

Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, on Tuesday, 27 March 2012 at 7.30 pm

Present Maria Naylor (Chairman) Jeff Goggin
Selina Allen Felicity Groves
Richard Brocklebank John Mordaunt
Myran Eade Rob Newton (Vice Chairman)
Peter Friend
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) made the following report:

- Once again ESCC has frozen Council Tax along with WDC and the Parish.
- ESCC have pledged to spend £25m on obtaining high speed Broadband in rural areas. There had been a Government Broadband initiative of £10m plus £15m from ESCC so the campaign will go ahead. The most rural areas will be given priority.
- ESCC have earmarked £56m towards the Hastings link road giving access to Hastings via Bexhill to provide economic improvement in the Hastings area.
- Chris is aware of the issues with the 32 bus service which is currently out to tender following the withdrawal of the service by the provider.
- The new road junction at the end of High Street, Blackboys, has been causing concern with particular regard to turning left from the High Street. He asked that the Parish Council monitor the situation and feedback to Chris.
- Blackboys Traffic Calming – Michael Higgs is writing to residents with the new proposals.
- Guideposts – the Clerk explained the problem she had been having with a new ESCC agreement asking councils to sign up for the maintenance of the signs for five years. This had caused consternation amongst parishes. The Clerk is to meet with the officer, Gary Potter, after Easter, to tone down the agreement. Meanwhile the sponsored replacements can go ahead. **ACTION: PC 064 – CLERK.**

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC) in her role as District Councillor reported that the public examination of the Core Strategy had gone well. A letter of recommendation has been received from the Inspector and some minor changes were required to be made. However, a large site for development in Heathfield had been removed as the inspector felt such development was not appropriate in an area within the AONB. The plan has also been reduced in length slightly to 2027 from 2030.

1. Apologies for Absence

Ian Paisley. The meeting wished Ian a speedy recovery.

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 28 February 2012 having been circulated, be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record. (FG/RN).

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Some items were dealt with under other appropriate headings below.

PC 056	Framfield Allotments – Clerk and the two ladies who attended the meeting to investigate the various suggestions for the allotments. The Clerk stated that Jean Pidgeon was now helping on the ground with the allotments – meeting tenants etc. She was happy to become a Trustee. Richard Brocklebank offered to step down.
PC 057	Traffic calming proposals – ongoing. Michael Higgs (ESCC) to write to Blackboys residents regarding the revised proposals for the High Street. As detailed above. ACTION: PC 065 – ONGOING.
PC 058	Ian Paisley to research/source a replacement tree at the right juncture for the green at the top of Becketts Way. This was ongoing. ACTION: PC 066 – IP.
PC 059	Financial year end reports for the Halls. The RFO was asked to provide these at the end of the financial year so that the FGP and PC can give consideration to any change in rental/hire charges.
PC 060	Insurance Renewal. Premium to be paid post 1 April 2012. This had been done.
PC 061	Clerk to contact ESCC to remind them that the invoice for the energy/maintenance of the streetlights should reach the PC by the end of the financial year. This had been received showing a substantial reduction in energy costs from previous years due to the changeover in bulbs. Jeff Goggin asked if it were possible for resident to request that a shade be put on a light if that resident was prepared to pay. The Clerk was asked to contact ESCC. ACTION: PC 067 – CLERK.
PC 062	RFO to check the amount allocated under 'grants/donations' column. This as anticipated, was the net amount passed over to both Trusts out of the earmarked £1,000 for each refurbishment project.
PC 063	Clerk to contact the football clubs regarding the goal post which appears to be lying on Framfield recreation ground. This was still to be done. Selina Allen offered to speak to Mark Moore. ACTION: PC 068 – SA.

5. Correspondence received since the last meeting

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

- F&BHS. The Clerk stated that she had received the usual letter asking if the H&S could use Framfield recreation ground for the Summer Show on 11 August 2012 with car parking on the ground weather-permitting. This was agreed. It was also noted that the Show Committee are thinking about having an evening event after the Show and would be in contact separately. **ACTION: PC 069 – CLERK.**
- South East Water Ltd x 2. The Clerk reported that the first letter detailed water replacement works in Brookhouse Lane and The Street, commencing for 10 weeks on 2 April 2012. This is a continuation of the works last year. The second letter detailed the soon to be imposed hose pipe restrictions.
- LCR.

6. Finance and General Purposes:

- Schedule of expenditure as at 29 February 2012 – this was adopted as read. (RN/PF).
- Maria Naylor stated that an FGP meeting would be convened in April with the intention of aiming to have the Annual Return signed off at the May meeting. **ACTION: PC 070 – MN/RFO/LERK.**
- Formal agreement of the March 2012 payments/disbursements – itemised below. This was agreed for payment by Selina Allen, seconded by Jeff Goggin and agreed by all present.

	£
East Sussex County Council (streetlighting energy/maintenance for 2011/12)	2,774.20
Blackboys Trust (dividends)	178.26
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 to be dated after 1 April 2012

Broker Network Ltd (Parish Council Insurance)	3,290.98
SALC (annual subscription/LCR)	549.94
WDALC (annual subscription)	25.00
Arbor Management (grounds maintenance)	1,044.53

- The Parish Council agreed to pay the Blackboys Trust related cheques out of the PC account this month as no BB Trust cheque book was available. The money would be repaid at a later date.

Bank Balances as at 29 February 2012

Current Account £16,760.45

Deposit Account £107.64

7. Reports from Committees

- **Planning** - the Planning Committee minutes for the meeting held on 14 March 2012 had been circulated.
- **Environment** – the minutes from the meeting held on Wednesday, 22 February 2012 had been circulated.
 - Guideposts – update. As detailed above.
 - Village signs – the Clerk reported that she had obtained a contact to repair the signs and a quote was on the way. **ACTION: PC 071 – CLERK.**
 - Village Maintenance sheets have been submitted by Selina Allen
 - The meeting scheduled for 4 April 2012 has been cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for 6 June 2012.

8. Reports from Representatives

Schools:

- Framfield – Selina Allen reported that they still haven't got a Head and were re-advertising. The Council gave the School permission to mark out a rounders pitch in the summer
- Blackboys – nothing to report.

9. Any Other Business at the Discretion of the Chairman

- Bus service. This had been detailed above.
- Framfield Memorial Hall – use by a band. The Council gave agreement for a band to use the Memorial Hall on 19 May 2012. However Mary Short was asked to make three stipulations – that the event finish at 11 pm; there is to be no alcohol and the names of the six parents who are providing the supervision be detailed on the hire agreement which must be signed by a parent. Clerk to advise Mary. **ACTION: PC 072 – CLERK/MS.**
- Parish Magazine. The Clerk reported an excellent year again in achieving adverts. The meeting confirmed that the Vicar's letter would be omitted from the latest edition as he had missed the deadline.
- 2012 Annual Assembly. The meeting agreed that the Annual Assembly should be convened after the AGM on 29 May 2012 – start time 8 pm.
- British Heart Foundation. The Clerk reported that she had received a request from the BHF to put clothing bins at each/one Hall as they are very short of items. The Clerk was asked to send details to all members. A press release detailing their plight has been put on the website and will go in the next Parish Magazine. **ACTION: PC 073 – CLERK.**
- The Clerk reported that the Cleaner at the Memorial Hall was having problems cleaning around some PE benches left out by the School as they can't put them away under the stage as the Stagers have left their equipment there. It also appears that the Stagers have filled a cupboard off the rear hall. The meeting agreed that the equipment must be removed from under the stage and if they wish to use the cupboard at the rear, Brian Short will allocate one which can be padlocked as long as Brian also has a key. A charge of £20.00 per year will be made. The meeting also asked that David Jenner return his set of keys. **ACTION: PC 074 – CLERK/BS.**

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

Chairman..... Date

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:
Tuesday, 24 April 2012, at the Memorial Hall, Framfield,
commencing at 7.30 pm.**