

Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall, Framfield, on Tuesday, 30 March 2010 at 7.30 pm

Present

Rob Newton (Chairman)	Felicity Groves
Selina Allen	Brian Hodge
David Andrews	Maria Naylor (Vice Chair)
Richard Brocklebank	Fred Thurston
Myran Eade	

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 were invited to address the Parish Council.

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC) stated that she had nothing to report but would be happy to discuss the SHLAA results as detailed later on in the agenda.

Comment was made that several thefts from vans had been reported in the Framfield area and the Clerk said that she would be speaking to Simon French (PCSO) the following day for an update.

(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

Ian Paisley and Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC).

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors to give notice of declarations of personal and prejudicial interests in respect of items on the agenda. Myran Eade and Rob Newton declared a personal interest in the item on the Pavilion, as they are associated with Blackboys Cricket Club. Rob Newton declared a prejudicial interest in the item on the Clerk's salary on the finance sheet, the Clerk being his wife.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting, 23 February 2010 for Approval

Fred Thurston asked that one amendment be made on page 3, section 8, Pavilion Project, Review, Recommendation 4, last line, that the phrase 'is likely to' be inserted between 'therefore' and 'fails'. This was agreed by all and amended accordingly. Then, it was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2010 having been circulated, be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record. (Proposed by Rob Newton and seconded by Myran Eade).

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

All items are detailed in the minutes.

5. Co-option of Parish Councillors to fill the three vacancies

Richard Brocklebank was in attendance and voiced his enthusiasm to be co-opted onto the Council. Brian Hodge proposed that he be co-opted forthwith. This was seconded by Myran Eade and agreed unanimously. Richard signed the declaration of acceptance and was welcomed on board. The Council now has a full complement of councillors.

6. Correspondence received since the last meeting

Letters for noting/discussion – most items were from pending matters and dealt with under separate headings.

WDC:

- **SHLAA Results:** the Clerk resuming her role as District Councillor commented on the results of the SHLAA. Each councillor was in possession of the results of the Parish. There had been two discounted sites and several sites deemed 'suitable'. A few sites had been allocated incorrectly to

Uckfield although in Framfield and Ann stated that these were to be corrected (generally sites off the Eastbourne Road). Ann remarked that it must be understood that these sites had only achieved 'suitable' status and may never have allocations of housing development imposed upon them. Most of the development will be centred on the District's towns (exactly where the emphasis will be will be guided strategically in the Core Strategy to be ratified later in the year). Villages will allocated minor amounts and the sites in the SHLAA far outweighed any expectation for Framfield. Ann welcomed any questions on this ongoing process.

- **New Recycling Scheme** – date for public meeting – Tuesday, 11 May 2010, 7 pm, Framfield Memorial Hall. It was thought that residents would receive letters inviting them to the meeting.

Other:

- **Mr Alan Greenslade.** The Clerk reported on a letter received from Mr Greenslade commenting on the raise in the Parish portion of Council Tax. Brian Hodge had drafted some points of reply, which were discussed, and the Clerk was asked to further draft a full reply to Mr Greenslade. Comments were made that Framfield Parish, incorporating three villages, although small to medium in size, has a large number of assets compared to the low number of its electorate. All of these assets need maintaining. Framfield Parish's Council Tax rate was still average on a scale of other parishes even with the liabilities that it has – some would have far less.
- **Mr Bernard Lillywhite.** The Clerk reported that Mr Bernard Lillywhite had asked for copies of all the meeting minutes generated for this year and for a copy of the Model Publication Scheme. The meeting were happy for the Clerk to send them to Mr Lillywhite but should Mr Lillywhite have any specific concerns also invite him to the next Finance and General Purposes Committee which will be scheduled for sometime after Easter.

Discussion then ensued on the benefits of having a website. The meeting suggested that the provision of such a site could be put out to tender and the initial stage would be to 'advertise' the exercise in the next issue of the Parish Magazine asking anyone interested to contact the Clerk. It was thought that although not specifically budgeted for during the next financial year, if the cost wasn't too high, contingency funds could be used, or if not budgeted for in the next financial term.

7. Finance

- **Proposal to incorporate the role of Treasurer to both the Village Hall, Blackboys, and the Memorial Hall, Framfield, into the role of the PC Responsible Financial Officer.** Rob Newton explained that as the current Treasurer at the BVH had given notice and at Framfield had made his wishes known that he wanted to relinquish the role, the answer seemed to be to bring the roles within that of the RFO. The cost to the Council would be £150 per annum per Hall and has been budgeted for and could be seen as a donation towards each Hall. Jan Riddle would be included on the PC payroll for one hour per week. This was formally proposed for approval by Maria Naylor, seconded by Brian Hodge and agreed by all present.
- **Formal agreement of the March 2010 expenditure – itemised below.** This was agreed for payment by Maria Naylor, seconded by Brian Hodge and agreed by all present. *Post meeting note: all the figures for HMRC have been subsequently included in the list.*

	£
Broker Network Ltd (insurance premium)	2,343.64
Direct Technical Services (streetlighting maintenance contractor)	581.39
South East Water (BB allotments Sept/March)	23.00
Blackboys Village Hall (Hall hire)	40.00
Contractorumbrella (computer reboot – shared with EHwHPC)	67.50
EDF Energy	262.75
DD Energy	901.81
Ann Newton, Clerk: Net salary (March) including expenses	901.81
Ann Newton, Clerk: Reimbursement for purchase of printer	
Cartridges and stamps	296.83
HMRC (end of year payment of income tax, employer's/employees NI)	4,181.59
Framfield CE School (donation towards Easter Egg Hunt)	5.00
Total:	£7,801.70

Cheques to be dated after 1 April 2010

	£
SALC (annual subscription and payment for the LCR)	548.42
Arbor Management (April grounds maintenance charge)	917.02

<u>Cheques Received</u>	£
EHwHPC (shared of BT plc account)	49.68
EHwHPC (charge for annual internet use)	60.00
Charity Dividends	135.77
Ann Newton (tax/NI accrued April/October 2009 = £2,107.12 - £901.81 [March salary] which wasn't taken)	1,205.31

- The Clerk explained that the invoice for DTS was the amount for the termination agreement covering the next six months but it had been agreed that it should be paid out of the current year's budget to enable the ongoing phasing for the removal of the streetlights to go-ahead unimpinged on cost, if finally given the go-ahead.
- Felicity Groves asked if £5.00 could be donated to Framfield CE School for their Easter Egg Hunt the next day. This was agreed. The Clerk stated that they had been particularly generous in donating to the Parish Magazine when approached for a contribution towards printing costs.
- Request for a donation from the Friends of Framfield Church. The meeting agreed to defer this until the final year-end figures were known.

8. Committees

- **Planning:** the Planning Committee minutes for the meetings held on 24 February and 16 March 2010 had already been circulated. The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, 7 April 2010 when the application for Quicken Wood would be on the agenda.
- **Recreation Grounds: (Parish Councillors as Trustees):** Myran Eade commented that the meeting held on 16 March 2010 had been quite lengthy and many of the items had been subsequently followed up.
 - Mrs Sue Turner, resident of Blackboys, had been in attendance voicing her concerns over the inadequate play area and the need for updating. The possibility of a petition was mentioned. However, it was not thought possible to take this forward at the present time.
 - Myran commented that the car was still in Framfield recreation ground car park as discussed a month ago and the Clerk was asked to speak to PCSO Simon French on the matter.
- **Pavilion Project:**
 - **Project Review.**
 - **Framfield.** Fred Thurston reported that he had held a meeting the previous evening with representatives of the Football Club and the Memorial Hall to discuss the proposals for the refurbishment of the rear of the Hall. The Club put forward some basic plans with rough costings; these would need improving and properly costed. Mary Short, Memorial Hall Representative, had some ideas, which she would like to see incorporated with the proposals, which seemed sensible. Selina Allen stated that all the Pre-school cupboard space would be relocated on the completion of the improved facilities within the School grounds – September/October this year. Fred stated that he would be formally writing to the Memorial Hall regarding a donation towards the works. As an aside Fred commented that one of the boiler cisterns was leaking – Rob Newton said he would look into it.
 - **Blackboys.** Myran Eade reported that he had attended a 3VA information evening and their information led him to believe that the only way to get the funding was to go for a new build. 3VA stated that there was funding available for such ventures as long as some sort of lease could be issued to guarantee the Club right of use of the building/recreation ground. Fred Thurston stated that he had looked at the 3VA website and they seemed to be a frontline organisation made up of representatives from different districts (Lewes, Eastbourne and Wealden) acting as a conduit to contacting people who are fund providers (Big Lottery, ESCC, WDC and Sport UK) – they have no funds themselves. The meeting decided that the Chairman should write to 3VA asking for clarification on their abilities. The Clerk also voiced her concern over what is permissible on the recreation ground and it was agreed that she should write to the Charity Commission asking for clarification on the role and remit of the Trustees.
- **Environment:** the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2010 have already been circulated. David Andrews agreed the draft agenda for the meeting the following week.
 - **Street lighting** – ratification of the urgent decision made at the recent Recreation Ground meeting to employ ESCC from 1 April 2010 for both energy and maintenance even though DTS

would have to work out their notice until 30 September 2010. This was agreed and if possible that the money to pay DTS should be taken out of the current year's budget.

- o **Public Meeting on traffic calming proposals for Blackboys** – 20 April 2010. Venue - Blackboys Village Hall at 7 pm.

9. Reports from Representatives

Blackboys Village Hall: Fred Thurston reported that some adjustments had been made to the boiler and a new WC had been fitted.

Memorial Hall: Rob Newton reported that he had been formally elected as Chairman of the Hall at a recent meeting. Fred Thurston had attended the last meeting to report on the ideas for the rear of the Hall. The next meeting would be the AGM in July.

Schools:

- Framfield – The Clerk reported that the School would be happy if Selina Allen was nominated as the School Governor Representative if Maria Naylor's commitments made things difficult. This was formally proposed by Myran Eade, seconded by Maria Naylor and agreed by all. The Clerk was asked to put the formal proposal to the School.
- Blackboys – The Clerk reported that there were still concerns over the parking, which the headteacher had requested should be addressed to PCSO Simon French. Brian Hodge asked if there was any news on the moving of the Broadband mast. The Clerk replied in the negative and Brian thought he might contact the relevant ESCC officer.

SALC/WDALC: Nothing to report.

WDC Parish Planning Panel: Nothing to report.

10. Any Other Business at the Discretion of the Chairman

- Myran Eade commented that some of the recently planted daffodils on Blackboys Recreation ground had been pulled up.
- Comment was made on the need for an update on the recent footpath survey. Clerk to investigate.
- Richard Brocklebank voiced his enthusiasm for the provision of a website and asked when/if it might be further investigated. The meeting thought the first port of call was an 'advert' in the next issue of the Parish Magazine – June/July edition.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Chairman..... Date

<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, 27 April 2010, at the Memorial Hall, Framfield, commencing at 7.30 pm.</p>
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