

Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, on Tuesday, 27 September 2016 at 7.30pm

Present Jeff Goggin (Chairman) Rob Jackson
Keith Brandon (Vice Chairman) Noel Mansley
Selina Allen Maria Naylor
Peter Friend Rob Newton
Alan Greenslade Sam Sharples

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) - part

In attendance Ann Newton - Clerk Members of the Public – five
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.

A resident asked if the dog poo bin at Framfield could be reported to Kier/WDC as it is overflowing. The Clerk stated that this has already been done. The same resident asked if the legal agreement with Shared Access Ltd had yet been signed. The Clerk responded that it had not.

Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) – Chris reported on the following items:

- Guideposts - he understood that the Council was still as agreed awaiting the removal of two stumps and agreement to the refurbishment of one sign – all in Blackboys. He would keep following up as necessary. **ACTION: PC 043 – CD/CLERK.**
- Mill Field – he commented that he understood the difficulties and frustrations of the residents when hedges were left overgrown across pavements. Again, he was following up as necessary. **ACTION: PC 044 – CD/CLERK.**
- Bird-in-Eye Hill – Chris updated the meeting that he has been informed that the procedure for applying for match-funding has been changed. The Clerk would be able to attend a 'launch' day shortly. It was anticipated that the Council would have to re-apply. **ACTION: PC 045 – CLERK.**
- ESCC – Chris stated that ESCC were currently preparing their budget for next year – these are very difficult times and next year will be even tougher than this one.
- Peter Friend asked why there is a bus stop in Uckfield High Street with no pull in? Chris commented that there had never been a pull in and indeed there were now two new shelters as well. Chris added that the entire upgrade of the High Street etc had been paid for by developer contributions.

(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

There were none.

2. Election of a Vice Chairman

Selina Allen stated that she had to stand down as Vice Chairman due to a change in her personal circumstances. Jeff Goggin gave his thanks for her support during her time as Vice-Chair. Rob Newton subsequently proposed that Keith Brandon be elected as Vice-Chairman, this was seconded by Selina Allen and agreed by all present.

3. 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.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting for Approval

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 August 2016 having been circulated, be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record. (PF/JG).

5. Co-operation of Parish Councillors

Alan Greenslade, Rob Jackson and Sam Sharples were all in attendance as they had put themselves forward for co-option. Rob Newton proposed that they be co-opted onto the Council en-bloc. This was seconded by Keith Brandon and agreed by all present. All three subsequently signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Clerk asked that they complete their Register of Interests forms within 28 days and let her have them so that she could pass them onto Wealden District Council. **ACTION: PC 046 – CLERK/AG/RJ/SS.**

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Some items were dealt with under other appropriate headings below.

PC 031	Clerk to pass onto WDC Noel Mansley's Register of Interests etc. This had been done.
PC 032	Parking – School Lane, Blackboys. Clerk asked to apply for licences to plant bulbs on the verges to try and discourage parking. This had been done – the Clerk was just waiting for confirmation from ESCC that there was no problem with underground utilities etc. The School would have to carry out their own risk assessments when bulb-planting. <u>ACTION: PC 047 – CLERK.</u>
PC 033	Bird-in-Eye Hill – proposal for a reduction in the speed limit. The results of the application to ESCC for match-funding is due in September. Detailed at the start of the meeting.
PC 034	Consideration for the provision of Wifi in both halls. Keith Brandon to prioritise the installation at the Memorial Hall. Due to personal circumstances this was still ongoing. <u>ACTION: PC 048 – KB.</u>
PC 035	Blackboys – B2192/B2102 – speeding issues. School signs/village gateways? Way forward. Clerk to make contact with relevant residents. This had been done.
PC 036	Grounds maintenance contract. Peter Friend to walk the sites with the successful contractor. The meeting felt that it was now too late to walk the sites but that there had been some issues with the length of grass etc. The Clerk was asked to contact the contractor again to discuss more cuts during potentially a wet spring. <u>ACTION: PC 049 – CLERK.</u>
PC 037	Official Council logo – Keith Brandon to share the entries with other Councillors. Keith informed the meeting that the winning logo had been picked. He was in the process of 'computerising' it then he would forward it onto Councillors. A voucher has been presented to the winning pupil. It was thought that the logo could be made into an official stamp for the Council. <u>ACTION: PC 050 – KB/CLERK.</u>
PC 038	WDC: Consultation regarding litter and dog bin charges. This exercise has now been completed and the handyman was emptying the litter bins.
PC 039	FGP meeting – schedule a date – the meeting agreed that dates would be looked at week commencing 24 October 2016. <u>ACTION: PC 051 – CLERK/ALL.</u>
PC 040-42	Framfield School – Keith Brandon to liaise with the School over their request for fencing of the boundaries. This had been done and Keith would let the Clerk have the licence. <u>ACTION: PC 052 – KB.</u> Refuse – Clerk to liaise with the School over the use of the Memorial Hall refuse bin for lunch waste. The Clerk reported that over the summer holidays the amount of rubbish in the bin was severely reduced and then once School re-started, it is apparent that lunch rubbish is being placed in the bin. The Clerk was asked to liaise with the School and request that they use their own bins and not those of the Hall. <u>ACTION: PC 053 – CLERK.</u> Table tennis tables – Keith to advise the School that until the alterations have been made to the rear of the Hall there was no available storage

	and if they were ultimately to be available for public use, guidelines would have to be drawn up. This had been done.
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7. Correspondence received since the last meeting

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

- Uckfield Town Council (UTC) – Devolved Services. The Clerk explained that that UTC were looking into taking over verge-cutting from the County Council and had asked if adjacent parish councils would wish to join in. It is early days and an update would follow with costs etc. **ACTION: PC 054 – CLERK.**
- WDC: Parish Conference – Wednesday, 30 November 2016. Peter Friend suggested he would attend on behalf of the Council. **ACTION: PC 055 – CLERK/PF.**

8. Finance and General Purposes:

- Ratification of insurance renewal (£2,858.87) – long term agreement until 2018. This was agreed (RN/SA).
- FGP Committee meeting – date for first meeting – as detailed above.
- Completion of the Annual Return.
- Councillors were in receipt of the schedule of expenditure as at 31 August 2016, bank reconciliation and bank statement for August for comparison and agreement. The accounts were verified as correct by the Council. (KB/JG).
- Formal agreement of the July/August/September 2016 payments/disbursements – itemised below. This was agreed for payment by Peter Friend, seconded by Maria Naylor and agreed by all present.

	£
701322 – WDC (dog bin emptying)	360.00
701323 – Came & Company (insurance premium)	2,858.87
701324 – Barry Richardson (annual website maintenance etc)	200.00
BACS – BB Village Hall (Hall hire)	12.00
BACS – Framfield Memorial Hall (Hall hire)	20.00
701325 – HMRC; July tax and NI payments for the Clerk/RFO	266.83
701326 – Mailing Expert Ltd (mail drop; mast)	290.70
701327 – CPRE (annual subscription)	36.00
BACS – BB Village Hall (Hall hire)	12.00
701328 – HMRC; August tax and NI payments for the Clerk/RFO	256.83
701329 – PKF Littlejohn LLP (external audit fee)	360.00
701330 – WDC (dog bin emptying quarter charge)	360.00
701331 – WDALC (annual subscription)	25.00
BACS – Blackboys Trust (Hall hire)	25.00
BACS – Framfield Trust (Hall hire)	20.00
701332 – HMRC; September tax and NI payments for the Clerk/RFO (Staff salaries paid net of tax by BACS)	258.98

Cheques received

Charity Dividends - £277.76

Bank Balances as at 31 August 2016

Current Account	£38,726.81
Deposit Account	£119.19

9. Reports from Committees (KB, PF, JG, AG & MN)

- **Planning** – the minutes of the previous meetings (18 August 2016) would have been be ratified at the meeting prior to full Council.
- Revision of Committee members – Keith Brandon would now become ex-officio as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. The meeting agreed to include Alan Greenslade on the Committee.

10. Reports from Representatives

- **Schools:** St Thomas à Becket Church of England Federation (Blackboys & Framfield CEP Schools)

There was nothing specific to report as there is a Governors' meeting later in the week. Keith Brandon commented that there are still parking problems at both schools.

- **Police Panel meeting (SA)** – Selina Allen reported that there would be no further meeting due to the re-arrangements of the police force. There had been an attempted break-in in Framfield.
- **WDALC** – minutes to be sent out as and when received.

11. Councillors' Questions

- Noel Mansley asked if the recycling bins at the bring site in Framfield were still required since household recycling collections had been upgraded. The Clerk stated that they still seems to get full, this could be because the bring site at the Blackboys Inn has gone.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Chairman.....

Date

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:
Tuesday, 29 November 2016,
at the Memorial Hall, Framfield.
commencing at 7.30 pm.**