FRATING PARISH COUNCIL

Memorial Hall, Main Road, Frating, CO7 7DJ.
Clerk to the Council: Kay English
Email: clerk@fratingparishcouncil.gov.uk
Website: www.fratingparishcouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES of the FRATING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at the Memorial Hall on Monday 5th October 2026 at 19:30hrs.

Present: Cllr Terry Cuthbert
Cllr Paula Bland
Cllr Terri Philp
Cllr Sally Potter
Cllr Chris Walpole
Cllr Brian Winter

Also in attendance:
Cllr Aimee Keteca, District Councillor
Kay English, Clerk to the Council

There were two members of the public present.

10.26.75 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
There were no apologies for absence.

10.26.76 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS
It was **RESOLVED:** That members would raise relevant disclosures of interest at applicable agenda item.

10.26.77 PUBLIC QUESTIONS
Q1. A member of the public raised concerns regarding vandalism in the vicinity of Tokely Road. It was reported that children had caused damage to trees, depositing rubbish in the adjacent ditch and vandalising the boundary fence. Cllr Philp and Cllr Winter had observed similar unacceptable behaviour. The member of the public enquired whether any measures could be taken to deter such behaviour.
Response: Damage should be reported to Tendring District Council (TDC), which Cllr Philp had already done. TDC confirmed that they would be addressing the situation. The side gate was now being locked and TDC was considering replacing the boundary fence with a taller structure. Anti-social behaviour should also be reported to the police. The Clerk would formally notify TDC of the concerns raised.
Q2. Rob Butcher, Tendring District's Local History Recorder was welcomed to the meeting. Mr Butcher provided an overview of his ongoing work in documenting Frating's local history.
Response: It was agreed that this would be of interest to residents and an article would be included in the winter edition of the Frating Parish Newsletter.

10.26.78 MINUTES
Members RECEIVED and CONSIDERED the draft Minutes of the Frating Parish Council meeting held on 7th September 2026.
It was **RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7th September 2026 be **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman**.**

10.26.79 MATTERS PENDING
Members RECEIVED and CONSIDERED a list of Parish Council's current outstanding actions as outlined in Appendix B.
Feedback was still awaited regarding the proposed drop-kerb footway at Frating Park; there continued to be no cooperation from Essex Police in relation to the speeding issues in the village.
It was **RESOLVED**: That the Matters Pending be **NOTED**.

10.26.80 REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS
i. Cllr Pat Murray (Essex County Council, Tendring Rural West Division) submitted his apologies for the meeting. No update was provided on the matters previously raised at the meeting held on 7th September 2026. The Clerk would request that an update be provided at the next meeting on 2nd November 2026.

ii. Cllr Keteca confirmed her support for addressing speeding concerns in the village, noting that although police had not deemed the matter dangerous, a deterrent was still required.

Cllr Keteca noted that the street works near the Kings Arms had been completed and was expected to reduce flooding. The Chairman added that the parish council had played a significant role in progressing and resolving this long-standing issue.

Concerns regarding the traffic-light phasing at the crossroads remained unresolved although Essex Highways had indicated that the fault was repaired. The Clerk would contact the ECC Highways again (report reference 403124) with Cllr Keteca indicating that she would also pursue the matter.

Drain-cover issues have not been resolved, and further road closures might be required. Cllr Keteca expressed frustration at the lack of coordinated action and would continue to press for progress. It was noted that the layby has been tidied, which may encourage unauthorised parking near the crossroads.

Cllr Keteca expressed her concerns about the implications of the Local Plan. She highlighted that, if the proposed developments proceeded, it would bring substantial change to Tendring District. National planning-policy changes on decision making were also noted as a concern. Cllr Keteca was thanked for her input and assistance.

iii.FPC Representative's Report:

Cllr Bland: An update was given on the TDALC meeting held on 23 September. There was no further progress on the Minerals Consultation. Gary Guiver attended the meeting and outlined the latest Local Plan consultation; all comments submitted would be forwarded to the Planning Inspector. TDC acknowledged the unpopular nature of the Plan but emphasised the need to retain influence. It was noted that the proposed 300-home site in Brightlingsea, and sites in Thorpe and Walton had been removed. Also noted was the EALC subscription, which would be increased in line with inflation; Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) remained paused, while devolution work continued; there was one fly-tipping prosecution pending with further updates to be provided; website accessibility requirements were discussed with FPC confirmed as compliant; TDC was progressing the phased

removal of all recycling banks in line with new waste and recycling collection arrangements; the Local Highways Panel remained suspended following the LGR announcement.

Cllr Philp reported that plans and drawings for the St Botolph's roundabout had been published in the local press should anyone be interested in viewing them.

Cllr Walpole reported extensive damage to hedgerows at three locations near Frating Park. The cause was unknown and unlikely to be Essex Highways. The Clerk would make enquiries to confirm who might be responsible.

Cllr Potter: it was noted that new bins had been delivered to most residents but not in some areas; any outstanding deliveries should be reported to TDC.
It was **RESOLVED**: That the representatives reports be **NOTED**.

10.26.81 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
The Chairman reported the following matters:
Surface Water & Flooding: The MAG10 group continued to meet every six weeks to review flooding issues. Anglian Water had surveyed approximately half of the properties in Frating and identified water ingress at some locations; further assessment would take place during periods of heavy rainfall. The underlying issue dated back to 2007, with pipework confirmed as unsuitable. Although Anglian Water undertook initial scoping work, funding was subsequently withdrawn. The matter remained ongoing with a further meeting scheduled in November.
Manning Road / Pennyfield Estate: Responsibility for drainage and related issues at the Pennyfield Estate remained with the developer, as the site has not yet been adopted by Anglian Water. Updates would be given at the December parish council meeting.
Resident's Letter – Church Road / Rectory Road Diversion: A resident raised concerns regarding the diversion route during recent works near the Kings Arms, noting significant HGV use of Church Road/Rectory Road and resulting verge damage. The matter was referred to Essex Highways. The Chairman spoke with site operatives, who confirmed that improved signage would be provided for future works.
Local Plan Meeting: The Chairman attended a Local Plan meeting. The Planning Inspector was assessing whether the Plan was legally compliant; objections would not be considered at this stage. The principal concern was the impact on rural communities and the need for supporting infrastructure, which was highlighted in the report. Cllr Cuthbert and Cllr Bland would be submitting comments on behalf of the council though confidence was low that they would carry weight. Cllr Walpole queried the scope for legal challenge; however, Government intervention was considered a worse outcome. Cllr Bland noted that one council in Essex has challenged similar requirements but was effectively instructed to comply. The influence of any submission from Frating Parish Council was uncertain.
Resilience Meeting – Emergency Planning: A resilience meeting was held to discuss preparedness for severe weather, with particular focus on coastal areas. A Met Office representative reported reduced rainfall to date and the development of an El Niño-related storm system that may reach the UK in November, bringing warmer, wetter and windier conditions. Alternative radio communication options were outlined for use during mobile network outages. Recent incidents in Spain were referenced. The FPC emergency plan would be updated.
Brightlingsea Museum Visit – 10 October: The Chairman and Vice-Chairman would visit Brightlingsea Museum where maps of Frating and Thorrington had been preserved.
Thorrington Community Event – 24 October: An invitation had been received from Thorrington Parish Council for a community event. The Clerk would circulate the information. The event provided local groups with an opportunity to promote their services.

10.26.82 CLERK'S REPORT
The Clerk reported that she had worked an additional 7 hours in September 2026 due to CiLCA training and budget preparation.

It was **RESOLVED**: That additional hours of working be **APPROVED.**

Council's approval was sought to purchase Royal British Legion poppy wreaths for Remembrance Sunday cost around £27+postage.
It was **RESOLVED**: That the purchase of wreaths for Remembrance Sunday be **APPROVED**.

10.26.83 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT
i. Planning Applications Received:

26/012757/VOC Plot 2 Hill Farm Frating	Variation Condition 2 (approval drawings) of Application 23/00052/FUL	Change in design from bungalow to include first floor accommodation.

It was **RESOLVED**: That there were no objections.

26/01493/FULHH Slough House Farm Great Bentley Road Frating	Household Planning Application	Weatherboard cladding to front elevation and render finish to chimney stack.

It was **RESOLVED**: That there were no objections.

ii.Planning Decisions: None
iii.Planning Appeals: None
iv. National Planning Delegation Scheme (outlined in Appendix C):
It was **RESOLVED**: that the new Delegation Scheme be **NOTED**.

10.26.84 FINANCE
i.Schedule of Payments and Receipts 1st September – 30th September 2026 outlined in Appendix D
It was **RESOLVED**: That the Schedule of payments and receipts be **APPROVED.**

ii.Invoices presented for payment by the Clerk for payment in September 2026 circulated prior to the meeting.
It was **RESOLVED**: That the payments as presented by the Clerk be **APPROVED.**

10.26.85 GOVERNANCE
i. Training & Development Plan: Appendix E
It was **RESOLVED**: That the new FPC Training & Development Plan outlined in Appendix E be **APPROVED**.

At this point the Clerk raised mandatory Code of Conduct training for FPC councillors. CouncilWise could deliver a tailored course of 2 hours for FPC councillors at the Memorial Hall for £65+VAT per attendee and travel expenses of the trainer.
It was **RESOLVED**: That the Code of Conduct training outlined by the Clerk at a cost of approximately £400 (including trainer expenses) be **APPROVED**.

The Clerk also advised that a training manual was being compiled that would include key documents and information. This would be provided at the next meeting when the file preparation was finalised.
It was **RESOLVED**: That the training manual for councillors be **NOTED**.

10.26.86 COMMUNITY & OPEN SPACES
i.Litter Picking Events Risk Assessment Appendix F.

It was **RESOLVED**: That the Risk Assessment for Litter Picking **NOT BE APPROVED** subject to further information being obtained from TDC together with clarification on the street sweeping schedule.

ii.Village Heritage Sign: an estimate for refurbishment had been received at a cost of £1,173.24 excluding VAT. An outline of the work involved was given. Discussion followed on whether this represented value for money.
It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote: that the estimate be **APPROVED** and the contractor be advised to commence work.

iii. Closed Churchyard: An update was provided on the ongoing works. The bench had been installed. Work on compost areas and hedge removal was pending. A recent cut had been completed. Cllr Potter was scheduled to attend a Closed Church Management course on 7th October.
It was **RESOLVED**: That the on-going works be **NOTED**.

viii. Vehicle Activated Sign Statistics (Appendix G).
It was **RESOLVED**: That the vehicle speed statistics for September 2026 be **NOTED** noting that the data provided covered 2 years and not month specific, which would be corrected for future reference.

10.26.87 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC & PRESS
It was **RESOLVED** by unanimous vote: That members of the public be excluded from the remaining part of the agenda for reason of the confidential nature of business to be transacted in accordance with FPC Council Standing Order 3(d).

10.26.88 CLERK'S ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW
The parish council considered the Clerk's annual performance review, remuneration and working hours.
It was **RESOLVED**: That the clerk be awarded two increments on the NJC spinal column salary scale effective from 1st April 2026 and contracted working hours increased to 25 per month effective from 1st October 2026.

10.26.89 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting should be referred to the Clerk.

10.26.90 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
The next parish council meeting was scheduled to take place on **Monday 2nd November 2026** at 19:30hrs at Frating Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed 20.55 hours.

Signed…….. Date……