

**FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, on Tuesday, 30 January 2018 at 7.30pm**

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**Present (Councillors):** Keith Brandon (Chairman) Rob Jackson  
Selina Allen (Vice Chairman) Maria Naylor  
Peter Friend Sam Sharples  
Danny Gallagher

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) - part

**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 are invited to address the Parish Council if present.*

**Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC)** – Chris reported on the following items:

- Mount Pleasant, Blackboys. Chris commented on the seeming reluctance for ESCC Highways to carry out the re-surfacing of the road. He wondered if the Parish Council could along with the residents put any pressure on ESCC.
- B2192 – feasibility studied commissioned. A meeting is still to be agreed with ESCC officers [*post meeting note – scheduled for 16 March 2018*].
- Budget – It is likely that there will be a 5.9% rise in Council Tax with the Council still having to make £17m worth of cuts.
- Members' Allowances. Comment was made in particular on the huge rise given and accepted by the Leader of the Council.

**Councillor Ann Newton (WDC)** – Ann reported on the following items:

- Wealden Local Plan. Ann informed the meeting that the Plan would be published at the beginning of April and would go to Full Council on 25 April 2018.
- Civil Parking Enforcement. The District Council has agreed to maintain the status quo and 'do nothing' at the moment due to the varying views of the villages/towns across the District. There would continue to be dialogue with the Police whose role it is to be enforcing car parking issues.
- Budget. The Council Tax would be increased by £5.00 for a Band D property with pro-rata increases across the other bands.

*(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**

Councillors Noel Mansley and Rob Newton. The Clerk advised the meeting that Jeff Goggin was no longer on the Council.

### **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. To accept the Minutes of the last meeting (28 November 2017)**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2017, having been circulated, as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as proposed by Maria Naylor and seconded by Sam Sharples.

#### 4. Co-option of Parish Councillors

There were no interested parties present.

#### 5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

To receive updates or agree any further actions.

- Blackboys – B2192 – feasibility studied commissioned. As detailed above.

#### 6. 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: Seaford & District Bus Service. The Council has been advised that the service will be reduced from 3 April 2018. When the timetable has been received details will be put on the Parish website.
- ESCC: Household Waste Recycling Site consultation. The proposals are to close the sites at Wadhurst and Forest Row, charge for certain types of waste which isn't classified as 'household', change the opening hours and work with charities to reduce the amount of waste they currently deposit free of charge.
- WDC: Premises Licence Application - Variation WK/201712577 - Cellar Head Brewing Co Ltd, Unit 16, New Place Farm Industrial Units, Framfield Road, Blackboys, East Sussex, TN22 5EQ. The meeting decided to formally object to the application for the following reasons: the site is not suitable for retail activity, down a long isolated track with no signage, potentially creating hazards for 'cold call' customers in an industrial site environment. Retail would set a precedent for the site which has no planning permission for retail use. Unattractive signage would have to be included at the track entrance in an otherwise clear, rural area, urbanising the setting. Such journeys would have an impact on the traffic movements connected with the Ashdown Forest. The applicant should use an established retail outlet. The Clerk was asked to pass these comments onto Wealden District Council.
- ESCC: Application for Division of Public Footpath Framfield 61B, Etchingwood Lane, Framfield TN22 5SA. The Council has no objection to this diversion. Clerk to pass this onto WDC/ESCC.
- Councillor Training – 10 April 2018, 6-9 pm. Polegate Town Council. The Clerk asked for interested parties to contact her.
- Framfield & Blackboys Monday Club – dates and accounts.

#### 7. Finance and General Purposes:

- Resolve to agree the recommendations as detailed in the FGP minutes from the meeting held on 11 December 2017. The Council resolved to accept the recommendations detailed as proposed by Maria Naylor, and seconded by Rob Jackson.

*The resolution on the budget/precept is detailed in full below along with a resolution for the earmarking of reserves (although there will be a slight change from that detailed in the FGP minutes due to expenditure on one further guidepost (£1,099.00 [earmarked reserves]) and further expenditure on the Wealdlink Saturday bus services (£96.84 [general reserves]).*

- Resolve to set the budget and Precept for the next financial year – 2018/19. The FGP Committee recommend to full Council that the budget be set at £55,535 and the precept be kept the same at £51,200. The Council Tax Support Grant is £551.00 and £3,784.00 would be used from general reserves. Full details are included in the FGP minutes (11 December 2017).
- Resolve to earmark the reserve funds as detailed at the FGP meeting.

Gratuity account	£6,632.46
Traffic measures	£11,500.00
Recreation Ground/Play equipment contingency	£10,000.00
Blackboys : Connection to main sewer	£10,000.00
New Noticeboards	£2,000.00
Repair/replace guideposts	£2,000.00

Framfield Play Area Fencing	£2,000.00
Legal fee contingency	£8,000.00
General Reserves	£5,822.14
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£57,954.60</b>

- A further FGP meeting is scheduled for 26 February 2018.
- Appointment of an Internal Auditor, Keith Robertson. This was agreed.
- Councillors were in receipt of the schedule of expenditure as at 31 December 2017, bank reconciliation and bank statement for December for comparison and agreement. The accounts were verified as correct by the Council. (KB/SS).
- Formal agreement of the December 2017/January 2018 payments/disbursements – itemised below. This was agreed for payment by Peter Friend, seconded by Sam Sharples and agreed by all present.
- Any other financial matters. There were none.

	£
701390 – WDC (dog bin emptying Oct/Dec)	360.00
701391 – WDC (Parish Conference fee)	30.00
701392 – Barcombe Landscapes Ltd (final invoice for grounds maintenance)	1,140.00
BACS – JAKK Country Furniture Designs Ltd (two guideposts – reserves)	3,066.00
BACS – Framfield Trust (Hall hire)	40.00
BACS – HMRC; December tax and NI payments for the Clerk/RFO	493.40
701393 – Hitachi Capital Invoice Finance (JAKK Country Furniture Designs Ltd [guidepost/Pound Hill – earmarked and general reserves])	1,318.80
701394 – AIRS (subscription to Sussex Community Buildings Advice Service [Jan/March 2017])	36.00
701395 – NWCT Partnership Ltd (Saturday bus service) [general reserves]	96.84
701396 – Simon Schofield (computer updates)	220.00
701397 – SSALC Limited (GDPR course x 2)	115.20
BACS – Framfield Trust (Hall hire)	20.00
BACS – HMRC; January tax and NI payments for the Clerk/RFO <i>(Staff salaries are paid by BACS net of deductions)</i>	489.00

Cheques received

BlackRock dividends - £346.87

Barclaycard Payments

December - £151.15

January - £378.99

Bank Balances as at 31 December 2017

Current Account	£13,412.50
Deposit Account	£25,119.22
National Savings Account	£19,278.14

**8. Verbal Reports/updates from Council Members and the Clerk (if required).**

- Liaison with ESCC on highway matters – nothing additional to report.
- Clerk – report on any other items not recorded elsewhere in the agenda. There were none.

**9. Reports from Representatives**

- **Schools:** St Thomas à Becket Church of England Federation (Blackboys & Framfield CEP Schools) (KB). Keith Brandon reported that with the installation of a new pump, at the Memorial Hall the heating problems seemed to have been concluded. At Blackboys, a walk around by a PCSO one afternoon had improved parking standards.
- **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.

**10.Items for referral by Councillors to the next appropriate Council or Committee agenda.**

There was nothing further. (Minor items for reporting were noted by the Clerk).

*There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.*

***NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:  
Tuesday, 27 March 2018  
at the Memorial Hall, Framfield.  
commencing at 7.30 pm.***