

**FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council (PC) held at the Village Hall,**  
**Blackboys, on Monday, 26 September 2022 at 4.30 pm.**

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**Present (Councillors):** Keith Brandon (Chairman) Tony Hall  
Peter Friend Maria Naylor

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC)  
Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC)

**In attendance** Ann Newton - Clerk Members of the Public – none.  
Marie Owen - RFO

*(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).*

*The Chairman called for a minute's silence in recognition of the recent death of Her Majesty the Queen.*

Councillor Dowling (ESCC) reported on the following items:

- The recent site meeting in Blackboys with ESCC Enforcement to discuss the various issues had proved useful.  
Councillor Dowling felt it would be beneficial to reinstate the SLR meetings with ESCC.
- 30-mph limit through Blackboys. The Chairman confirmed that as far as the PC was aware the matter was in the hands of ESCC and the developer of the 50-house site. Traffic calming was required and this was being discussed/priced. He reiterated that it would be a real missed opportunity if this isn't implemented for Framfield Road and the High Street bearing in the mind the cumulative impact of the various new developments along the road.
- Councillor Dowling stated that he understood that a few people had been ticketed for speeding.
- B2192. The route survey is not yet complete. The Clerk asked if the work on the feasibility study on the Lewes Road could be chased. Clerk to email Councillor Dowling.
- There was no real news on the signs for Palehouse Common other than one idea for the positioning of a sign had been rejected by ESCC officers.

Councillor Ann Newton (WDC) reported the following:

- She believed that the arrangements put in place around the death of Her Majesty the Queen had gone well and served the varying occasions during the time of mourning. She had been privileged to attend the three local proclamations.
- WDC Local Plan – it is hoped that a Draft Plan will be published by the end of the year or early next year.
- Southern Water – following the motion at Full Council asking SW to provide more information during the consultation process on planning applications, a further meeting had been held and progress was being made.

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

There were none.

### **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 (26 July 2022)**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meetings held on 26 July 2022, having been circulated, as a true and accurate record of the meeting as proposed by Keith Brandon and seconded by Peter Friend.

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes To receive updates or agree any further actions – all detailed elsewhere on the agenda.**

- Parish streetlighting – the Clerk stated that it now appeared that all plans by ESCC Highways to provide a re-design of the Parish streetlighting had been scrapped. A schedule of outstanding repairs has been sent through and a further meeting to be arranged. Clerk to email Councillor Dowling with the details.
- Replacement trees – recreation grounds. A benefactor had come forward to discuss the provision of some trees. Clerk to make contact again.
- Memorial Hall, Framfield – insurance claim. The Clerk reported that one excessive quote had been received to install the root barrier. The meeting agreed that an independent survey should be commissioned to ascertain if the specific tree roots are in fact causing the problems.
- Community Governance Review (WDC) – The Clerk reported that the recent WDC Audit and Finance Committee had approved the suggestion that the number of councillors be reduced to 9 from 11. This would move on the next stage with the Boundary Commission and it is expected that the new figure would come into play at the elections next year.

**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.*

ESCC:

- Public Path Diversion Order – Framfield Footpath Number 7 – the application has been concluded and the footpath diverted.
- Rural Grass-cutting Trial. The meeting agreed that there had been no detrimental comments about the grass and would continue for another year. Clerk to advise ESCC.
- Urban Grass-cutting Options. The meeting agreed that although there had been some problems in Blackboys this season, they believed it wouldn't happen again. Clerk to contact ESCC to agree to the four extra cuts for the 2023 season.

**6. Finance and General Purposes:**

- a) Conclusion of the External Audit. The RFO stated that this had been concluded satisfactorily. She would be setting up an initial budget meeting with the Clerk shortly with a view to bringing a draft budget for discussion to the November meeting.
- b) 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. (TH/KB).
- c) Resolve to agree the since the July 2022 meeting the payments/disbursements as detailed on the report as circulated. These were agreed and detailed at the end of the minutes. These were agreed (PF/TH).
- d) Any other financial matters: there were none.
  - The RFO stated that she was having problems with the payments to NEST and would be re-sending the direct debit mandate although they have said they have already received the first one!
  - Defibrillators. The Chairman reported that he had successfully obtained agreement from the Uckfield Lions that they would purchase two new defibrillators for both halls having been turned down by the British Heart Foundation who don't supply replacement machines, only new ones! Keith was thanked for his diligence. Also great thanks to the Uckfield Lions.

**7. Planning Committee.**

- The minutes/delegated comments since the last Parish Council meeting were agreed as read.

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

- Liaison with ESCC on highway matters:
  - HGV's in Palehouse Common – as detailed above. The Parish Council voiced their disappointment in the lack of progress since the meeting where the proposals had been agreed a year ago.
  - Lewes Road – feasibility study application. As detailed above.
  - High Street, Blackboys – as detailed above.
  - SLR meetings – it was agreed to reinstate them. Clerk to make the initial contact.
  - Urban grass cutting – this has been discussed at the recent site meeting and it is hoped that the same problems won't happen again.
  - Mill Field – hedge cutting. The enforcement process was explained at the same meeting.

- Clerk – report on any other items not recorded elsewhere in the agenda.
- The death of Her Majesty the Queen. The Clerk reported that everything which a parish council has to implemented had been done successfully during the period of mourning including the provision of a book of condolence which was placed in the Church. This will be given to WDC who will bind the pages and send them to The Keep (ESCC Archive Office) for historical purposes.

**9. Reports from Representatives**

- **WDALC** (Wealden District Association of Local Councils) – minutes to be sent out as and when received. The Clerk stated that she now generally attends these meetings.
- **Parish Planning Panel (c/o Clerk/Tony Hall)** - minutes to be sent out as and when received. A training day was scheduled for October.
- **CSAG – Police (Chairman/Clerk)** – the Chairman and Clerk attend the meetings. The Clerk stated that they had recently had a first meeting with the new Inspector, Lauren Buck, when items of interest within the Parish had been reported to her. She agreed to support the plea for a lower speed limit in the Lewes Road and said that she would try to organise some Police activity in the area.
- **Cluster meetings – WDC Planning/Local Plan (Chairman/Clerk).** The last sessions had been cancelled due to the dates being close to the death of the monarch.

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

*There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.50 pm.*

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
 Tuesday, 29 November 2022  
 commencing at 5 pm  
 to be held in the Village Hall, Blackboys.**

### Income and Expenditure July/August/September 2022

Invoice	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment	Comments	Pre VAT	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
05/09/2022	Tfr	To ****6278	OLB	Bank Interest	17.78		17.78
05/09/2022	Inc	Interest	OLB	Bank Interest	17.78		17.78
15/09/2022	Inc	Precept	OLB	Wealden DC	34,350.00		34,350.00
Invoice Date	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment Ref	Comments	Pre VAT VALUE (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
02/09/2022	exp	Dog Bins	OLB	Wealden DC	325.00	65.00	390.00
01/09/2022	exp	subscriptions	OLB	Action in Rural sussex	120.00	24.00	144.00
14/08/2022	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	712.62		712.62
02/09/2022	exp	Stationery/Copying	OLB	Amazon	12.84	2.57	15.41
30/08/2022	exp	Stationery/Copying	OLB	Amazon	5.24	1.05	6.29
21/08/2022	exp	Audit Fee	OLB	PKF Littlejohn	300.00	60.00	360.00
20/08/2022	exp	telephone/Internet	OLB	BT	126.30	25.26	151.56
13/09/2022	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Staff Costs	2,320.41		2,320.41
23/08/2022	ACC	general	OLB	Cil	(1,118.20)		(1,118.20)
09/08/2022	exp	general	OLB	JAKK Hitachi Capital	1,118.20	223.64	1,341.84
20/07/2022	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	712.42		712.42
18/07/2022	exp	Insurance	OLB	Cardinus	130.00	26.00	156.00
02/08/2022	exp	Training	OLB	Wealden DC	30.00		30.00
25/07/2022	exp	Insurance	OLB	Arthur Gallaghe	4,058.77		4,058.77
01/08/2022	exp	Hall Hire	OLB	Blackboys Hall Hire	20.00		20.00
28/07/2022	exp	Stationery/Copying	OLB	Amazon	29.16	5.83	34.99
28/07/2022	exp	Office equipment	OLB	Dawson Hart	40.00		40.00
25/07/2022	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Staff Costs	2,320.53		2,320.53
23/08/2022	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Trans FFT	(299.16)		(299.16)

Signed .....

Date .....