

FRANT PARISH COUNCIL

clerk@frant-pc.gov.uk / 07903 661581 / www.frant-pc.gov.uk

THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT FRANT MEMORIAL HALL ON 22ND MAY 2023 AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllrs Crookshank (Vice-Chair), Steadman, Best, Rutherford, Macdonald-Brown
Ms R Barnes (Clerk & RFO)

District Cllr Sarah Glynn-Ives
Ms Gillian Miles
1 attendee

- 1. Elect a Chair**
Cllr Rutherford proposed Cllr Crookshank as Chair; this was seconded by Cllr Steadman and unanimously **agreed**.
- 2. Elect a Vice-Chair**
It was **agreed** to consider the election of a Vice-Chair later in the year.
- 3. Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting**
None.
- 4. Receive apologies**
DCllr Johanna Howell and CCllr Bob Standley.
- 5. Receive declarations of interests on items on the agenda, notifications of changes to the Register of Interests and consider any requests for a dispensation**
None.
- 6. Public Forum (time limit to be extended only at the discretion of the Chairman)**
Mr Payne referred to the item 20.2 on the agenda about the current enforcement action against him by Wealden District Council and asked why it was on the agenda. Cllr Crookshank explained that relevant planning matters in the parish are drawn to the Council's attention for noting. Mr Payne said the unauthorised containers were to be removed by 23rd June.
- 7. Approve the Minutes of the meeting on 19th April 2023 as a true and accurate record**
The Minutes were **approved**.
- 8. To determine matters arising from the previous Minutes for updating and noting**
 - In Cllr Standley's absence, it was agreed to roll forward the item on re-filling the grit bin;
 - Clerk to chase Frant Memorial Hall for a copy of its accounts to inform any future contribution made by the Council.
 - Cllr Rutherford said he would have a look at whether further bollards (with chain) could be installed at the entrance to Shernfold Park.

- 9. Receive reports from County and District Councillors**
A report from DCllr Johanna Howell was circulated prior to the meeting (see Appendix 1).

Cllr Glynn-Ives introduced herself and said she was looking forward to attending future meetings.
- 10. Consider and approve new member(s) for co-option**
It was unanimously **agreed** to co-opt Ms Gillian Miles to the Bells Yew Green ward. Cllr Crookshank welcomed Ms Miles to the Council and she joined the meeting.
- 11. Approve and adopt:**
- 11.1 Financial Regulations
The Clerk confirmed there were no changes to the Financial Regulations and they were duly **adopted**.
- 11.2 Standing Orders
The Clerk confirmed there were no changes to the Standing Orders and they were duly **adopted**.
- 11.3 Scheme of Delegation
The Scheme of Delegation was **adopted**.
- 11.4 Tenancy Agreement for the Allotments
The Tenancy Agreement for the Allotments was **adopted**.
- 12. Agree to sign up to Civility and Respect pledge**
The Council **agreed** to sign up to the pledge.
- 13. Meeting dates**
- 13.1 Agree meeting dates for Full Council in 2024
Agreed.
- 13.2 Agree to consider planning applications during Full Council meetings until further notice
It was **agreed** to cancel planning meetings until December and to consider all planning applications during Full Council meetings. Cllr Rutherford suggested that planning applications be brought towards the top of the agenda so that interested parties could leave the meeting once they had been considered. This was **agreed**.
- 14. Approve quotation for annual insurance**
Approved.
- 15. Approve quotation for repair of play equipment in Bells Yew Green**
Approved.
- 16. Approve quotation for the repair of the Albert Well, subject to confirmation as to whether listed building consent is required**
It was **agreed** to seek further quotations for the repair work.
- 17. Approve quotation for one-off maintenance of bus shelters**
Approved.

18. Finance

18.1 Approve the accounts payable

Approved.

18.2 Approve the bank reconciliation

Approved.

19. Discuss pedestrian crossing in Frant

The future of the project was discussed in light of the recent elections and the Parish Council not having the necessary powers to lead the project. The mounting costs were also discussed. Other options, such as building out the traffic island, were considered as was a holistic approach to traffic calming at either end of the village. The following actions were **agreed**:

- Arrange a meeting on site with Mr Johnson (ESCC Traffic Safety Manager) to discuss options (Clerk);
- Liaise with Wealden DC about use and lifetime of CIL funds (Clerk); and
- Arrange a meeting with Mr Bee (Nevill Estate) to discuss options (AB/SC)

20. Planning

20.1 To consider licence and planning applications received and make recommendations:

20.1.1 WD/2023/1194/F (1210/LB) – **37 High Street, Frant, TN3 9DT**

Change of use from ground floor retail and first floor domestic to domestic single dwelling

There was discussion around the loss of business use and the impact this might have on the vibrancy of the High Street. However, it was acknowledged that the building had originally been a dwelling. It was **agreed** to recommend approval.

Mr Payne interrupted proceedings. Cllr Crookshank told him he was not allowed to speak during this part of the meeting. He continued to speak over and ignore Cllr Crookshank and the other councillors. Cllr Crookshank told him again to stop talking and at this point he did.

20.1.2 WD/2023/1056/F – **Knowle Grange, Wadhurst Rd, TN3 9EJ**

Construction of a maintenance building to be used in association with Knowle Grange Health Club.

Councillors noted that this was a successful local business that was continuing to improve its offer. It was **agreed** to recommend approval.

20.2 To note enforcement notices served by Wealden District Council:

Bluebell Cottage (land to the south of), Down Lane, Frant

Without permission, the formation of a hardstanding and the siting thereon of shipping containers.

Councillors **noted** the Enforcement Notice.

21. Annual Parish Meeting

Arrangements for the meeting were discussed and the speakers confirmed.

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

Cllr Crookshank suggested the Council ask Mr Huskisson if he would carry out some work in relation to the green to (a) find a solution to off-road drivers on the green and (b) to carry out an historical survey of the trees across the green to inform a future policy. This was **agreed**. **ACTION: CS**

Councillors expressed their great thanks to Johanna Howell for the significant contribution she has made to the Parish Council for over thirty years and said she would be missed. Councillors extended their best wishes to Johanna for the future.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.