

Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall, Framfield, on Tuesday, 29 November 2011 at 7.30 pm

Present

Maria Naylor (Chairman)	Felicity Groves
Salina Allen	John Mordaunt
Richard Brocklebank	Rob Newton (Vice Chairman)
Myran Eade	Ian Paisley
Peter Friend	

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.

(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).

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC) in her role as District Councillor reported on the progress of the Joint Waste Project which is aimed to save WDC £500,000 without any reduction in the service.

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) reported to the meeting that the only news to report from ESCC Highways regarding the reduction in speed limit for Blackboys High Street was that the engineering works to realign the junction of the B2102 and the B2192 would be going ahead in January 2012 along with some resurfacing works to the bend by the garage on the Lewes Road. The traffic calming works in combination with the lower speed limit for the High Street were to be delayed until the next financial year 2012/13. He voiced his frustration in the lack of progress, particularly since the summer, and was concerned about the financial commitment from ESCC. He asked that the Council writes a letter in the strongest terms to ESCC asking for a formal commitment to the project requesting that the funds be safeguarded accordingly. This the Council agreed. **ACTION: PC 042 – CLERK/MN.** Chris further commented on the progress following the submission of the petition on the Lewes Road – the situation was being monitored.

1. Apologies for Absence

There were none.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors to give notice of declarations of personal and prejudicial interests in respect of items on the agenda. Rob Newton declared a prejudicial interest in the items under the Finance section of the agenda relating to the Clerk, the Clerk being his wife.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting for Approval

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 October 2011 having been circulated, be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record. (SA/RN).

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Some items were dealt with under other appropriate headings below.

PC 032	Traffic calming proposals – the PC is currently waiting for an update from Michael Higgs – received – Clerk to update meeting. As detailed above.
PC 033	Refurbishment Projects - Jan Riddle to transfer the equivalent of £1,000 out of the funds earmarked by the PC for each project into both Trust accounts. The amount will have deducted any monies already expended. A separate schedule will be maintained for each project to show fundraising income and expenditure. This appeared to have been done.
PC 034	Refurbishment Projects. Jan Riddle to register both Trusts with HMRC for Gift Aid. This was still to be done. <u>ACTION: PC 043 – RFO.</u>
PC 035	Clerk to write to Persimmon thanking them for the clearance work at the top of Becketts

	Way. This had been done.
PC 036	Clerk to draw up an agenda for the FGP meeting. This had been done.
PC 037	Clerk to remove the item 'SALC/WDALC' from the agenda. This had been done.
PC 038	Clerk to contact ESCC Highways regarding the condition of the banks between the Hare & Hounds and Hammonds Green. This had been done but Ian Paisley requested that ESCC are reminded as the path is almost impassable. ACTION: PC 044 – CLEKRR.
PC 039	Clerk to contact ESCC Highways regarding the signs by the bridge on Brookhouse Lane. This had been done.
PC 040	Tree of Light. Selina Allen to source a tree. Rob Newton and Selina had eventually found a tree at Noah's Ark in Buxted who gave a large discount on the cost – thanks to Noah's Ark. The problem had been that many outlets had not had tree deliveries so far away from Christmas.
PC 041	Jan Riddle to include Trust balances on each of the finance schedules. This had been done.

5. Correspondence received since the last meeting

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

- South East Water plc – water main replacement in Easons Green. The Clerk reported that the works' completion has been delayed to the middle of January 2012.
- South East Water plc – current water resources situation.
- Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee. The Clerk read out the letter asking for support when ESCC's views on a potential relief gyratory road system in Uckfield are revealed which could jeopardise the re-opening of the Uckfield/Lewes rail link.

6. Finance and General Purposes:

- Adoption of recommendations as detailed in the FGP minutes – all members were in receipt of the minutes and all items recommended for adoption by full Council was adopted as read as proposed by Richard Brocklebank and seconded by Ian Paisley and agreed unanimously. The points are highlighted briefly below:
 - Parish Magazine – to agree not to increase the rate for advertising and to increase the fees paid for typesetting.
 - Bank Accounts – to set a monthly limit for BACS transfer of £2,000 for security purposes. To endeavour to bring all the current bank accounts, as subsidiary accounts under one main bank account for ease of administration.
 - Risk Assessment as drawn up by the Clerk.
 - Setting of the budget and Precept for 2012/13 – to keep the precept the same at £44,000.
- Schedule of expenditure as at 31 October 2011 – this was adopted as read. (SA/IP).
- Formal agreement of the November 2011 payments/disbursements – itemised below. This was agreed for payment by John Mordaunt, seconded by Richard Brocklebank and agreed by all present.

Cheques to pay	£
Mr A G Saunders (grass cutting/top of Becketts Way)	60.00
J L Roberts (Internal Auditor)	130.80
Blackboys Trust (Hall hire)	8.00
British Telecom plc (telephone a/c – EHwHPC to pay £72.00 [paid by DD])	180.18
Viking Payments (supplies including stamps – EHwHPC to pay £120.00)	267.12
SLCC (annual subscription – EHwHPC to pay £87.50)	175.00
Framfield Trust (transfer of earmarked £1,000 to 'refurbishment account' net of deductions)	588.63
Blackboys Trust (transfer of earmarked £1,000 to 'Pavilion refurbishment account' net of deductions)	255.00
Jan Riddle, RFO	XX.XX
Ann Newton, Clerk	XX.XX
<i>Both salaries paid net of deductions.</i>	
HMRC: November tax and NI payments for Clerk/RFO	279.41
Total:	£3,157.09

Cheques received

East Hoathly with Halland PC – cheque covering BT, Viking and the SLCC invoices - £353.80.

Bank Balances as at 31 October 2011

Current Account £26,699.94

Deposit Account £107.61

7. Reports from Committees

- **Planning:** the Planning Committee minutes for the meeting held on 23 November have been circulated. The next Committee meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, 13 December 2011 at 7 pm at Blackboys Village Hall.
- **Environment:** the minutes for the meeting held on 12 October 2011 have been circulated and the next meeting scheduled for 14 December 2011 has been cancelled. The next meeting will therefore take place on 28 February 2012. Felicity Groves stated that she hoped to have the Emergency Action Plan completed by that time.

8. Reports from Representatives

Schools:

- Framfield – Nothing to report. Selina Allen reported that Mrs Jacqueline Davies, the Deputy Head, would take the role as Acting Headteacher after Christmas until a new head is found which it is hoped to be after Easter, but perhaps more realistically at the start of the new academic year in 2012.
- Blackboys – The Clerk had nothing to report.

9. Any Other Business at the Discretion of the Chairman

- 2012 meeting dates had been circulated.
- The Clerk stated that following on from a note from Mr Saunders regarding some dead trees at the top of Becketts Way and inspection by Ian Paisley, she would ask Simon Paddon to if necessary remove them. Ian would then decide what and when to plant to some new ones next year. **ACTION: PC 045 – CLERK/IP.**
- Selina Allen asked if details were known of local farmers who could clear snow. Felicity stated that some of this would be in the EAP and Chris Dowling stated that ESCC did have a list of farmers who were authorised to clear roads in their locality but emphasised that ESCC would only be clearing roads in line with their relevant policy. They do however have plenty of salt/grit!

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

Chairman..... Date

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:
Tuesday, 31 January 2012, at the Village Hall, Blackboys,
commencing at 7.30 pm.**