

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council (PC) held at the Village Hall,
Blackboys, on Tuesday, 30 November 2021 at 5 pm.

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

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC)
Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC)

In attendance Ann Newton - Clerk Members of the Public – none.
Marie Owen - RFO

(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).

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) [CD] made the following report:

- Application to the Traffic Commissioners for storage of HGV's – Squires Farm Industrial Estate, Palehouse Common (PHC). This has been withdrawn by the applicants.
- Maintenance matters:
 - The water leak on the B2102 to the east of Pump Lane is under investigation but is complicated. The Clerk stated that with the colder weather the water will cause an extra hazard if it becomes icy.
 - Hammonds Green flooding – B2102 – there is ongoing discussion with landowners.
 - Brookhouse Lane – there is to be an investigation the following week. It is thought that the problem is root infestation. The road will be closed.
 - Upton Mill Lane – the residents have asked that assistance is given to enhance the signage deterring HGV's away from the Lane where the bridge which is regularly damaged.
- Palehouse Common – the designs for the new signs are delayed.
- Attendance at Blackboys School Road Safety Week and would be attending again with the Police.
- Lewes Road, Blackboys – CD had attended a meeting with the Police and ESCC Highways whereby the Police had stated that 50 mph was an appropriate speed limit for the Lewes Road. A series of data-collecting exercises were to be carried out on the stretch of road – the results would be available in January 2022. The Clerk stated that the comment from the Police was very disappointing because she felt that Inspector Kendal Wells, in recent CSAG meetings (Community Support Action Group) that he was concerned about the speed limit on the road and moving towards assisting with looking at the issue. The entire length of the Lewes Road is to be examined (one of three roads) in the Casualty Reduction Strategy. The last exercise was carried out in 2008. CD commented that other than the outskirts of Chailey, Blackboys is the only village in the vicinity which has a 50-mph limit through its centre.
- The Chairman stated that volunteers had come forward for Speedwatch – their details would be passed onto CD.
- Budgeting planning – this was ongoing at County.

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC) [AN] stated that as the session for public speaking had over-run, she wouldn't take up any more time. She confirmed that all information from Wealden DC to Councillors is circulated as and when it comes in, most of which goes on the Parish website and with a further report in the Parish Magazine. She is always happy to answer questions.

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 (5 October 2021)

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2021, having been circulated, as a true and accurate record of the meeting as proposed by Keith Brandon and seconded by Maria Naylor.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes To receive updates or agree any further actions – all detailed elsewhere on the agenda.

- Parish streetlighting – the Clerk stated a meeting had been held with ESCC and some options put forward. The ball was very much back in ESCC's. The notes from the meeting would be circulated to all councillors.
- Damaged finger post update. A quote is still awaited for their repair/replacement, although it appears that Hadlow Down Parish Council has replaced the post at the bottom of Gun Road. They have been told that it has been on Framfield's list for many years and it has been agreed that Framfield will foot the cost of any further repairs. The contractor would be nudged regarding the quote.
- Tree survey/works – update. The meeting agreed that as little progress has been made the contractor would be given deadlines for making contact and carrying out the works.

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.

- Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society – Summer Show, 13 August 2022. Use of recreation ground and Hall (the latter for Friday and Saturday – proposed charge?). Councillors ratified the decision that the Society could use the recreation ground on the dates stated and that they would waive the charge for the Hall in 2022.

6. Finance and General Purposes:

- a) Budget discussion – 2022/23. Councillors in receipt of budget and reserves reports. Councillors discussed the report and recommendations including some medium and long term spending goals such as the potential costs of reviewing the Parish streetlighting and the provision of traffic calming and village gateways. There was also the ongoing cost of repairs and eventual replacement of the play area equipment.
 - I. To set a provisional budget and precept – dependent on the 2022/23 tax base (as yet unknown). Councillors agreed to set a provisional budget and precept at £68,700 a £2,020 increase from this year. Working on the same tax base, which will change, this equates to a 9.9% increase or £6.50 per year on a band D property. When the accurate tax base is known, this is likely to cause a reduction.
 - II. Earmarked reserves – discussion/re-allocation. Councillors agreed to remove the GDPR compliance contingency and add those funds of £1,360 to the repair/replacement of guideposts.
 - III. Medium term budget predictions. As detailed above.
 - IV. Use of CIL funds. Many of the items discussed could facilitate the use of CIL funds.
- b) Transfer £2,000 from earmarked reserves (donation) to the Parish Magazine account as agreed with the trustee of the estate. This was agreed (MN/TH).
- c) Internal Auditor - appointment. Councillors agreed that Mark Mulberry should be approached for a price for the work.
- d) 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).
- e) Resolve to agree the since the October 2021 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).
- f) Any other financial matters:
 - o Memorial Hall – review of the high charge for the use of the Hall by the School. Clerk to contact ESCC.

7. Planning Committee.

- The minutes/delegated comments since the last Parish Council meeting were agreed as read.
- Appeal – Holleys, Squires Farm Industrial Estate – 20 October 2021. The Clerk reported that the appeal was withdrawn at the last minute.

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

- Liaison with ESCC on highway matters:

- Palehouse Common – as detailed above the sign work by ESCC has been delayed.
- Lewes Road, Blackboys. As reported above.
- SLR meetings – none have been held.
- Clerk – report on any other items not recorded elsewhere in the agenda.
 - Meeting dates for 2022. All meetings would be held in the Village Hall, Blackboys, as a regular booking is now held on every Tuesday in the Memorial Hall.

9. 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.
- **CSAG – Police (Chairman/Clerk)** – the Chairman and Clerk attend the meetings.
- **Cluster meetings – WDC Planning/Local Plan (Chairman/Clerk)** – the Chairman asked Tony Hall could attend the December meeting as he had another appointment.

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

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6 pm.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
 Tuesday, 25 January 2022
 commencing at 5 pm
 to be held in the Village Hall, Blackboys.**

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Income and Expenditure September/October/November 2021

Invoice	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment	Comments	Pre VAT	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
17/11/2021	exp	general	OLB	D Thorogood	5,590.00	1,118.00	6,708.00
12/11/2021	exp	Open spaces Grass	OLB	MR R Richards	200.00		200.00
01/11/2021	exp	general	OLB	Tesco	12.19		12.19
25/10/2021	exp	Hall Hire	OLB	Trans BBT	20.00		20.00
25/10/2021	exp	Hall Hire	OLB	Trans FFT	20.00		20.00
18/10/2021	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Staff Costs	3,222.65		3,222.65
17/10/2021	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	812.54		812.54
10/10/2021	exp	subscriptions	OLB	Action in Rural sussex	120.00	24.00	144.00
30/09/2021	exp	Bus Service	OLB	NWCT Partnership	140.49		140.49
07/10/2021	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	90.00		90.00
30/09/2021	exp	Dog Bins	OLB	Wealden DC	325.00	65.00	390.00
07/10/2021	exp	subscriptions	OLB	WDAOLC	27.00		27.00
06/09/2021	exp	Loan Interest	OLB	Public Works Loan	2,914.21		2,914.21
30/09/2021	exp	recreation Grounds	OLB	Hastings Furniture	150.00		150.00

Signed

Date