

Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall, Framfield, on Tuesday, 26 February 2013 at 7.30 pm

Present Maria Naylor (Chairman) Peter Friend
Jeff Goggin (Vice Chair) John Mordaunt
Selina Allen Rob Newton
Myran Eade Ian Paisley

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 are invited to address the Parish Council if present.

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) reported on the following:

- Michael Higgs (ESCC) had informed Chris that the traffic calming works in Blackboys would commence in early summer and would not require a lengthy safety audit as the works will not alter the configuration of the road.
- Discussion ensued around the proposals for the Cross-in-hand end of the B2192 and the question was asked if consideration of any improvements could be extended through Blackboys.
- Superfast broadband – Chris stated that the campaign was progressing.
- Council Tax – this has been frozen for the third year with ESCC accepting the grant from Government to enable this to happen. However, there will be £60m worth of cuts in adult social care, children's services and transport.
- Bexhill/Hastings link road – the implementation of the link hopes to regenerate Hastings bringing 2,000 jobs, new homes and businesses to the area.

Councillor Mrs Ann Newton (WDC) reported that the Core Strategy has now been adopted by the South Downs National Park Authority. Ann further explained to the Council the news regarding the Joint Waste Contract and in particular the requirement for residents to opt in if they wish to continue to receive a green garden waste collection service. The period for opting in is from 25 February to 31 March 2013. Letters will be sent out shortly with a further letter with the Council Tax bill.

(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

Richard Brocklebank.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors to give notice of declarations of personal, prejudicial and pecuniary interests in respect of items on the agenda. Rob Newton declared a prejudicial pecuniary 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 22 January 2013 having been circulated, be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record. (PF/RN).

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Some items were dealt with under other appropriate headings below.

PC 132	Clerk to liaise with the FF & BB Horticultural Society for an update on their plans with regard to planters etc. This was still to be done and the suggestion made for the Clerk to contact Phil Day in the first instance. ACTION: PC 144 – CLERK.
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PC 133	Guideposts. Update if available along with information on the guidepost knocked down at the top of Chapel Lane, Blackboys. The Clerk stated that she had urged ESCC to finalise their conclusions over a strategy for the posts. There were also two benefactors willing to 'sponsor' three signs for the Parish. The meeting decided the preference should be theirs but the signs at the junction of The Street/Brookhouse Lane, The Street/Sandy Lane (both in Framfield) and High Street/Chapel Lane (Blackboys) might be good ones to start with. Clerk to liaise. ACTION: PC 145 – CLERK.
PC 134	Village signs – quotes are on their way – ongoing. ACTION: PC 146 – DS/CLERK.
PC 135	Streetlighting - Clerk to confirm to ESCC that the work should go-ahead as planned. This had been done.
PC 136	WDC Parish Training dates – Clerk to confirm attendees with WDC. This had been done.
PC 137	Grounds maintenance contract – Clerk to confirm appointment with preferred contractor. This had been done and the point made that any extra costs would be borne by the contractor.
PC 138	Clerk to advise Blackboys Cricket Club of change in contractor as above. This had been done.
PC 139	Precept – Clerk to advise WDC of the figure. This had been done.
PC 140	FGP meeting – to be arranged. Now that the VAT position regarding the Trusts had been received the Council felt that a meeting could be convened. ACTION: PC 147 – CLERK/FGP.
PC 141	Framfield & Blackboys Monday Club – Clerk to advise Sandy Rogers over the decision regarding the rent versus a donation. This had been done and the Clerk advised that Sandy was delighted with the decision but concerned that the School didn't leave any free car parking when the Monday Club is in session. Selina Allen said that she would have a word with the School. ACTION: PC 148 – SA.
PC 142	Hammonds Green – Clerk to advise ESCC of the need for deer warning signs. This had been done and the signs have been put up.
PC 143	Clerk to report that two streetlights are still not operational in Tudor Walk and Willows Rise. These have now been repaired.

5. Correspondence received since the last meeting

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

- WDC: Boundary Commission for England – Review of Parliamentary Boundary Constituencies.
- Bernard Lillywhite – High Speed Rural Broadband. The meeting agreed that the website was the right place to put the details of the campaign which they supported, although they felt that Framfield would not justifiably be at the top of the list as they were not in greatest need. Bernard had declined the invitation to come onto the Council to run the campaign.
- Alan Greenslade – precept. The Clerk stated a further email had been received from Alan. Further comments on the precept/budget for future years are detailed under 'Finance' below.
- Robert Dann – pavement in Gun Road. The meeting agreed that it was unrealistic to request that a pavement be put in Gun Road – a rural lane. Comment was made that visibility coming up the lane is good and that any pedestrians would be in full view by drivers at all times. It was expected that all children would be under the supervision of their parents on their way to the Pre-school and any children walking from the School to the Pre-school or vice-versa would also be supervised.
- East Sussex Healthcare, c/o Selina Allen – a letter thanking Selina for all her efforts with the Framfield Starry Christmas Tree which raised £253.20 in support of the local Palliative Care Fund.

6. Finance and General Purposes:

- Financial planning for future years. The Clerk stated that the Council needed to conduct a thorough budgetary exercise for the next few years, earmarking where necessary where funds are needed. This meeting should probably be convened after the year end figures are known. **ACTION: PC 149 – CLERK/FGP.**
- Schedule of expenditure as at 31 January 2013 – this was adopted as read. (JG/SA).
- Formal agreement of the February 2013 payments/disbursements – itemised below. This was agreed for payment by Jeff Goggin, seconded by Ian Paisley and agreed by all present.

	£
WDC (dog bin emptying Oct/Dec 2012)	293.76
Framfield Trust (Hall hire)	37.50
British Telecom plc (account – to be shared 50/50 with EHwHPC [paid by DD])	218.86
Jan Riddle, RFO (February)	XX.XX
Ann Newton, Clerk (February)	XX.XX
<i>Both salaries paid net of deductions.</i>	

HMRC: February tax and NI payments for Clerk/RFO XX.XX

Cheques received

East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council (share of telephone account) 92.00

Bank Balances as at 31 January 2013

Current Account £21,726.81

Deposit Account £107.68

7. Reports from Committees

- **Planning** - the Planning Committee minutes for the meeting held on 22 January 2013 and delegated comments (12 February 2013) had been circulated.
- The Clerk repeated for everyone's benefit what had been said at the Planning Committee meeting. In brief, applications are arriving at the Council at any time and it is difficult to include them in the agenda of scheduled meetings. Due to constraints within WDC, extensions of time can no longer be guaranteed for comment and so the Council should endeavour to send comments back to WDC within the statutory 21-day consultation period. In line with the terms of reference of the Committee, the Chairman can give his permission for applications to be discussed and commented upon under delegated authority. Subject to there being no additional information coming forward within the 21-day statutory consultation period, the comments will be passed onto the planning authority in the usual way. The meeting agreed that this was the best way forward to avoid having to convene extra meetings although if a potentially contentious application was live, a meeting might be convened at the discretion of the Chairman. The Clerk was asked to put details of this on the website and noticeboards.

ACTION: PC 150 – CLERK.

8. Reports from Representatives

Schools:

- Framfield – nothing to report.
- Blackboys – nothing to report.

9. Any Other Business at the Discretion of the Chairman

- Blackboys Village Hall – Jeff Goggin stated that he thought perhaps that the costs involved in the implementation of an extra door at the Hall had proved prohibitive to the Pre-school as he had received no update.
- Ian Paisley asked if the pavement along The Street near to his property could be looked at by ESCC.

ACTION: PC 151 – CLERK.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Chairman..... Date

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, 26 March 2013, at the
Village Hall, Blackboys, commencing at 7.30 pm.**