

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council (PC) held at the Village Hall,
Blackboys, on Tuesday, 29 July 2025 at 6 pm.

Present	Councillors	Keith Brandon (Chairman) Trishia Blewitt	David Jenner (Vice Chairman) Maria Naylor
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Councillor Ann Newton (WDC)

In attendance	Ann Newton - Clerk Marie Owen - RFO	Members of the Public – two.
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(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).

Three residents were welcomed to the meeting and it is hoped that they will join the PC in September. Clerk to get in touch.

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC) reported on:

- Devolution – Ann reported that the next timeline for a decision was September on how the unitary authorities would be formed in Sussex.
- An allocation of £10k per Ward Councillor has been allocated for local projects. The devil will be in the detail but cannot be allocated to parish council expenditure.

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Chris Dowling (ESCC) and Linda Jenner.

The Chairman commented on the sad passing of Jeff Goggin, his predecessor as Chairman of the Parish 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 (27 May 2025 [the AGM])

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2025, having been circulated, as a true and accurate record as proposed by Keith Brandon and seconded by Trishia Blewitt.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes (25 March 2025)

All other items are included elsewhere in the minutes.

- Parish Streetlighting – update. The Chairman reported that a survey report has been completed but only details items associated with electrical maintenance so a query has been raised as to the need for a full structural report. The supply of energy has been more problematic as the amount of energy currently used seems to be unknown meaning that energy is still supplied by ESCC.
- Step Up Sports – update. Councillors agreed that the survey should be sent out but that a meeting should be held with the contact who has assisted in getting this off the ground. TB and DJ to attend along with the Chairman – Clerk to source dates.
- Parish Magazine – the Clerk confirmed that the Vicar (and Parochial Church Council) have agreed to remove Fernley Park from the distribution list to enable some flexibility as and when new households come live within the civic Parish.

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: Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

- WDC: Street Naming & Numbering SNN1884D - Development at land adjacent to Recreation Ground at Blackboys. The meeting agreed that the name should be Post Mill Close in recognition of the post mill which was on the site.
- ESCC: Temporary Traffic Road Safety Signs. Chairman to write to Councillor Dowling voicing his displeasure at the decision which brings the responsibility and expense to the Parish Council of installing any such signs.
- Kent, Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance Charity – letter of thanks.

6. Finance and General Purposes:

- a) The meeting resolved to increase the budget to allow for up to £1,000 of donations to be made in the financial year (DJ/TB).
- b) Councillors resolved to transfer £85,000 into the Redwood savings account (TB/MN).
- c) The meeting agreed to purchase two new cabinets for the AED's situated at both halls – to be paid for out of CIL (KB/MN). The Clerk to look at potential training courses.
- d) Councillors resolved to agree to the renewal of the Parish Council insurance policy – an increase of approximately £200.00 on the previous year (TB/DJ).
- e) 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).
- f) Resolve to agree the payments/disbursements since the March meeting as detailed on the report as circulated. These were agreed and detailed at the end of the minutes. These were agreed (DJ/TB).
- g) Any other financial/general purposes matters:
 - Resolve to agree to follow the usual procedure and tender process for the three-year grounds maintenance contract. This was agreed with some minor alterations to the documentation.
 - Litter bins – review of the number of litter bins and resolve to request that WDC empty them. This was agreed (MN/KB).

7. Planning Committee.

- The minutes/delegated comments since the last Parish Council meeting were agreed as read.
- Notice of Appeal – WD/2024/1799/MAO: Bird in Eye Farm, South of Bird-in-Eye Hill. The Clerk attended two days out of the four-day hearing. The decision very much relies on the opinion of the Inspector on the heritage points. *[Post meeting note – the appeal was Allowed]*.

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

- Lewes Road, Blackboys - update on CMF(Community Match Funding)/ Route Survey Work – the Chairman reported that it still wasn't terribly clear on what was happening or when. It was thought that week commencing 18 August 2025 road markings and signs would be installed but not used until the legal process had been completed. The cost to the Parish Council has been confirmed as capped at £30k.
- High Street, Blackboys – update on discussions to lower the speed limit to 30-mph. ESCC have informed the PC that CMF is no longer available. Confirmation that a feasibility study needs to be carried out at the cost of £500.00. A meeting would be looked at.

Clerk – report on any other items not recorded elsewhere in the agenda: *including details contained in a report from Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC):*

- Footpath between Framfield and Blackboys – despite continuing to chase, he is between departments.
- Palehouse Common traffic and speed limit – issues raised by residents and is in contact with the relevant ESCC officers.
- The matters of devolution and local government/re-organisation are ongoing and there is a cross-party committee of councillors checking and commenting on matters.
- Uckfield High Street outside the Maiden's Head – WDC are working with a contractor to change the current scaffolding to a 'bird cage' design which should allow the road to be re-opened and restored to the usual two-way traffic hopefully by the second week of August.

9. Reports from Representatives

- **WDALC** (Wealden District Association of Local Councils) – minutes to be sent out as and when received.
- **Cluster meetings – WDC Planning/Local Plan (Chairman/Clerk)** – 19 March 2025. Notes have been distributed.
- **Police** – the Chairman has been approached about a street meeting so he will look at dates/venues.

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

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7. pm.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING will be held on Tuesday, 30 September 2025
commencing at 6 pm in the Village Hall, Blackboys.**

Income and Expenditure April, May, June & July 2025						
Invoice Date	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Comments	Pre VAT	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
30/06/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	Aether Bios	130.00		130.00
30/06/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	Optimal Stra	130.00		130.00
23/06/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	Spa Oil	65.00		65.00
02/06/2025	Inc	Interest	Bank Interest	447.99		447.99
15/07/2025	Inc	Other	Lottery	15.00		15.00
05/06/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	The South Show	45.00		45.00
02/06/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	Ross Chimney Sweep	55.00		55.00
10/06/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	Sam Walker	130.00		130.00
10/06/2025	Inc	Other	Lottery	12.00		12.00
13/05/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	Cross in Hand Tennis	130.00		130.00
12/05/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	E&M Plumbing	110.00		110.00
06/05/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	E&M Plumbing	110.00		110.00
01/05/2025	Inc	Other	Trans FFT Roger Richards Grass	75.00		75.00
15/05/2025	Inc	Other	Lottery	12.50		12.50
28/04/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	Frogheath	130.00		130.00
22/04/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	Care & Choice	150.00		150.00
22/04/2025	Inc	Income-Parish Mag	Paynes	260.00		260.00
24/04/2025	Inc	Other	CIL 9	140715.75		140,715.75
24/04/2025	Inc	Precept	Wealden DC	40902.50		40,902.50
16/04/2025	Inc	Interest	Bank Interest	353.77		353.77
09/04/2025	Inc	Other	James Grasscutting	75.00		75.00
09/04/2025	Inc	Other	Bradford Grasscutting	75.00		75.00
08/04/2025	Inc	Other	Geer Grasscutting	75.00		75.00
08/04/2025	Inc	Other	Lottery	17.50		17.50
04/04/2025	Inc	VAT Income	VAT Rebate		3,542.12	3,542.12
03/04/2025	Inc	Other	Grimwade Grasscutting	75.00		75.00
Invoice Date	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Comments	Pre VAT VALUE (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
17/07/2025	Exp	General	Bookers	18.98		18.98
16/07/2025	Exp	Office equipment	Defib World	224.99	44.00	268.99
03/07/2025	Exp	IA Fee/GDPR	WG Accounting	140.00		140.00
28/06/2025	Exp	Telephone/Internet	Ionos	27.50	5.50	33.00
30/06/2025	Exp	Recreation Grounds	Play Inspection Co	270.75	54.15	324.90
27/06/2025	Exp	Recreation Grounds	Hugh Page	92.33	18.46	110.79
17/06/2025	Exp	NI & Paye	WG Accounting	1438.47		1,438.47
24/06/2025	Exp	Staff Costs	Staff Costs	2771.09		2,771.09
12/06/2025	Exp	Dog Bins	Wealden DC	357.50	71.50	429.00
18/06/2025	Exp	Stationery/Copying	Amazon	4.17	0.83	5.00
19/06/2025	Exp	Pension	NEST	319.54		319.54
17/06/2025	Tfr	To ****3653	Redwood Bank	1.00		1.00
06/06/2025	Exp	Parish Magazine	Print Matters	556.50		556.50
06/06/2025	Exp	Parish Magazine	Barry Richardson	150.00		150.00
16/05/2025	Exp	Urban Grass Cutting	East Sussex County Council	1398.18	279.64	1,677.82
17/05/2025	Exp	NI & Paye	WG Accounting	987.47		987.47
10/05/2025	Exp	Recreation Grounds	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	395.00	79.00	474.00
28/05/2025	Exp	Telephone/Internet	Ionos	27.50	5.50	33.00
30/05/2025	Exp	General	Tesco	14.95		14.95
31/05/2025	Exp	Hall Hire	Trans BBT	24.00		24.00
20/05/2025	Exp	Telephone/Internet	BT	171.28	34.25	205.53
23/05/2025	Exp	Staff Costs	Staff Costs	2996.59		2,996.59
21/05/2025	Exp	Recreation Grounds	Amazon	11.82	2.37	14.19
21/05/2025	Exp	Pension	NEST	319.54		319.54
19/05/2025	Exp	General	Stephen Prescott	500.00		500.00
15/05/2025	Tfr	To ****6278	Trans to Savings	50000.00		50,000.00
09/05/2025	Tfr	To ****0054	Trans to H & R	40000.00		40,000.00
08/05/2025	Tfr	To ****2549	Trans to H & R	45000.00		45,000.00
05/05/2025	Exp	Streetlighting Maintenance	Streetlights	1241.62	248.32	1,489.94
02/05/2025	Exp	Streetlighting Maintenance	Streetlights	107.50	21.50	129.00
28/04/2025	Exp	Telephone/Internet	Ionos	24.50	4.90	29.40
01/05/2025	Tfr	To ****1895	Move Pension	905.78		905.78
19/04/2025	Exp	NI & Paye	WG Accounting	987.27		987.27
23/04/2025	Exp	Subscriptions	ICO	52.00		52.00
24/04/2025	Exp	Stationery/Copying	Amazon	7.87	1.58	9.45
17/04/2025	Exp	Staff Costs	Staff Costs	2996.79		2,996.79
11/04/2025	Exp	Streetlighting Maintenance	Streetlights	105.00	21.00	126.00
16/04/2025	Exp	IA Fee/GDPR	Mulberry & Co	211.25	42.25	253.50
01/04/2025	Exp	Parish Magazine	Barry Richardson	150.00		150.00
01/04/2025	Exp	Parish Magazine	Print Matters	556.50		556.50
03/04/2025	Exp	Streetlighting Maintenance	Streetlights	65.00	13.00	78.00
04/04/2025	Exp	Stationery/Copying	Amazon	21.64	4.34	25.98
04/04/2025	Exp	Streetlighting Maintenance	East Sussex County Council	2411.59	482.32	2,893.91
01/04/2025	Exp	Subscriptions	ESALC Ltd	630.00		630.00
04/04/2025	Exp	Hall Hire	Trans BBT	24.00		24.00
04/04/2025	Exp	Hall Hire	Trans FFT	12.00		12.00
01/04/2025	Exp	Pension	NEST	319.54		319.54
01/04/2025	Exp	Loan Interest	Public Works Loan	2914.21		2,914.21

Signed

Date