

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held remotely,
Tuesday, 9 February 2021 at 10 am
(re-convened meeting scheduled for 26 January 2021)

Present (Councillors): Keith Brandon (Chairman) Peter Friend
Maria Naylor Tony Hall (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) [part]
Councillor Ann Newton (WDC)

In attendance Ann Newton - Clerk Members of the Public – none.
Marie Owen – Responsible Financial Officer

(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).

On 4 April 2020, the Government brought the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020 into force to allow local authorities to conduct meetings remotely. Members of the public still have the right to attend and will be given the link for the meeting prior to the meeting. However, questions from the public should be received 2 days in advance of the meeting by email to the Parish Clerk.

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) had sent in a report for the meeting mentioning flooding issues, outstanding Planning matters and rural Broadband. The Chairman stated that on investigation of the voucher scheme for Broadband it remained unviable to residents – Chris would investigate.

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC) had also sent in a report detailing the proposed zero rise in Council Tax, updates on the Climate Change action plan and the review of leisure facilities across the District plus a focus on Planning matters.

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. To accept the Minutes of the last meeting (24 November 2020)

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2020, having been circulated, as a true and accurate record of the meeting as proposed by Keith Brandon and seconded by Maria Naylor. The minutes will be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

To receive updates or agree any further actions – all detailed elsewhere on the agenda.

- Village Signs – installation complete.
- Bus shelters – repairs – Framfield/Eastbourne Road. The Clerk would ask the contractor who reinstated the village signs for a quote.

5. 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.

6. Covid-19 – any relative items.

- General – trusts/income/expenditure etc. Discussion was held about the fact that the trusts are ‘ticking over’ with the help of two grants. In the Memorial Hall, although there is no income from the School,

there are less outgoings in the way of heating, light etc. At the Village Hall, the income has been reduced by two thirds due to the reduction for the Pre-school but the cost of utilities is still high.

- Zoonia – play areas – the meeting agreed to keep a three-month rolling programme of spraying until further guidance is available.
- Memorial Hall, Framfield – agree to offer the premises for emergency use if required (vaccinations etc). This was probably now not deemed to be necessary but confirmation has been received that elections will now go-ahead. Awaiting confirmation on what cleaning will be available.
- Any other relevant issues. There were none.

7. Finance and General Purposes:

- a. Resolve to set the budget for the next financial year – 2021/22. The FGP Committee made a provisional recommendation to full Council that the budget/precept be set at £66,680 - an increase of 8.5% or £5.61 per year to a Band D household. The tax base is now known and this reduces the increase to 6.7% or £4.38 for a Band D property. It is recommended therefore that the Parish Council sets the precept at £66,680. This was proposed for agreement by Maria Naylor, seconded by Keith Brandon and agreed by all present.
- b. Resolve to set the precept for the next financial year – 2021/22 at £66,680. This was proposed for agreement by Maria Naylor, seconded by Keith Brandon and agreed by all present.
- c. 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. (MN/TN).
- d. Resolve to agree the since the November 2020 meeting the payments/disbursements as detailed on the report as circulated. These were agreed and detailed at the end of the minutes. These were agreed (TH/MN).
- e. Any other financial matters: there were none.

8. Planning Committee.

The minutes/delegated comments since the last Parish Council meeting were agreed as read.

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

- Liaison with ESCC on highway matters:
 - SLR meetings – none have been held.
- Clerk – report on any other items not recorded elsewhere in the agenda.
 - Parish drive around with Highways Steward detailing list of 'hot spots'. Still to be done.
 - Play area inspections – Chairman/Grounds Manager to drive around to see what could be done in-house. Quotes to be obtained for woodchip to be delivered in the Spring.
 - Annual Parish Meeting – review date. As the meeting was scheduled for March 2021 when it is likely that meetings would still be remote, the Council agreed to re-schedule to May 2021.
 - Parish/Town Cluster meetings. The Direction of Travel document was discussed at the last meeting and other queries regarding planning matters in the District.
 - CSAG meetings. Still ongoing.
 - Parish streetlighting – discussion on the future maintenance/repairs. The Clerk and Chairman advised Councillors that following a meeting with a representative of ESCC regarding initially the repair of two streetlights, the Clerk had been informed that the Parish streetlights might not conform to current guidelines, not only for type etc but number and location as well. This is the same across all historic streetlighting across the District. Following discussion the meeting agreed not to repair the three current lights until a survey has been carried out to ascertain if/what will be required. The Clerk was asked to obtain two quotes, one from ESCC who currently provide a maintenance service and the energy and one from elsewhere.
 - Councillors agreed to reschedule the next virtual meeting on 30 March 2021 to 10 am.

10. Reports from Representatives

- **WDALC** (Wealden District Association of Local Councils) – minutes to be sent out as and when received.
- **Parish Planning Panel (c/o Clerk/Tony Hall)** - minutes to be sent out as and when received.

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

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.30 am.

Income and Expenditure November/December/January 2021								
Invoice	Folio	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment	Comments	Pre VAT	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Invoice Date	Folio	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment Ref	Comments	Pre VAT VALUE (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
13/01/2021	2293	exp	Telephone/Internet	OLB	BT	(6.67)	(1.33)	(8.00)
31/12/2020	2292	exp	Bus Service	OLB	North Wealdon CTP	200.87		200.87
31/12/2020	2291	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	WG Accounting	75.00		75.00
07/01/2021	2290	Exp	Office equipment	OLB	Amazon	123.74	24.75	148.49
01/12/2020	2289	Exp	Repairs & Handymar	OLB	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	1,520.00	304.00	1,824.00
20/12/2020	2288	Exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	873.16		873.16
23/12/2020	2286	exp	Recreation Grounds	OLB	HPS Services	225.00	45.00	270.00
24/12/2020	2285	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Staff Costs	3,225.76		3,225.76
22/12/2020	2282	exp	General	OLB	Bookers	(1.20)		(1.20)
21/12/2020	2281	exp	General	OLB	Bookers	21.59		21.59
08/12/2020	2279	exp	Website	OLB	FPC Website	330.00		330.00
02/12/2020	2278	exp	Dog Bins	OLB	Wealden DC	312.50	62.50	375.00
25/11/2020	2277	exp	Recreation Grounds	OLB	HPS Services	105.00	21.00	126.00
27/11/2020	2276	exp	Streetlighting	OLB	Costains East Sussex High	745.91	149.18	895.09
21/11/2020	2275	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	493.74		493.74
23/11/2020	2274	exp	Open spaces Grass	OLB	Grass Cutting	150.00		150.00
01/12/2020	2273	exp	Recreation Grounds	OLB	Epolyba	59.62	11.92	71.54
01/12/2020	2272	exp	Recreation Grounds	OLB	Epolyba	59.62	11.92	71.54
30/11/2020	2271	exp	Telephone/Internet	OLB	BT	109.05	21.80	130.85
22/11/2020	2268	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Staff Costs	2,607.27		2,607.27
05/11/2020	2265	exp	Audit Fee	OLB	PKF Littlejohn	400.00	80.00	480.00

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:
 Tuesday, 30 March 2021
 commencing at 10 am
 to be held remotely.**