site is a non-domestic area those carrying out these tasks should be suitably qualified.
 - c) Could Sustainable Framsdon offer assistance to reduce the Village Hall's carbon footprint? For example the accessible loft space that represents 40% of the total roof area has minimal insulation.
4. The Clerk noted that the meeting was the deadline for comments on the Section 19 report to be collated and passed onto of Flood Team for a response. A brief discussion took place about whether all properties that were flooded had been correctly contacted and given the opportunity to respond. This will be checked with the Floods Team at Suffolk County Council.
 5. A query was raised about progress with the purchase of Tollgate Corner. This will be updated at the next Parish Council meeting.
 6. A query was raised about when work is likely to take place on the river. It was confirmed that any work would need to be done by the Environment Agency and would be subject to permitting and funding being acquired.

Thanks were given to everyone for attending and the meeting was then closed at 8.30 pm

APPROVED