

# Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall, Framfield, on Tuesday, 26 June 2012 at 7.30 pm

**Present** Rob Newton (Acting Chairman) Peter Friend  
Richard Brocklebank Jeff Goggin  
Myran Eade John Mordaunt

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC)

**In attendance** Ann Newton - Clerk Members of the Public – none.  
Members of the Press – none.

*Prior to the commencement of the meeting members of the public and County and District Representatives were invited to address the Parish Council.*

*(The minutes are detailed in the order in which they appeared on the agenda but not necessarily the order in which they were taken at the meeting. A copy of all the reports mentioned will be attached to the minutes for the minute book).*

**Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC)** – was congratulated by the Chair on achieving his second term of office as Chairman of the Council.

- Chris reported that the consultation had just closed on the proposed alterations to the High Street and the B2192 was being looked at again through Blackboys in conjunction with further down the same road towards Cross in Hand following on from the fatality a month or so.

**Councillor Ann Newton (WDC)** in her role as District Councillor reported on the Ashdown Forest Special Protection Area and relevance to the WDC Core Strategy.

## 1. Apologies for Absence

Selina Allen, Maria Naylor and Ian Paisley. Rob Newton (Vice Chairman) took the Chair in the Maria's absence. The Clerk reported that Selina would be taking a sabbatical until the early autumn for health reasons. The Council wished her well.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

*Councillors to give notice of declarations of personal and prejudicial interests in respect of items on the agenda.* Rob Newton declared a prejudicial interest in the items under the Finance section of the agenda relating to the Clerk, the Clerk being his wife.

## 3. Minutes of the Last Meeting for Approval

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 29 May 2012 having been circulated, be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record. (RB/RN).

## 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Some items were dealt with under other appropriate headings below.

PC 074	Guideposts. Update. The Clerk stated that a meeting with ESCC was imminent. The Clerk for Rotherfield was representing parish councils and had asked for views on whether or not the Parish Council would consider taking over the posts. The Clerk suggested possibly agreeing to this as long as ESCC bring them all up to standard prior to their adoption. Clerk to complete questionnaire. <b>ACTION: PC 086 – CLERK.</b>
PC 075	Traffic calming proposals – ongoing. Michael Higgs (ESCC) to write to Blackboys residents regarding the revised proposals for the High Street. The consultation period had just closed. <b>ACTION: PC 087 – ONGOING.</b>
PC 076	Clerk to contact ESCC to see if it is possible to fit a shade to a lamp in Cleve Close. The cost had been obtained but the resident declined.
PC 077	FGP meeting to be convened. This had been held.

PC 078	Village signs – quote on the way for their repair – ongoing. <b><u>ACTION: PC 088 – ONGOING.</u></b>
PC 079	British Heart Foundation – Clerk to reply in the negative regarding clothing bins. This had been done.
PC 080	Celebration at Youth Hostel. Clerk to reply. This had been done.
PC 081	Insurance option – Clerk to sign up for free extended period of insurance. This had been done.
PC 082	Replacement bracket/light – junction B2102 and B2192. Clerk to find out from ESCC if they deem it necessary to have a light at the junction. Update – Peter Friend to speak to the resident concerned. <b><u>ACTION: PC 089 – PF.</u></b>
PC 083	Clerk to ask ESCC to redraw the arm showing the High Street on the sign travelling south on the B2192 as it stands it no longer reflects the new road layout. The Clerk reported that she had contacted ESCC but had not received a response to date. <b><u>ACTION: PC 090 – CLERK.</u></b>
PC 084	Discussion regarding future budgets at FGP/Annual Assembly. This had been done.
PC 085	Councillors to take on troubleshooting roles in specific areas of the Parish. This was currently being implemented.

## 5. Correspondence received since the last meeting

Letters for noting/discussion – most items were from pending matters and dealt with under separate headings.

### WDC

- Ashdown Forest Special Protection Area.
- Wealden Community Infrastructure Levy.
- Neighbourhood Planning. The suggestion was discussed whether at some point the Council should try and instigate the drawing up a Parish Plan as a stepping stone to a Neighbourhood Plan. Joint discussions could be held with East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council.

### OTHER

- ESCC – Grit bins. The Clerk had been asked to complete a questionnaire on the condition of the grit/salt bins. **ACTION: PC 091 – CLERK.**
- Audit Commission. A letter informing the Council of a change in external auditor from the year 2012/13.
- Guideposts – email circulated and as detailed under ‘Matters arising’.
- Framfield & Blackboys Monday Club thanking the Council for their donation.
- LCR.

## 6. Adoption of new Code of Conduct effective from 1 July 2012 – papers circulated.

All members were in receipt of the details from WDC. The Council was happy to adopt the Code effective from 1 July 2012 (RB/PF) understanding that a few very minor further tweaks would be made before the final version is issued. Members are required to complete new Registration of Interest forms within 28 days of 1 July 2012. These forms have to be put on the PC website and sent to WDC. The Clerk would advise the meeting once they are available for completion. **ACTION: PC 092 – CLERK.**

## 7. Finance and General Purposes:

- **Formal approval of the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2012 and Statement of Assurance in line with the audit regulations.** The accounts were unanimously accepted and formally proposed for agreement by John Mordaunt and seconded by Richard Brocklebank. Those present subsequently endorsed the Statement of Assurance.
- Ratification of the removal of the charity investment figure (some £17,000) from the PC accounts. To be ‘accounted’ for in the Blackboys Trust documentation. This was formally proposed by Robert Newton, seconded by John Mordaunt and agreed by all present.
- Schedule of expenditure as at 31 May 2012 – this was adopted as read. (JG/JM).
- Formal agreement of the May/June 2012 payments/disbursements – itemised below. This was agreed for payment by Jeff Goggin, seconded by Peter Friend and agreed by all present.

### May

	£
Arbor Management (grounds maintenance)	1,044.53
Action in Rural Sussex (annual subscription)	50.00
East Hoathly with Halland PC (share of computer upgrade costs)	118.75
Blackboys Trust (Hall hire)	24.00
Framfield & Blackboys Monday Club (donation)	100.00
British Telecom plc (telephone account – shared 50/50 with EHwHPC – paid by DD)	248.87

Jan Riddle, RFO	XX.XX
Ann Newton, Clerk	XX.XX
<i>Both salaries paid net of deductions.</i>	
HMRC: Tax and NI payments for Clerk/RFO	XX.XX

June

Arbor Management (grounds maintenance)	1,044.53
Selina Allen (reimbursement of sundries for Jubilee Picnic)	62.63
Barry Richardson (balance of web design)	400.00
Blackboys Trust (dividends)	259.15
Jan Riddle, RFO	XX.XX
Ann Newton, Clerk	XX.XX
<i>Both salaries paid net of deductions.</i>	
HMRC: Tax and NI payments for Clerk/RFO	XX.XX

Cheques received

Charity dividends	259.15
East Hoathly with Halland PC (share of phone a/c)	103.70

Bank Balances as at 31 May 2012

Current Account	£21,616.00
Deposit Account	£107.65

**8. Reports from Committees**

- **Planning** - the Planning Committee minutes for the meetings held since the last meeting have been circulated. The next scheduled meeting was for 27 June 2012.
- **Environment** – the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 8 August 2012.

**9. Reports from Representatives**

**Schools:**

- Framfield – There was nothing to report.
- Blackboys – There was nothing to report other than the collaboration with Framfield School is being progressed.
- Police – Selina Allen had sent a report from the recent Police meeting that she had attended. Local crime is down; there are only 2-3 burglaries in Wealden per week; pick-pockets are out and about in Uckfield including in Tescos; scrap metal dealers are working with Police. Two local thieves are now in prison and two more are awaiting trial.

**10. Any Other Business at the Discretion of the Chairman**

- Blackboys Trust - Myran Eade stated that the appropriate risk assessments had been done by the Cricket Club for their events.
- The Clerk reported that complaints had been received about the state of the Church Path behind Becketts Way. This is down to the undergrowth (bracken, nettles etc) rather than overgrown hedges. The Clerk offered to contact ESCC under whose jurisdiction the clearance of footpaths comes  
**ACTION: PC 093 – CLERK.**

*The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.*

**Chairman**..... **Date** .....

<p><b>NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, 31 July 2012, at the Village Hall, Blackboys, commencing at 7.30 pm.</b></p>
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