

**FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, on Tuesday, 27 November 2018 at 7.30pm**

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**Present (Councillors):** Keith Brandon (Chairman) Danny Gallagher  
Sam Sharples (Vice Chairman) Tony Hall  
Peter Friend Maria Naylor

Councillors Chris Dowling (ESCC)/Ann Newton (WDC)

**In attendance** Ann Newton - Clerk Members of the Public – one.  
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.*

A resident from Bird in Eye Hill was present and voiced his concerns over the speed of traffic using the road. He had been in touch with Councillor Dowling who had suggested he attended the meeting to see if the Parish Council could take anything forward. The Chairman explained that the concerns had been visited before and a meeting held with the residents and ESCC Officers. The Clerk then briefly explained the view of ESCC as follows: they would not object on the implementation of a 40 mph speed limit but have concerns because the existing average speed is significantly below the proposed limit so there is a risk that if a 40 mph limit were posted average speeds could actually increase and they have evidence of this happening in other locations. The cost (some 18 months ago) was approximately £10,000 with the possibility of 50% of the costs being provided by ESCC's Community match funding – the rest has to be borne by the community. Regarding a 30 mph speed limit – the environment and average speeds would not support the introduction of a 30 mph speed limit unless significant engineering works (traffic calming) were introduced to change driver behaviour. This will cost (again 18 months ago) in excess of £100,000 and may or may not be considered acceptable to the community on the grounds of sprawling urbanisation. Again in terms of funding for £100,000 the same applies as detailed above. In conclusion, the Clerk reported that the residents were advised to reconvene and decided what they want for their road, to clearly identify exactly what the issues are and gather evidence to support those issues and to decide what outcome they want. Nothing so far as been forthcoming. The Clerk stated that she would send on the full details to the resident who was thanked for attending the meeting.

**Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC)** also thanked the resident for attending and suggested that he contact him further to keep the dialogue going on Bird in Eye.

- 'Core Offer' – Chris detailed this recent 'survey' and encouraged everyone to look at it. The deal is really just the statutory services plus a little bit more. ESCC is still some £34 million short of where it wants to be.
- Blackboys Nursery – Chris stated that he would follow through the concerns over the mud on the road at the building site which had been flagged up as urgently needing attention particularly with the cold weather on the way.
- SLR ("Strengthening Local Relationships") meeting with ESCC – Chris asked the date of the next scheduled meeting. Danny Gallagher responded that it was towards the end of January and it was hoped he could attend.
- Palehouse Common – Chris advised the meeting of the ongoing concerns of various residents about speeding traffic and HGV's from the industrial estates. Danny stated that there was ongoing dialogue with the owners.
- Digital Mapping – The Chairman asked if ESCC could assist in a similar way as WSCC? Chris stated that he had a contact which he would pass on.

**Councillor Ann Newton (WDC)** – Ann reported that the new refuse contract was to be awarded shortly.

*(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).*

## **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.* There were none.

## **3. Election of a Vice Chairman**

Keith Brandon proposed that Sam Sharples be elected as Vice Chairman. This was seconded by Maria Naylor and agreed by all present. There were no other nominations.

## **4. To accept the Minutes of the last meeting (25 September 2018)**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2018, having been circulated, as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as proposed by Keith Brandon and seconded by Sam Sharples.

## **5. Co-option of Parish Councillors**

Tony Hall resident of Blackboys expressed his willingness to join the Parish Council. He was proposed for co-option by Keith Brandon, seconded by Sam Sharples and unanimously welcomed on board by all present. He duly signed the Declaration of Office and the Clerk said she would liaise with him over the Code of Conduct etc.

## **6. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

To receive updates or agree any further actions.

- Mr Peter Scott – Tudor Walk – streetlighting. The meeting discussed the recent survey where no structural faults had been flagged up on the lights tested. They considered Mr Scott's request but believed that it wasn't fair to treat this situation in isolation when not all opinions were known. The Clerk was asked to reply to Mr Scott conveying this information.

## **7. Correspondence received since the last meeting**

*Letters for noting/discussion (Including items that have been received after this agenda has been published) – most items were from pending matters and dealt with under separate headings.*

- ESCC: the East Sussex (Public Footpath Framfield 61b) Public Path Diversion Order 2018. This was noted.

## **8. Finance and General Purposes:**

- FGP minutes for resolution – all Councillors were in receipt of a copy.
- Resolve to agree all the recommendations detailed in the FGP minutes from the meeting held on 14 November 2018 – in particular:
  - a. Resolve to set the budget for the next financial year – 2019/20. The FGP Committee recommends to full Council that the budget be set at £61,670.
  - b. Resolve to set the precept for the next financial year – 2019/20. With a budget requirement of £61,670, the Parish Council resolves to set the precept at £61,448 as the Council Tax Support Grant is £222.00. (An increase of £11.06 per year to a Band D Council Tax payer).

The meeting agreed to vote for these en bloc, as proposed by Keith Brandon and seconded by Sam Sharples and agreed by all present.

- Request from the Kent, Surrey, Sussex Air Ambulance for a donation. The meeting agreed to defer this request until after year end when the financial situation was known.
- Bank reconciliation, balances and accounts – all Councillors were in receipt of a copy of the financial sheets for comparison and agreement. The accounts were verified as correct by the Council. (KB/SS). The meeting asked for the paperwork electronically next time but overall were delighted with the new ways of working.

- Resolve to agree the October/November 2018 payments/disbursements as detailed on the report as circulated. These were agreed (MN/PF).
- Any other financial matters. There were none.

## 9. Verbal Reports/updates from Council Members and the Clerk (if required).

- Liaison with ESCC on highway matters – Danny Gallagher/Clerk. Danny gave a verbal report on the twelve previous issues under the spotlight and would follow this up with a written report.
  - The Clerk detailed that ESCC were investigating the overgrown undergrowth around the Blackboys village sign and the copped area in front of Mapleleaf Cottages, Blackboys, was in the hands of WDC.
  - Danny further stated that although the Council had agreed to fund two extra urban grass cuts using the Council contractors this financial year, at the moment he did not think so cuts necessary but would keep this under review.
- Clerk – report on any other items not recorded elsewhere in the agenda.
  - War Memorial, Framfield Churchyard. The Council agreed that they would, as before, fund 50% of the works shared with the Church. Clerk to organise for late spring.
  - Finger-post, junction of Wilderness/Chapel Lane. The Clerk explained that Hadlow Down Parish Council had inadvertently repaired a guidepost in Framfield Parish. The meeting agreed to fund 50% of the costs, the other 50% being funded by ESCC. The Clerk would then ask ESCC for a licence and the post could be added to the Council's insurance policy.
  - Christmas Tree – Memorial Hall car park. The Clerk explained that there had been a request asking if there would be a tree this year although there was some confusion about who was doing what. Sam Sharples said she would look into it further possibly with the PTFA.
  - Dates for next year – Parish Council meetings and Village Markets.
- Report on a meeting between the Chairman and Inspector Jon Gross, Sussex Police. The Chairman had advised Inspector Gross on various parking issues – it seemed a shame at the moment to see that apparently no action has been taken. Various keys dates for the Parish were also passed on where it might be good to sometimes give residents an opportunity to meet with local police officers.

## 10. Reports from Representatives

- **Schools:** St Thomas à Becket Church of England Federation (Blackboys & Framfield CEP Schools). Sam Sharples stated that she was now a Governor and would confirm with the Federation whether she should officially report on school matters at future Parish Council meetings.
- **WDALC** (Wealden District Association of Local Councils) – minutes to be sent out as and when received.
- **Parish Planning Panel (c/o Clerk)** - minutes to be sent out as and when received.

## 11. Items for referral by Councillors to the next appropriate Council or Committee agenda.

There were none. The Clerk thanked the Council on behalf of Rob Newton for the gifts in recognition of his years of service and the Chairman passed on thanks from Selina Allen for the same.

*There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.38 pm.*

<p><b>NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:</b>  <b>Tuesday, 29 January 2019</b>  <b>at the Village Hall, Blackboys.</b>  <b>commencing at 7.30 pm.</b></p>
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FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Expenditure: October and November 2018

Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment Ref	Comments	Pre VAT VALUE (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)	Notes
Inc	Other	OLB	Bank Compensation	75.00		75.00	
Inc	Other	OLB	Wealden CIL	9,893.61		9,893.61	Trans to Reserves
Inc	Other	OLB	Black Rock to BB Trust	(282.88)		(282.88)	
Inc	Other	200020	Black Rock	282.88		282.88	
Exp	Staff Costs	701422	WG Accounting	453.67		453.67	
exp	General	701428	Barclaycard	210.28		210.28	
Exp	General	701429	Wicksteed	271.25	54.25	325.50	
Exp	Hall Hire		BVH	20.00		20.00	
exp	Staff Costs	701430	September	1,881.23		1,882.23	
exp	Training	701433	SSALC	100.00	20.00	120.00	
exp	Repairs & Handyman	701434	G & J Greengrow	1,914.00		1,914.00	
exp	NI	701432	WG Accounting	453.87		453.87	
exp	Bus Service	701435	N Wealden CTP Ltd	165.10		165.10	
exp	Loan Interest	OLB	Public Works Loan	2,914.21		2,914.21	
exp	NI	701428	WG Accounting	455.30		455.30	
exp	Clerks exps	OLB	Barclaycard	24.72		24.72	
exp	Staff Costs	701437	October	1,843.05		1,843.05	
exp	subscriptions	OLB	Wealden Local Councils	26.00		26.00	
exp	I A Fee/GDPR	OLB	K Robertson	110.80		110.80	
Exp	General	OLB	Staverton	216.67	43.33	260.00	Trans from Reserves
exp	General	OLB	Staverton	1,700.00	340.00	2,040.00	Trans from Reserves
exp	clerks exps	OLB	Barclaycard	34.25		34.25	
exp	Staff Costs	OLB	November	3,219.20		3,219.20	
exp	NI	OLB	WG Accounting	1,408.28		1,408.28	
exp	Audit Fee	OLB	WG Accounting	60.00		60.00	