

# FRANT PARISH COUNCIL

[clerk@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@frant-pc.gov.uk) / 07903 661581 / [www.frant-pc.gov.uk](http://www.frant-pc.gov.uk)

## THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BELLS YEW GREEN VILLAGE HALL ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022 AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllrs Howell (Chair), Crookshank, Steadman, Macdonald-Brown, Luther  
County Cllr B. Standley  
District Cllr K. Obbard  
Mr. P. Payne  
Mrs. L. Jackaman

**1. Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting**  
None.

**2. Receive apologies**  
Cllrs Rutherford, Best and Park gave apologies.

**3. Receive declarations of interests on items on the agenda and changes to the Register of Interests**  
None.

**4. Approve the Minutes of the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022 as a true and accurate record**  
The Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

**5. To determine matters arising from the previous Minutes for updating and noting**

- The Clerk confirmed she had forwarded the relevant information about Speedwatch to Cllr Park;
- Cllr Howell said she was aware that a number of landowners were taking the deer population very seriously and were arranging a legal deer cull;
- The Clerk noted that Cllr Best had copied her in on correspondence with Enforcement concerning a potential planning breach in Eridge.

**6. Public Forum (15-minutes - time limit to be extended at the discretion of the Chairman)**  
Mrs Jackaman raised the issue of safety on the pavement along where the A267 meets Church Lane and noted that the hedge could be cut well back, suggesting that perhaps a schedule be agreed with the property owner on Church Lane. She also suggested that the grass on the verge could be cut back, gaining valuable pavement width. Cllr Standley said he would have a look at it and take it forward where appropriate. **Action: BS**

Mr Payne enquired about the June minutes at item 8.1 and asked what had been paid to Highways. The Clerk clarified that she put the village sign item under this rolling heading because it can include signage on, or near, the highway. She confirmed that no payment had been made to Highways and that the quotation approved under 8.1 was for the designs for the sign to be drawn up.

Mr Payne went on to ask when a public meeting would be held to look at the designs. Cllr Howell said that the Parish Council was not intending to consult; rather, it had agreed that a village sign be installed and was going to select a design at this meeting, noting that this was in part to satisfy Mr

Payne's demands that the sign be erected within the Jubilee year. Mr Payne objected to this and said it was not democratic. Cllr Howell disagreed and said that the Parish Council comprised of elected representatives of the Parish. Cllr Crookshank agreed. The Clerk handed Mr Payne a hard copy of the designs.

## **7. Receive reports from County and District Councillors**

Cllr Howell said that reports had been circulated prior to the meeting (see Appendices). No questions were put forward.

## **8. Parish Council policies**

### **8.1 Review and adopt Standing Orders**

The Clerk said that a minor amendment to NALC's model Standing Orders had been issued (circulated prior to the meeting) and recommended that the Council adopt the changes. The revised Standing Orders were approved and **adopted**.

### **8.2 Review and adopt Financial Regulations**

The Financial Regulations were approved and **adopted**.

## **9. Consider and approve plans for the village sign for Frant**

There was agreement about the quality of the two design options and it was noted that the architect had done an excellent job. Cllr Luther raised concerns about the location of the sign and considered this location may prove unpopular. However, it was noted that this discussion had been ongoing for many months and there was a strength of feeling in the village.

It was **agreed** with four in favour and one abstention (Cllr Luther) to approve option 1 (d) with one amendment – it was **agreed** to ask that the rose motifs in the four corners of the design be changed to maple leaves to reflect Frant's association with Canada.

*(Mr Payne left the meeting and closed the door forcefully)*

## **10. Finance**

### **10.1 Approve the accounts payable**

The accounts, as follows, were **approved**.

<b>Item no.</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1.	Orchard Landscapes	Removal of grass by 8 wheeler grab lorry.	£747.12
2.	N. McGregor-Gould	General maintenance June 2022	£75.00
3.	IMAGO	Dial2Drive June 2022	£277.52

## 10.2 Approve the bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation, below, was **approved**.

<u>Bank Statement Account Name (s)</u>	<u>Statement Date</u>	<u>Page No</u>	<u>Balances</u>
Current A/c	20/07/2022		400.00
Business Reserve	20/07/2022		149,360.89
			<u>149,760.89</u>
<u>Unpresented Cheques (Minus)</u>		<u>Amount</u>	
		0.00	
			<u>0.00</u>
			149,760.89
<u>Receipts not Banked/Cleared (Plus)</u>			
		0.00	
			<u>0.00</u>
			149,760.89
		<b>Balance per Cash Book is :-</b>	<b>149,760.89</b>
		<b>Difference is :-</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## 11. Green Spaces

### 11.1 Bollards around the green in Frant

The Clerk noted that people were continuing to park on the green along the drive to Shernfold Park but, notably, on the patch of grass parallel to the A267, across the pavement. It was thus **agreed** to extend the bollards along this frontage.

## 12. Communications and Events

### 12.1 Consider response to TfSE consultation

The deadline on 12<sup>th</sup> September was noted and it was **agreed** that councillors would forward their comments to the Clerk.

## 13. Planning

### 13.1 Approve Draft Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 6th June 2022 as a true and accurate record.

The minutes were **approved** as a true and accurate record.

### 13.2 To consider licence and planning applications received and make recommendations:

**WD/2022/1432/FR – Brook Farm Barn, Bayham Road, Frant**

**Alternative scheme to planning approval WD/2021/1184/F (extension to bull pen and link to existing barn to provide new kitchen and home office) to facilitate regularisation of unauthorised development.**

The merits of the application were discussed and it was **agreed** to approve the proposals.

**WD/2022/1419/F – Parkside, The Green, Frant**

**Proposed replacement outbuilding to form an annexe for the use by the household.**

Concerns were raised about the increase in footprint and the potential for the annexe to become a separate dwelling over time, especially given the site's location within the Conservation Area and AONB. It was **agreed** to refuse the application.

**13.3 To note applications determined by Wealden District Council**

**WD/2022/0799/F – Rushlye Oast, Hawkenbury Road, Frant**

Single-storey rear extension to residential annexe.

Approved: 5th July 2022

Noted.

**14. Urgent issues at the discretion of the Chairman, for discussion only**

None.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 8pm.

## **Appendix One**

### **Report from County Cllr Bob Standley**

#### **Modern Slavery**

Cabinet approved the Council Modern Slavery policy. For those who saw the recent programme on Mo Farah will recognise the serious issue that modern slavery has on the lives of young people and adults.

#### **Climate Change**

The Council is committed to net zero by 2050 at the latest and as part of that drive County Hall now has 123 panels- Sackville House has 172 and 69 panels are on Hookstead Centre in Crowborough. Another 203 will be fitted on Lansdowne Centre in Hailsham.

#### **East Sussex Book Award**

A HISTORICAL fantasy set in a magical mash-up of Georgian and Elizabethan Britain has been announced as the winner of this year's East Sussex Children's Book Award.

The Hatmakers by Tamzin Merchant claimed top prize at a celebration event attended by nearly 200 school children.

Local children's author Ed Boxall hosted the event which was held at The Royal Hippodrome Theatre in Eastbourne last month.

Since December, children aged 8 to 11 from across the county have been reading six shortlisted books before voting for their favourite in May.

#### **Reading Friends**

EAST Sussex Libraries are calling for more volunteers to help expand the Reading Friends programme across the county.

Delivered in partnership with the Reading Agency, the reading befriending programme brings people together to read, share stories, meet new friends and have fun.

The library service is seeking volunteers who enjoy reading and would like to help tackle loneliness in their community to set up more Reading Friends groups.

Bob July 2022

## **Appendix Two**

### **Report from District Cllr Bob Standley**

#### **Waste Service**

Following the ending of the strike the waste collections are getting back to normal although aware of a few properties that are still waiting for collections. The north of the district did fare better than the south given the area is served by Bellbrook where the majority of staff continued to work as they were members of Unite and not the GMB.

The cost of the garden waste service is being frozen till 2024 given the service was not delivered for a number of weeks and is a subscription service. I have had a couple of enquiries why a cash refund was not offered. The reason is that the admin cost is return approx. £10 would be disproportionately expensive.

#### **Shared Prosperity Fund**

Wealden has been awarded just over £1.1m over the 3-year period The council is discussing projects with County, police and other partners before sending the proposed strategy to Govt.

#### **Planning**

The council is continuing to lobby Govt to announce any changes in the proposed housing numbers as soon as possible so we can advance the Local Plan. Central to this is the changes we proposed to Sec of State re all planning applications assume to be delivered within 5 years and therefore count to the 5-year Land supply. Further information is now unlikely till the Autumn.

#### **Community Lottery**

This is due to start in Autumn 2022 and 60% of the revenue will go to local good causes and a chance for residents to win prizes.

#### **Ukraine Guests**

500 Ukraine guests are expected in Wealden and over 1200 across East Sussex. A significant number are living in Mayfield where a local resident has been co-ordinating their introduction to life in the area.

#### **Council Tax Rebate**

The rebate, for households in council tax bands A to, D funded by Govt has been completed for those who pay their CT by direct debit. 30,348 households have now received the rebate.

Bob July 22

## **Appendix Three**

### **Report from District Cllr Keith Obbard**

#### **Bin Lorry Dispute**

As you will all know by now the bin lorry strike has ended.

The teams will be getting back to normal as fast as they can, but it may be a further week or two before they have caught up with the extra bags of recycling and rubbish that has accumulated over the strike.

The most up to date information is on the WDC website here:

[Waste collection and street cleansing industrial action update - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council](#)

The Council has decided that the scheduled price-rise for the Green Waste service will be delayed for a year, so it will remain at £55 for 2023/24.

#### **Local Elections**

In advance of the District Council Elections in 2023 the Council ran two “Become a Councillor” events to encourage a greater diversity of people who are Councillors. The first was at the Civic Centre, Uckfield TN22 1AE on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 10 am to 12.30 The second was on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 6 – 8pm at the Civic Centre, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham. BN27 1BH. Sadly, these were very poorly attended and the Council would like to hear from anyone with good suggestions for getting people interested in becoming a councillor, and for ways of encouraging more engagement with local government.

They are also running a series of short videos on the W D Council YouTube channel which features District Councillors, (including yours truly) on what it’s like to be a District Councillor.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn9Qm\\_PfaQX78awfJbzQGkQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn9Qm_PfaQX78awfJbzQGkQ)

#### **Nature Conservation**

The Wealden District Council has won a national award for our Great Crested Newt Licensing Scheme.

The scheme is now part of the planning application process so that when the newts are shown to be present on a site the developers can obtain the necessary licence through the Council to deal with the newts legally.

If there is anything specific you wish me to follow up, I will do my best to do so. You can email or phone on the contacts below.

Cllr Keith Obbard,  
Wealden District Member for Withyham Ward.

[Cllr.keith.obbard@wealden.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.keith.obbard@wealden.gov.uk) 07941 578 427