



WEST HOATHLY PARISH COUNCIL

representing Highbrook, Selsfield, Sharpthorne, Tyes Cross and West Hoathly

Document Reference 2426

Minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Parish Council held on Monday 16th December 2024 at 7:30pm in West Hoathly Village Hall

Members

Ken Allfree

Will Buckley*

Martin Robinson (Vice
Chairman)

Bob Darvill*

Peter Browne*

Paul Brown

Claire Hilton

Douglas Denham St Pinnock (Chairman)

Amy Marshall*

Manfred Lindfield*

Sinead Young*

* denotes absence

Also present:

Leanne Andrews (clerk)

Anita Emery (RFO)

County Cllr Garry Wall

There were no members of the public present

212) To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Bob Darvill, Cllr Amy Marshall, Cllr Manfred Lindfield and District Cllr Lorraine Carvalho. Cllr Will Buckley, Cllr Sinead Young and Cllr Peter Browne were absent.

213) To receive declarations of interest from Parish Councillors in respect of any matter on the agenda

There were none

214) To approve minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Parish Council held on 25th November 2024 (Document Reference 2423)

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the chairman

215) To receive the clerk's report

The clerk's report was received.

216) To receive Councillor reports

a) West Sussex County Councillor Report – Cllr Garry Wall

- 2025-26 Budget is looking strong with no cuts to services
- Service delivery is a challenge
- Cllr Wall gave a brief update on the Devolution White Paper. More details will follow in due course.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-devolution-white-paper-power-and-partnership-foundations-for-growth/english-devolution-white-paper>

b) Mid Sussex District Councillor Report – Cllr Paul Brown

District Cllr. Report by Paul Brown to WHPC meeting on 16th December 2024

At the full District Council meeting on 11th December, members agreed with revisions to Taxi Provision regulations, Draft pavement licencing, Treasury Management Investment Strategy, and that Sussex Integrated Care Board should join the Greater Brighton Economic Board.

Noting that the last full meeting was on 25 September, leader and cabinet reports elicited many questions and answers.

Two motions on Notice, one supporting the Climate and Nature Bill and 2. a motion against the 'Family Farms' aka Agricultural Property Reform Bill were debated and agreed with large majority in agreement. On asked for more information of the debates, I refer members to You Tube recordings starting at 1hr and 4 minutes.

Kerb cleaning in Sharpthorne has taken place for the first time in many years, and I thank our Clerk for her efforts to get this done.

217) Planning applications

a) To note decisions from the Local Authority

The following applications have been granted permission

DM/24/2074 - 17 Highcroft Road
 DM/24/2276 – Drewestone
 DM/24/2462 - 1 East Lodge Stonelands
 DM/24/1778/1779 - 1 Peckhams

b) To consider planning applications received from the Local Authority

DM/24/2460 - The Vineyard, North Lane, West Hoathly

Proposed single storey garage, made of soft wood, and gravel driveway to connect with existing driveway. (description updated 05/11/2024)

The Parish Council has **no objections**

DM/24/2924 – Moatlands, Vowels Lane, West Hoathly

Variation of Condition 2 relating to DM/22/0536.

The Parish Council has **no objections**

DM/24/3002 - West Hoathly Bowls Club, Hook Lane, West Hoathly

Felling and removal of Oak tree at Northern edge of car park

The Parish Council **Object** and would like to request that a full tree survey is completed.

218) To review the Financial Statements

- a) To approve the **Parish Council** bank reconciliations against corresponding bank statements
- b) To note the **Parish Council** combined bank rec and year to date accounts

The Parish Council Financial Statements were noted

- c) To approve the **Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall** bank reconciliations against corresponding bank statements
- d) To note the **Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall** combined bank rec and year to date accounts

The Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Financial Statements were noted

219) To ratify and approve the payments for December 2024

- a) To approve the **Parish Council** expenditure as itemised on the schedule

One additional payment was presented for December

- 1. £12,000 – Jon Latter Forestry

The payments of £16,458.14 for December were unanimously ratified and approved.

- b) To approve the **Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall** expenditure as itemised on the schedule

One additional payment was presented for December

£35.00 – Lopez Window Cleaning

The payments of £812.46 for December were unanimously ratified and approved.

220) To review the initial draft budget proposal for 2025-26

It was noted that the Finance Committee had met on the 2nd December to prepare the draft budget proposal. Following discussion, it was unanimously agreed to recommend a precept of £103,636 (increase of 7.43%) for approval at the Parish Council meeting on Monday 27th January 2025.

221) To note the Interim Audit Report

The Interim Audit was noted

222) To consider an item of correspondence regarding the phone box in West Hoathly and to agree next steps

It was agreed in principle to adopt the phone box in West Hoathly

223) To receive Committee Reports

- a) To note Minutes of Meetings taken place
 - i) Finance Committee 2nd December 2024 (document reference 2425)

The minutes were noted

224) To receive reports from external meetings attended by councillors

- a) Ashdown Forest Parish Liaison meeting – 11th December 2024

It was noted that the meeting was postponed as there was a power outage at the Forest Centre

225) To receive correspondence

The correspondence was noted

226) To note items of interest or items for inclusion at next meeting of the Parish Council

Date of next meeting 27th January 2025

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:20

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Chairman-----

DRAFT