

# FRATING PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2018—2019

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Parish Council ended the year with a full council of seven councillors.

As Chairman I wish to thank them and our Clerk for their contributions during the past year.

At this time it appears that all the present councillors will stand for election at the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 elections.

County Councillor Carlo Guglielmi (Tendring Rural West Division) attends our meetings when possible reporting on policy changes and initiatives created at county level. When unable to attend Carlo has submitted written reports. Carlo is also a Ward Councillor on the District Council and is well versed in rural affairs.

District Councillors Fred Nicholls and Rosemary Heaney have been actively supportive at our meetings. We have received progress reports on the emerging TDC Local Plan which hopefully will be completed by the end of 2019. It appears from recent reports that the Government have set higher levels of house building which could greatly impact on the completion of the Local Plan. Also progress reports on the new roundabout on the A120 at Hare Green. Latest update is that work will be completed by Summer 2019. With the District Ward changes that take place from the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 we will be within The Bentleys and Frating Ward and we will be represented by a new District Councillor. We would like to take the opportunity in thanking both Fred and Rosemary for all their past representation.

As in previous years planning tends to form a significant part of the work of the council as it can impact greatly on the well being of the parish. Although consulted we are not the decision makers but we are grateful for the input by residents in our consultation with County and District planners.

During 2018/19 we have continued to be involved with the development on land north of Tokely Road, known as "Penny Fields". Sanctuary Homes have now received planning permission for 67 homes on this site, the final planning hurdles have been overcome by the developer and it is likely construction will begin in the near future. The Parish Council will monitor the progress of the construction to assure that the developer works within the conditions laid down by TDC Planning.

We have maintained our representation on a number of District and County Associations in order to liaise on a regular basis with other Town and Parish Councils.

Terry Cuthbert, Chairman





## Planning

As with other Tendring Town/Parish Councils we are focussed on the emerging TDC Local Plan in particular the housing allocation to provide future homes.

The draft plan has moved forward since our last report and should be completed by late 2019. When in place it will mean that TDC Planning will have control of planning issues rather than planning being lead by landowners and developers.

Within the latest plan the number proposed new houses to be built between 2012 -2032 is at a rate of 550 annually which equates to approximately 10000 over the period.

A recent report has indicated that the Government feels that 550 is inadequate for Tendring and the number could now be nearer 850.

If this is correct this may delay the Local Plan for many months or even years.

The proposed major development is still to take place in the west of the district at a site adjacent to Colchester close to Essex University known as "Colchester Garden Community". The Parish Councillors will attend future planning meetings at TDC so that we are aware of any changes to the plan.

As you may be aware the Parish Council and a number of residents objected to the planning application from Sanctuary Homes for 67 homes to be built on the site known as "Penny Fields" but with regret permission for the development was granted by Tendring District Council. We will monitor this development to make sure the conditions stated by TDC are complied with.

Permission was granted by Essex CC in 2008 for the construction of a reservoir off Great Bentley Road(Lufkins Lane) and subsequently planning was renewed to keep the planning live and active. The entrance to the site is from Great Bentley Road and has now been constructed to take account of the number of lorries visiting the site. There will be some 14000 lorry movements over the three years the site is due to be active. The aggregate removed from the site will be taken to Arlesford Pit via Thorrington on the B1029.

The Great Bentley Road junction to the B1029 has been altered to assist these lorry movements but the Parish Council feels this has been to the detriment to the road users entering the Great Bentley Road from the B1029 from Frating. We have made representation to Essex County Council with our concerns.

It is also anticipated that the work on the roundabout on the A133 near the car auctions will start in the new financial year. The work will be to aid the flow of traffic using the roundabout.

## Local Issues of Concern

The parish council has continued to ensure that the Public Rights of Way in Frating are kept open for public use. The parish works with ECC P3 Scheme which supplies us with equipment and signage as and when required.

The Parish Council wishes to acknowledge that although not always easy due to cropping etc. the work that most local landowners do to keep the footpaths clear for public use.

We are also grateful to the landowner at Morehams Hall as with permission they allow the public to use the track on their land that runs from Clacton Road to Bromley Road.

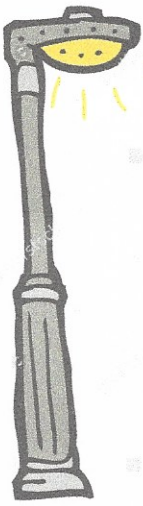
We continue to report defective roads and road signs to ECC.

Fly tipping still appears to be on the increase, we report these incidents to TDC who arrange clearance as soon as possible.

The Parish Council is still concerned with the number of accidents, some very serious that have occurred at the Cross Roads,A133/B1029. We are continuing our discussion with the Local Highways Panel to try to improve the fazing of the traffic lights which we feel will improve the situation greatly.







### **Grass Cutting and Lighting**

The parish council has a contractor who cuts small areas of grass to maintain the good appearance of the parish. We are grateful for the additional efforts by residents who cut and keep tidy areas in the frontage of their properties and the flowers that appear twice a year in the front of the Memorial Hall and at the Frating village sign.. The parish lights in Bromley Road, Great Bentley Road, Haggars Lane and Frating Park bus stop remain subject to contract to inspect, maintain and replace. These are not included in the ECC policy for street lighting. The majority of the lights in the village have now been upgraded to LED which is a great improvement.

We are aware of a number of lights that are not working within the village( Tokeley Road, Fenn Close & Barrell Close) these faults have been reported to ECC.

### **Dog Fouling**

As reported during the year the Council is monitoring the situation regarding dogs that are allowed to foul public areas and their owners do not clean up after them. Also it has been reported that some owners do not keep their dogs under control while using the local public rights of way. Please advise the Dog Warden at Tendring District Council of any known offenders.

### **Frating Memorial Hall**

The parish council as Custodial Trustees of the Frating War Memorial Hall and Institute, a registered charity, are represented on their Management Committee. The Management have maintained the hall in good working order attracting regular bookings. It has its own governance policies in place and has regular electrical and fire checks. It is self regulated for serving food on the premises. It is not licensed for alcohol.

### **Parish Council Administration**

The Annual Report for 2017/18 was printed and delivered to all houses by parish councillors too reach many of the residents who do not attend meetings.

The Minutes of all the Parish meetings are displayed the notice boards and our web site.

### **Parish Clerk- Remuneration and Working Hours**

It was agreed at the December meeting that the remuneration for the Clerk would be increased in April 2019 as NJC guidance, the Clerk's hours would remain at twenty hours per month

### **Training**

During 2018/19 Councillors and the Clerk attended a number of training courses necessary for good governance and to update on new procedures as part of the councils training policy.



© Can Stock Photo - csp18574252

### **Frating Parish Council Governance and Meetings Attended**

The Parish council has annual governance in place which is reviewed each year reflecting the guidelines of TDC and the County and National Associations. A great deal of time was spent in reviewing our Data Protection procedures as these changed on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

An Emergency Plan for Frating is lodged with TDC and updated with councillors attending TDC emergency planning workshops. Parish Councillors have attended numerous other meetings throughout 2018/19 in their own time and at their own expense to ensure that Frating is represented in a variety of forums. Details of the meetings are reported at each parish meeting after the event.



## Frating Parish Councillors 2018/2019

Terry Cuthbert- Chairman  
Paula Bland-Vice Chairman  
Robin Buck  
Lisa Anderson  
Reg Mogg  
Terri Philp  
Angela Oxley-Crisp

## PARISH CLERK DETAIL

The Parish Clerk is only employed on a part-time basis (5 hrs a week) by the Council. If you leave a message on the answer phone or send an email, she will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

**Michelle Salazar, Frating Parish Council, 5 Cleave Close, Bockings Elm, Clacton, Essex, CO16 8GQ**

Tel: 01255 223994 Email: [fratingclerk@hotmail.com](mailto:fratingclerk@hotmail.com)  
Twitter: @fratingessex Facebook: Frating Clerk

The Parish Council's website address is [www.essexinfo.net/frating-parish-council](http://www.essexinfo.net/frating-parish-council). Parish Council Minutes, contact details and other relevant information is available online.

## ACCOUNTS

Donations were approved for 2018/19 in accordance with the parish council's powers and commensurate with the benefit and wellbeing of the residents of the parish for the following:-

Essex Air Ambulance Appeal £100 St. Helena Hospice £200  
The Autumn Centre £200  
St. Helena Hospice £200

During 2018/19 in order to receive advice with regular mailing and to keep the parish council up to date with emerging policies, changes in legislation and procedures the following subscriptions to organisations were considered essential to good governance:-

CVST  
Essex Association of Local Councils [Inc. National Association]  
Tendring District Association of Local Council  
Council for the Protection of Rural England  
Rural Community Council for Essex.

## Budget 2018/19

The proposed budget and precept for 2018/19 was discussed in December 2018 and was not increased (current precept amount £9000). More information will be available on the website.