



**Minutes of the Framsdan
Annual Parish Meeting
held on
Thursday 9th April 2026 at 7.30pm
at Framsdan Village Hall**

18 in attendance, including 2 Parish Councillors.

1. Welcome

Chairman Glenn Buckingham welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting, noting it was the 132nd Annual Parish Meeting to have taken place in Framsdan. The meeting has a very simple agenda, with the aim of finding out more about the ongoing activities in the village, with a chance to ask questions and discuss any topics raised.

2. Receive apologies for absence

Dominic Vaughan (Parish Councillor), Neil Mellor (Parish Councillor), Nicholas Hardingham (District Councillor), Claire Macaulay (Sustainable Framsdan & Tree Warden) Christine Schofield (St Mary's Church), Jeannie Buckingham

3. Agreement of Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 10th April 2025

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2025 as a true and accurate record, were proposed by Councillor Glenn Buckingham, seconded by Councillor Nicola Whitmore, 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 10th April 2025

None

**5. To receive report from Chair of Framsdan Parish Council, Cllr Glenn Buckingham
(to include update on Village Hall matters)**

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 most recent report received from the County Councillor is available on the Framsdan village website.

MHi noted that there are plans for work to take place on New Road and Ashfield Road between 27th April and 2nd May to patch and redress the surfaces. Details would be forwarded to the village using the email distribution system.

A query was raised about what would happen to the County Council employees due to the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) process. MHi said that there are concerns about the upcoming election potentially bringing in new people who may not have the necessary experience to steer the LGR, but front-line staff will do their best to keep essential services running during the transitional period.

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

The most recent report received from the District Councillor is available on the Framsdan village website.

Signed (Chair of meeting authorising minutes) Signed (Clerk)

8. 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. Framsdens Fundraisers – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Andy Chattell.
- b. Framsdens Greyhound (inc. Petanque Group) – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Mark Prangell. There was also a ‘hot of the press’ announcement about the permission and funding that has been obtained to enable the stream to be moved away from the rear of the pub building. This is particularly important as the stream is in very close proximity and risks undermining the wall of the pub. The work will be taking place very soon and there are also plans to develop a beer garden at the rear of the building to take advantage of the new space.
- c. Woodland Group – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Alex Sharpe.
- 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. Framsdens Baptist Church – The full report is available on the village website – presented by David Atkinson
- g. Village Tree Warden – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Councillor Glenn Buckingham.
- h. Sustainable Framsdens CIC – The Clerk read out a short email received from Sustainable Framsdens – “Although there is not a lot to show for SF over the past year we have been working away doggedly behind the scene. The feasibility funding has finally been secured and case studies are currently being worked upon for a village presentation in May; so watch this space!”

Councillor Glenn Buckingham added that Sustainable Framsdens CIC has been working with a number of local residents to understand their energy needs, carrying out geo spatial surveys and looking at where panels can be installed on building roofs around the village. The intention is the supply renewable energy to as many local people as possible, billing will be done as part of the normal meter readings, with a section at a different – lower – rate for the local supply. Since the email was sent to the Clerk the date for the village presentation has been confirmed as 11th May and everyone is encouraged to come along and find out more.

- 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. Line Dancing – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Lucy Norfolk
- l. Pettaugh Ladies (meet in Framsdens Village Hall) – The full report is available on the village website – presented by Patricia Mason
- m. Any other organisations not listed above:
 - Speedwatch Group – Councillor Nicola Whitmore leads the Speedwatch Group, which currently has eight team members. Unfortunately, speeding statistics in Framsdens are much worse than many other villages in Suffolk, which underlines the importance of the work being done by the team. A few examples were given of poor driving – a learner travelling at 43 mph in a 30 mph zone, cars overtaking in dangerous locations and speeding taxis taking children to school – all despite the luminous jackets being worn by the Speedwatch Group, two signs, a tripod mounted camera and a handheld camera. The police are advised of such incidents and work closely with the Speedwatch Group.

Separately from the roadside monitoring the group is working with the Parish Council to look at the process of applying for a 20mph limit on The Street and residents are encouraged to send in comments about this proposal.

- Local History Group – A new group that is planning to meet once a month in The Greyhound, they have had two meetings so far, the next one being on 30th April at 6.30pm. There is no fixed agenda, at present it's just a group of people sharing memories of the village and they will see how the group develops naturally.

4. Open forum for questions and discussion

1. Concerns were raised about the development in Helmingham at Wades Barn, with an application having been submitted for it to become a licenced premises, which was not part of the original planning application. Concerns ranged from how it may affect trade at the pub in Framsdén to concern about noise from outdoor events, objections need to be lodged by 22nd April. Residents asked that the Parish Council asks whether the period could be extended for the matter to be considered correctly at a full Council meeting. The District Councillor has already acknowledged that this is a big extension on the planning application.
2. A query was asked about whether the footpath map needed printing, could it not just be put on the website for people to download? GB confirmed that funding was provided for the original printing, this is only the second print run and the quote was just under £400 for 1,000 copies. The idea of a download as well as a printed version was considered to be a good idea.
3. A parishioner asked whether there had been any further progress around the lease/purchase of Tollgate Corner. GB explained that the first draft of the lease (with option to purchase) includes the sewage plant, so it has been sent back for review.
4. A thank you was given to Framsdén Fundraisers for their excellent service on circulating updates on events in the village.
5. A query was raised about what was happening with the proposed merge with Helmingham Parish. It is understood that there will be no further work done on this until after the May elections, but all consultation responses are sent direct to the team at the District Council who are organising the Local Government Review and the decision is out of the hands of the two Parish Councils, who simply submitted the proposal.
6. A parishioner asked what would be happening to the bottle banks at Peats Corner with the new kerb side collections starting soon. It was explained that these would be decommissioned and removed in due course. The Parish Council has received a final lump sum settlement for the glass recycling and would not have this income stream going forward.

Thanks were given to everyone for attending and the meeting was then closed at 8.51 pm

Signed (Chair of meeting authorising minutes) Signed (Clerk)