

**MINUTES OF PARHAM  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
7pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
*Parham Village Hall*

**1. Chair's welcome**

Michael Block, as Chair of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone.

Present:

Michael Block            Michael Gray            James Rogers            Kath Kindred  
Peter Kindred            John Patrick            Paul Goring            Lydia Kindred (minute taker)  
District Cllr. Owen Grey    District Cllr. Langdon-Morris

**2. Apologies for absence were received from County Cllr. Stephen Burroughes, Jonathan Cottrell, Jason Wood and Charlotte Stanley**

**3. The Minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 were noted as an accurate record of the meeting.**

**4. There were no matters arising.**

**5. Michael Block reported on Parham Parish Council.** He noted changes to Councillors and new residents to the village, meetings with external agencies and the new deposit fund account that the Parish Council has applied for to increase the return on its savings. The most significant event over the year was Storm Babet which caused serious damage to many houses in the village, with 18-24 inches of water ingress in places. Drains and culverts in the village need to be better maintained and the Parish Council is pushing for this. Residents should also be encouraged to report issues via SCC's online reporting tool. Local landowners are looking at ways to mitigate any future events, and to help hold water back by creating holding areas on higher land.

**6. Paul Goring provided a report from the Village Hall Committee.** The number of bookings has increased due to Gt. Glemham village hall suffering from flood damage. Annette Gray has retired from the Committee and Paul thanked her for her sterling work over the years. The Hall Manager has agreed to become the new treasurer. The committee is hoping soon to get a card machine so that card payments can be taken. Paul reported on new committee members and progress on maintenance and improvement projects, including the new access ramp, new signage and the ladies' toilets being refurbished. The audited accounts will be shared with the Parish Council when completed and also displayed on the notice boards.

**7. The Village Recorder's report has not yet been received but is nearly complete.**

**8. Peter Kindred provided a verbal report from Parham Airfield Museum.** The museum has had a successful year with over 6,500 visitors. The museum has changed its status to being a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and has a new registered charity number. The museum suffered flooding in October but volunteers' prompt action helped to minimise damage. For the 80<sup>th</sup> D-Day commemorations, 250 American tourists are sailing into Gt Yarmouth and visiting the museum next weekend.

**9. A report has not yet been received from the Corrance School Trust, but it is hoped that this will be published on the website in due course.**

**10. Michael Gray confirmed that the Biodiversity Group has not met this year.** Michael Block suggested that the group should be re-formed and invitations sent out to invite all residents to join to help the group become active again.

*Copies of all written reports have been filed with these minutes and will also be shared on the village website.*

**11. Reports from County Councillor Burroughes and District Councillor Grey have been provided and have been published on the village website.** District Councillor Langdon-Morris' annual report will be issued shortly.

D. Cllr. Grey confirmed that since October, one of the biggest tasks has been dealing with the aftermath of Storm Babet and writing a report on each of the affected villages across the ward. He urged Councillors to get in contact if they struggle to get SCC to engage with them regarding the flooding and their maintenance obligations and he would do his best to help get action. Another significant issues that is affecting the ward is planning and development. He tries to catch pre-applications as early as possible and to inform Parish Councils. His Locality Budget has been renewed for this financial year and applications are welcomed.

D. Cllr. Langdon-Morris reported on plots of wildflowers that have been planted across Framlingham. He also advised Councillors to sign up to the one.net website to be informed of local roadworks, closures and diversions. He advised that Framlingham Town Council's flood report can now be downloaded from their website. A second public meeting has been held since the flooding and is he conscious that Parham may also be affected by actions, and further building development, further upstream in Framlingham.

He was pleased to report that, whilst the sorting office has not reopened, the post office has, and Barclays Bank continues to operate a pop-up service in the Crown Hotel.

He encouraged those present to use the Be Well Bus service that visits Framlingham and covers a different topic for each visit.

## **12. Open Forum**

Peter Kindred observed that the river in the village used to be dredged but now the stance is not to do this as it disturbs the wildlife. However, the flooding suggests that the dredging was necessary and that a joined-up approach is required to help reduce future flooding in the village. John Patrick noted that one significant project to help reduce flooding in Parham would likely be too expensive but that several smaller actions might be more achievable and affordable. D.Cllr. Grey noted that many of the external agencies seem to be unaware of who is responsible for what and that some 'passing-the-buck' is now happening.

*Michael Block thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was closed at 7.50pm.*