

Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, on Tuesday, 29 September 2015 at 7.30pm

Present Jeff Goggin (Chairman) Maria Naylor
Selina Allen (Vice Chairman) Sue Newman
Keith Brandon Rob Newton
Peter Friend

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) - part

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

Prior to the commencement of the meeting members of the public and County and District Representatives are invited to address the Parish Council if present.

Several residents of Bird in Eye Hill were in attendance asking for the Parish Council to support the proposals from ESCC to implement a 40 mph speed limit from the end of the current 30 mph limit to a position just east of the Farm. The proposals would cost approximately £4,000 for which the Parish Council would have to be responsible but could apply for match funding. Councillor Chris Dowling elaborated on the proposals. The meeting agreed to support the campaign and stated that they would investigate the match-funding issue with ESCC. They could then build into next year's budget the expenditure that will be required. **ACTION: PC 020 – CLERK/CD.**

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) – Chris had given his support for the change in speed limit. He then made a further report on the enormous financial pressures in which ESCC find themselves.

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC) reported to the meeting on the recent publication of the Wealden Local Plan Issues, Options and Recommendations document which would go out to consultation from 19 October to 30 November. This document is the first in the Wealden Local Plan – a review of the Core Strategy as stipulated by the Inspector at the time – he asked for a Review in 2015 or when there was a solution to the waste water issues in the south of the District – whichever is the sooner. The document details the housing numbers for the District, options for growth and recommendations. It also includes development management policies, gypsy and traveller provision and a review of the Conservation Areas. There is to be a briefing for Parish Councillors on Thursday, 1 October 2015 followed by an item on the Parish Planning Conference agenda to be held on 4 November 2015.

(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).

1. Apologies for Absence

There were none.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors to give notice of declarations of personal, prejudicial and pecuniary interests in respect of items on the agenda. Rob Newton declared a prejudicial pecuniary 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 30 June 2015 having been circulated, be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record. (PF/JG).

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Some items were dealt with under other appropriate headings below.

PC 016	Guideposts – A further programme of works could be put together for this year. Councillors to nominate. First suggestion, the sign at the junction of the B2192 and Palehouse Common Road. Any further suggestions could come forward. <u>ACTION: PC 021 – CLERK.</u>
PC 017	Sue Newman to report an overgrown footpath to the Clerk which although she had reported had still not been cleared. Sue reported that one footpath had been cleared but that a path going from Framelle Mount had not. The Clerk said she would investigate. <u>ACTION: ACTION: PC 022 – CLERK.</u>
PC 018	Grounds maintenance contract – 2016-18. Tender process to begin. Rob Newton and Peter Friend to review paperwork. Clerk to send out the paperwork. <u>ACTION: PC 023 – CLERK/PF/RN.</u> Keith Brandon asked for clarification on ownership of the hedge opposite the houses in John Dann Close. The Clerk clarified that it is the responsibility of Affinity Sutton and is not written into the contract with the Council grounds maintenance contractor. The Clerk said she would make contact with Affinity Sutton, the Housing Association. <u>ACTION: PC 024 – CLERK.</u>
PC 019	Clerk to inform the Blackboys Inn that they could not use the recreation ground to play a game of cricket, but to make contact again if they require use in the future. This had been done.

5. Correspondence received since the last meeting

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

ESCC:

- Street Lighting Maintenance Agreement – 2015 rates. The rates have not changed from 2012.
- Proposal to reduce the speed limit on Bird-in-Eye Hill – detailed above.
- The Parish Council's stance on the provision of grit bins. The Clerk reported that there had been an item posted on an Uckfield news forum website criticising the Council for not providing grit/salt bins. The Clerk reminded the Council that this had been discussed at some length previously and although ESCC were no longer providing new or replacement grit bins, the Parish Council did not want to take on the financial responsibility or have the liability of the bins which need to be kept full. The meeting agreed this stance once again.
- The Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee asking for a donation of £25.00 for administration costs. The Clerk was asked to write to the Committee requesting that the Council's name be removed from the contact list. **ACTION: PC 025 - CLERK.**
- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England – Electoral Review of East Sussex County and Districts. The Clerk advised that this will not affect the Parish Ward boundaries. Anyone can input into the consultation – the Commission has already confirmed that the number of District Councillors will reduce to 45 from 55 and the number of County rise by 1!

6. Finance and General Purposes:

- The Pensions Regulator. The meeting agreed that the RFO should take over the mission! This is after many weeks of dialogue between the Clerk and the Pensions Regulator. **ACTION: PC 026 – RFO.**
- Invoice for flashing signs outside Framfield School - correspondence. The Clerk explained that the invoice for the signs had included an administration fee of £150 plus VAT. As the Council had never received a quote for the work, only an approximate total figure, bearing in mind the length of time the process had taken, the invoice had been paid minus the administration charge. A further demand has now been received. The meeting agreed that the Clerk should point this out again and Councillor Dowling offered to liaise with ESCC himself. **ACTION: PC 027 – CLERK/CD.**
- Completion of the Annual Return – this had been completed with no issues.
- Earmarking of Reserves totalling £19,000. The meeting agreed to defer this to the next meeting's agenda – **ACTION: PC 028 – CLERK.**

- Change of signatories on NS&I Investment Account (Framfield Trust). The Parish Council is asked to resolve that Jeff Goggin, Rob Newton and Maria Naylor be signatories of the Framfield Recreation Ground Trust account. This was agreed as proposed – proposed by Rob Newton, seconded by Peter friend and agreed by all present.
- Change of signatories on NS&I Investment Account (Parish Council). The Parish Council is asked to resolve that Jeff Goggin, Rob Newton and Maria Naylor be signatories of the Framfield Parish Council account. This was agreed as proposed – proposed by Peter Friend, seconded by Selina Allen and agreed by all present. Clerk to send the paperwork off to NS&I. **ACTION: PC 029 – CLERK.**
- Schedule of expenditure as at 31 August 2015 – this was adopted as read. (KB/JG).
- Formal agreement of the July/August/September 2015 payments/disbursements – itemised below. This was agreed for payment by Peter Friend, seconded by Jeff Goggin and agreed by all present.

	£
701280 – H&S Fabrics Ltd (Memorial Hall curtain material)	422.82
701281 – Void	
701282 – WDC (dog bin emptying April/June 2015)	321.18
701283 – ESCC (2 solar powered school flasher signs)	5,281.73
701284 - HMRC	
701285 – Came & Company (annual insurance premium)	2,717.30
701286 - Steve Moger (replacement flooring)	2,086.40
701287 – HMRC	
701288 – PKF Littlejohn LLP (external audit fee)	480.00
701289 – CPRE (annual subscription)	36.00
701290 – WDALC (annual subscription)	25.00
701291 – Mrs Ann Newton (reimbursement of sundry items)	196.84
701292 – HMRC	
701293 – Compact Cutting (grounds maintenance) (Staff salaries and HMRC)	456.00

Cheques received

BlackRock charity dividends (to be transferred to BB Trust account) - £277.76.
HM Revenue & Customs - £3,746.12

Parish Magazine

100017 – Print Matters (printing August/September edition)	488.00
100018 - P Tomsett (BR) (typesetting August/September edition)	125.00
100019 – Print Matters (printing October/November edition)	546.00
100020 - P Tomsett (BR) (typesetting October/November edition)	125.00

Bank Balances as at 31 August 2015

Current Account £29,446.03
Deposit Account £119.16

7. Reports from Committees

- **Planning** – the minutes of the previous meeting (21 July 2015) and delegated comments for August 2015 (2) and September would have been be ratified at the meeting prior to full Council.
- **Review of the Committee Membership.** Jan Newman was formally placed on the Committee due to the wish to step down by Selina Allen. This was agreed by all present – the Committee consists of Keith Brandon (Chairman), Peter Friend (Vice Chairman), Jeff Goggin, Maria Naylor and Sue Newman.
- **WDC Local Development Framework Sub-Committee meeting – 25 September 2015 – Wealden Local Plan.** The Clerk in her role as District Ward Member explained the process as detailed above.
- **Protocol Meeting – 9 October 2015 – Blackboys Service Station –** as detailed in the Planning Committee minutes.

8. Reports from Representatives

- **Schools:**

Framfield – Keith Brandon reported that the Head of the School was very complimentary about the works that have been done to the Memorial Hall to date. He asked that some coat-hooks be put back in the front lobby area. Selina Allen asked if they were actually used – Keith to investigate. **ACTION: PC 030 – KB.**

Blackboys – the Clerk stated that she hoped that future meetings of the new Federation could be scheduled avoiding Parish Council meeting nights and would be furnishing the School Clerk with the dates for next year. **ACTION: PC 031 - CLERK.**

- **Police Panel meeting** – 25 November 2015 (corrected date).
- **WDALC** – minutes to be sent out as and when received.

9. Councillors' Questions

- War Memorial – the Clerk was asked to inform David Jenner that before they would agree to contributing towards the cleaning costs they require a second quote. **ACTION: PC 032 – CLERK.**

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

Chairman.....

Date

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:
Tuesday, 24 November 2015,
at the Memorial Hall, Framfield.
commencing at 7.30 pm.**