

**FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Framfield Parish Council (PC) held at the Village Hall,**  
**Blackboys, on Tuesday, 29 March 2022 at 5 pm.**

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

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

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

*(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).*

**Councillor Chris Dowling (ESCC) [CD]** made the following report:

Speed limit/interventions

Palehouse Common:

- HGV's in Palehouse Common – the Clerk commented that a reply hasn't been received from Ian Johnson on the works to provide possibilities and costings for advisory signs at Palehouse Common. CD said he would chase this up.

Blackboys:

- A senior officer at ESCC has walked around Blackboys and identified additional remedial works needed to bring the pavements etc up to the required standard.
- CD is still being contacted by residents urging ESCC to reduce the speed limit on both main roads.
- The Police have erected 'nudge' signs on both roads encouraging safe driving. They will be in situ for 3 months. The meeting agreed that they seemed rather small and in some cases were hidden behind foliage.

Lewes Road:

- The PC are to meet with ESCC officers to discuss the potential for a feasibility study to start the process towards potential Community Match Funding for any future works. Clerk to draw up agenda.

High Street:

- Community Speed Watch – three couples are being trained later in the week and will be out and about around Easter.

Framfield Road:

- CD agreed that at the right time, all authorities must come together on the application (50-house scheme) to make sure that everything is done to obtain a 30 mph through the village as part of the plans and not miss the opportunity.

Parish maintenance:

- Water leak on the B2102 to the east of Pump Lane - the Clerk commented that there is still a leak. CD advised that it is being monitored.
- Brookhouse Lane – The Chairman commented that there appeared to be some drainage works scheduled for Brookhouse Lane, which had not been included in the fortnightly notice of works from ESCC.
- Gun Road – CD stated that more works will be needed to bring the road up to scratch.

SLR meetings – CD asked if the PC would consider resurrecting SLR meetings again.

Publicity – CD asked if the PC could publicise the actions to date on much of the above. The Clerk stated that much of it had received brief mention in the recent Parish Magazine along with a full-page article on CSW asking for more volunteers. It was agreed to do fuller reports once the meeting had been held with ESCC and any progress could be reported.

**Councillor Ann Newton (WDC) [AN]** made a short report:

- AN reported that she now has a meeting with the new Housing Minister, and it is hoped that good news is on the horizon with regards to housing numbers.

## 1. Apologies for Absence

Marie Owen – RFO.

## 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 (25 January 2022)

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2022, having been circulated, as a true and accurate record of the meeting as proposed by Keith Brandon and seconded by Maria Naylor.

## 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 following on from a meeting with ESCC news was still awaited from ESCC on an action plan. Clerk to chase.
- Damaged finger post update. The meeting agreed to the works quoted for the repair/replacement of three fingerposts. (KB/TN).
- Tree survey/works – update. The tree works have been completed. Further discussion was needed on a re-planting scheme in the autumn.
- Memorial Hall, Framfield – insurance claim. The Clerk reported that Hiscox were not prepared to cover the cost of the root wall but would pay up to the total cost of the tree felling. All other remedial repair works are covered. They have been asked to obtain a quote for the works.

## 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

- Rural Verges as Wildlife Corridors - A Reduction in Rural Grass Cutting Trial 2022. This had been agreed and ESCC informed.
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 – Section 53 - Claimed upgrade of an existing Public Footpath at Uckfield 37 and Framfield 62 at the parish boundary. Following discussion, Tony Hall agreed to contact Kate Ashbrook for a further explanation on the reasoning behind the request. The concern being that the footpath in becoming a bridle path could become a Byway Open to All Traffic.

### OTHER

- Councillor Nikos Mikelis/Over-development in Wealden. Invitation to attend a meeting of all the parish and town councils signed up. Peter Friend and Keith Brandon to attend.

## 6. Finance and General Purposes:

- a) Resolve to make donations – The meeting agreed to donate £200.00 to the Sussex Air Ambulance, £100.00 to the Wealden CAB and £100.00 Uckfield FM. (TN/MN).
- b) Internal Auditor – resolve to appoint Mulberry & Co for the 2021-22 financial year.
- c) Consider reviewing the Hall charges for both the Village Hall, Blackboys, and Memorial Hall, Framfield. The Chairman and Clerk agreed to bring some proposals to the next meeting.
- d) Review of the hire charge for School's use of the Memorial Hall in line with the Licence agreement. Maria Naylor to update the RPI list with February's figure and advise the Clerk. The new figure will be in the region of £66.25. This was agreed by all present. The Chairman asked that a note be sent with the revised figure to ESCC regarding the increased price of utilities.
- e) Clerk/RFO salary review. The meeting agreed to give both the Clerk and RFO a one-point increase on the scales (TN/MN).
- f) 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. (MN/TN).
- g) Resolve to agree the since the January 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 (TH/MN).
- h) Any other financial matters: there were none.

## 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.
  - Lewes Road/High Street, Blackboys – a meeting with ESCC Officers has been arranged – 7 April 2022 at 12.30 pm in the Memorial Hall, Framfield.
  - Pathways, Blackboys – as detailed above.
  - Speedwatch – as detailed above.
  - SLR meetings – none have been held.
- Clerk – report on any other items not recorded elsewhere in the agenda.
  - Cancellation of the April meeting date (APM) – this was agreed.

**9. Reports from Representatives**

- **WDALC** (Wealden District Association of Local Councils) – minutes to be sent out as and when received.
- **Parish Planning Panel (c/o Clerk/Tony Hall)** - minutes to be sent out as and when received.
- **CSAG – Police (Chairman/Clerk)** – the Chairman and Clerk attend the meetings.
- **Cluster meetings – WDC Planning/Local Plan (Chairman/Clerk).**

**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 (the AGM and PC)  
Tuesday, 31 May 2022  
commencing at 5 pm  
to be held in the Village Hall, Blackboys.**

**Income and Expenditure January/February/March 2022**

Invoice	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment	Comments	Pre VAT	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
21/03/2022	Tfr	To ****57112	OLB	Bank Interest	1.98		1.98
21/03/2022	Inc	Interest	OLB	Bank Interest	1.98		1.98
07/03/2022	Tfr	To ****6278	OLB	Bank Interest	1.44		1.44
07/03/2022	Inc	Interest	OLB	Bank Interest	1.44		1.44
21/03/2022	ACC		OLB	Pension	905.78		905.78
Invoice Date	Income/Exp	Item Heading	Payment Ref	Comments	Pre VAT VALUE (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
17/03/2022	exp	Streetlighting Maintenar	OLB	East Sussex County Council	2,911.06	582.21	3,493.27
25/02/2022	exp	recreation Grounds	OLB	Treewise	2,532.00		2,532.00
20/02/2022	exp	recreation Grounds	OLB	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	2,815.00	563.00	3,378.00
17/02/2022	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	783.42		783.42
07/03/2022	exp	Dog Bins	OLB	Wealden DC	325.00	65.00	390.00
28/02/2022	exp	general	OLB	Tesco	12.97		12.97
20/02/2022	exp	telephone/Internet	OLB	BT	115.58	23.11	138.69
27/02/2022	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Trans FFT	(306.59)		(306.59)
27/02/2022	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Trans BBT	(306.59)		(306.59)
17/02/2022	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Staff Costs	3,178.93		3,178.93
10/02/2022	ACC	general	OLB	JAKK Hitachi Capital	(2,835.00)		(2,835.00)
07/01/2022	exp	general	OLB	JAKK Hitachi Capital	2,835.00	567.00	3,402.00
31/01/2022	exp	Hall Hire	OLB	BBT	20.00		20.00
18/01/2022	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	783.43		783.43
02/01/2022	exp	NI & Paye	OLB	WG Accounting	90.00		90.00
19/01/2022	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Staff Costs	3,178.93		3,178.93
10/02/2022	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Trans BBT	(306.54)		(306.54)
10/02/2022	exp	Staff Costs	OLB	Trans FFT	(306.54)		(306.54)

Signed .....

Date .....