

3. To accept the Minutes of the last meeting (25 July 2023)

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2023, having been circulated, as a true and accurate record as proposed by Keith Brandon and seconded by Maria Naylor.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

All items are included elsewhere in the minutes.

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.

- WDC: Dog Fouling PSPO Extension 2023. The meeting agreed that it was an excellent idea for the three-year extension which means that people allowing their dogs to defecate in a public place without clearing it up, including the recreation grounds, can be issued with a fixed penalty notice.
- ESCC: Rural Verges and Wildlife Corridors – Trial of Early Season Reduction in Rural Grass Cutting. The meeting agreed that they were happy to continue with the scheme as long as any areas deemed hazardous were cut when appropriate. An explanation was given to the meaning of Wildlife Corridors.

6. Finance and General Purposes:

- a) Conclusion of the External Audit. The Clerk stated that this had been advertised in the normal way.
- b) 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. (DJ/TB).
- c) Resolve to agree the since the July 2023 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 (DJ/TB).
- d) Any other financial matters: there were none.
 - Parish Magazine – the Clerk commented that the Church seemed to be contributing more and more to the magazine. The magazine is deliberately kept to 32 pages otherwise the cost of printing is increased. It was also noted that the other two churches in the Joint Benefice were also wishing to advertise events which is understandably but potentially costly if the page number has to increase. The meeting agreed to look at this again.
 - Barclays Bank – comment was made that Barclays Bank is possibly ceasing to bank for parish councils. Nothing has yet been formally heard. The RFO stated that the Unity Bank would be a possibility.

7. Planning Committee.

- The minutes/delegated comments since the last Parish Council meeting were agreed as read.
- Bird in Eye Public Inquiry - update. The Clerk had attended the Inquiry on several days. The Inspector had allowed several late revisions to in particular with relevance to the site access from the developer which is unusual. Several members of Uckfield Town Council were in attendance. The decision is awaited.

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

- Liaison with ESCC on highway matters – all mainly as detailed above.
 - Lewes Road – update on CMF.
 - High Street, Blackboys.
 - Gun Road, Blackboys.
 - B2102 – treeworks update.
 - Bus stops, High Street, Blackboys – update – the Clerk reported that the works had been carried out.
 - Leak to the east of Pump Lane.
 - Pound Lane, Framfield, temporary fencing.
- SLR meetings – meeting held on 25 May 2023; notes distributed. B2102.
- Clerk – report on any other items not recorded elsewhere in the agenda.
 - VAS, Blackboys – reported as only working intermittently – as detailed above.
 - Junction of High Street, Chapel and Star Lanes, Blackboys – visibility issues – as detailed above.
 - Chapel Lane, Blackboys – suggestion of a temporary lower speed limit whilst Gun Road is closed – as detailed above.

- Stiles – Sandy Lane to the rear of Framfield recreation ground – David Jenner had kindly walked them following on from a complaint. Clerk to contact the landowner.
- John Dann Close – further issues with non-residential parking and a derelict car. A car parking permit scheme has been issued for the residents by Clarion Housing.
- Fly tipping of domestic waste in Parish litter bins. The suggestion was made that a sign is put on the bins.
- Footpaths behind the Church. The Clerk reported that an email has been received from ESCC Rights of Way asking for the PC's opinion on a request to co-join some footpaths behind the Church, Framfield. The request was made in 2011! David Jenner has offered to take a look. Maria Naylor also commented on a broken stile on the same route.
- Mill Field hedge – 40-mph sign as detailed above.

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. Next meeting: 3 October 2023.
- **Cluster meetings – WDC Planning/Local Plan (Chairman/Clerk).** Next meeting: 6 October 2023.

10. Items for reporting/discussion/ratification from the Trusts for which the Parish Council is Sole Trustee

A: General

Halls

- Future works –update. The Clerk reported that there has been one expression of interest.
- Electricity charges. The Chairman reported that he has spent many hours researching the best option for the trusts and has gone back to the original provider although with a 100% increase and three-year contract. The meeting thanked him for all his efforts and agreed that they were happy with the proposals presented.

B: Framfield Trust – Charity Registration No. 305228

Memorial Hall

- Update on the claim/drainage works – claim closed; quote to be obtained for drainage works. Chairman to pass on drainage plan.

Recreation Ground

- Two tree stumps need to be removed from the eastern side of the ground. The ground immediately around the roots has subsided leaving gaps, potential foot traps. Barriers have been erected around the area. Grounds maintenance contractors will carry out the works in the winter.
- Query on the safety of 'totem pole' stump on the southern side. A tree surgeon has been asked to remove it.

C: Blackboys Trust – Charity Registration No. 305225

Village Hall

- New yoga class commenced.

Recreation Ground

- Gated access – update. A fencing contractor is to carry out the work.
- Play area – post to be replaced in fence. As above.
- Wicket area rope. The Clerk reported that a dog had been hurt running into the rope at high speed. The rope is hanging very low. The meeting agreed that the Cricket Club need to be contacted to rectify the problem.

Pavilion

- Heathfield Park III Team. The Clerk reported that she had been approached by Blackboys Cricket Club regarding Heathfield using the ground. No contact has been made by the Club and Blackboys have decided against it for the moment.

Allotments

- The Clerk reported that there are several spare plots.

D: Framfield Allotment Garden Trust – Charity Registration No. 296468

- Clearance continuing of multiple plot area. The meeting agreed at what an excellent job had been carried out.

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

- Budget. The RFO and Clerk said that they would get together to put together a draft budget for consideration at the November meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.30 pm.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING will be held on Tuesday, 28 November 2023 commencing at 5 pm in the Village Hall, Blackboys.

Income and Expenditure July/Aug/Sept 2023							
Invoice	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment	Comments	Pre VAT	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
04/09/2023	inc	Interest	OLB	Bank Interest	235.68		235.68
13/09/2023	inc	Other	OLB	Lottery	18.00		18.00
08/08/2023	inc	Other	OLB	Lottery	19.50		19.50
Invoice	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment	Comments	Pre VAT	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Date			Ref		VALUE (£)		
14/09/2023	exp	general	OLB	Amazon	(73.22)		(73.22)
11/09/2023	exp	Stationery/Copying	OLB	Amazon	3.29	0.66	3.95
13/08/2023	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	802.22		802.22
31/08/2023	exp	Dog Bins	OLB	Wealden DC	343.75	68.75	412.50
01/09/2023	exp	subscriptions	OLB	Action in Rural sussex	120.00	24.00	144.00
08/09/2023	exp	Stationery/Copying	OLB	Amazon	24.78	4.96	29.74
28/08/2023	exp	Website	OLB	Ionos	20.00	4.00	24.00
31/08/2023	exp	Hall Hire	OLB	Framfield Trust	18.00		18.00
20/08/2023	exp	telephone/Internet	OLB	BT	144.48	28.89	173.37
23/08/2023	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Staff Costs	2,703.31		2,703.31
31/07/2023	exp	Bus Service	OLB	North Wealdon CTP	191.39		191.39
08/08/2023	exp	Audit Fee	OLB	PKF Littlejohn	315.00	63.00	378.00
04/08/2023	exp	Pension	OLB	NEST	296.48		296.48
28/07/2023	exp	Website	OLB	Ionos	20.00	4.00	24.00
31/07/2023	exp	Hall Hire	OLB	BBT	18.00		18.00
29/07/2023	exp	general	OLB	Tesco	10.00		10.00
22/07/2023	exp	Recreation Grounds	OLB	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	1,330.00	266.00	1,596.00
19/07/2023	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	802.22		802.22
25/07/2023	exp	Recreation Grounds	OLB	Amazon	60.00	12.00	72.00
25/07/2023	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Staff Costs	2,703.31		2,703.31
28/06/2023	exp	Website	OLB	Ionos	18.06	3.61	21.67
17/07/2023	exp	Recreation Grounds	OLB	Play Inspection Co	321.80	64.36	386.16
01/07/2023	exp	I A Fee/GDPR	OLB	WG Accounting	120.00		120.00

Signed

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Date