

**MINUTES OF GUESTLING PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING HELD MONDAY 11 MAY 2026
7.15PM AT THREE OAKS VILLAGE HALL**

CHAIR: Cllr MARION ROBERTS

PARISH COUNCILLORS: Cllr GRAHAM FURNESS Cllr PETER KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN
Cllr MARTIN GRIFFITHS

PARISH CLERK: BRYONY YOUNG

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1	Meeting started 7.26pm APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE: Cllr Mier	
2	ELECTIONS: 2.1 TO ELECT A CHAIR – Cllr Furness nominated Cllr Marion Roberts, Cllr Knatchbull-Hugessen seconded 2.2 TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRS DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE - Cllr Marion Roberts accepted 2.3 TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIR – Cllr Knatchbull-Hugessen nominated Cllr Graham Furness, Cllr Martin Griffiths seconded 2.4 TO RECEIVE THE VICE-CHAIRS DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE – Cllr Graham Furness accepted 2.5 TO APPOINT STATUTORY OR STANDING COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND DECIDE ON MEETING DATES FOR THE YEAR: Rother Association of Local Councils – Cllr Martin Griffiths Affordable Housing Working Group -Cllr Furness (Terms of Reference attached – Appendix 1) Meeting dates agreed (Appendix 2)	
3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None	
4	MINUTES: To resolve - The Chair is authorised to sign the Minutes of the Parish meeting held 9 March 2026 and Planning Meeting 30 March 2026	
5	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Cllr Coupar – Thank-you to the Parish Council for the last year and their hard work for the community, will forward Rother's most recent report to the Council once received. Local Government reorganisation, information is still outstanding but definitely still RDC for another year Cllr Maynard – As outgoing ESCC Councillor, thank-you to the Parish Council for the work they do, Annual Rother meeting on Monday following this meeting and a report should follow Daniel Lach (Newly voted in ESCC Councillor – Cllr Lach as of 12 May) – Mr Lach has lived in East Sussex for over 35 years. He is happy to listen and wants to make things better and looks forward to working with the Parish Council 2 members of public leave 7.43pm	
6	OVERVIEW OF RALC MEETING (Cllr Griffiths) – RALC meetings to move to bigger venue (Bexhill Town Hall) to hopefully get better attendance Public Consultations - RALC to respond to public consultations where it is appropriate and for general policy decisions Local Government Reorganisation – Concerns on role going forward for local committees, suggestion of looking at RALC/ESALC structure going forward but can't do much until consultation and implementation plans are available Complaints handling – Aware of complaints to Rother Monitoring Officer, RALC looking at "triaging" before it gets to this point (saving time and money)	
7	MATTERS ARISING OR UNRESOLVED NOT COVERED SEPARATELY IN AGENDA: Welcome to Guestling sign (Ivyhouse Lane) – Back with supplier, to liaise with Chair for siting Phone Box Refurbishment – Parts delivered, awaiting works, BY to chase dates Bus shelter – Stickers of school work kindly donated by Bradshaw Trust, clerk to put up "Provided by Guestling PC sticker above), dropped kerb required, currently ESCC Highways looking at Parish Council Policies – To be revisited (agenda for next meeting)	MR/BY BY BY/PKH BY

	2 x Cllrs left meeting – 8.01pm ESCC SLR Meeting – Cllr Furness to organise – ONGOING REQUEST FOR SUPPORT SSSI RYE HARBOUR – Cllr Griffiths asked for specific as to how we could support- to be on agenda when received BUS SHELTERS ON A259 (National Highways) – Stagecoach contacted twice , no response. National Highways initially responded to say someone would be in touch, no response, sent request again, no response, Clerk to keep chasing	GF BY
8	CORRESPONDENCE: None	
9	FINANCE: Annual Insurance £870.41	
10	ACCOUNTS 2025/2026: i. Guestling Parish Council to apply for a Certificate of Exemption 2025/2026 under the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 – AGREED AND SIGNED ii. Guestling Parish Council signed an Annual Governance Statement 2025/2026 – AGREED AND SIGNED iii. Guestling Parish Council signed the Accounting Statements 2025/2026 – AGREED AND SIGNED	
11	GRANT APPLICATION: Guestling Bradshaw School, amount requested and chased, no response, if received will agenda for next meeting	
12	PLANNING APPLICATION: RR/2026/0438/TPO Works to trees 1 Church Farm Cottages Church Lane Guestling Green TN35 4HS Guestling Parish Council supported the application for a TPO and, therefore objects to this application. The holly trees create a unique tunnel like effect on an ancient routeway. They are trees and should remain as such. Reducing them by this much will give the appearance of a hedge and that is not conducive to the footpath	
13	A.O.B. – Clerk on holiday 4th June to 23rd June New email system – Clerk will trial and put in place on return Meeting closed 8.25PM	
	BRYONY YOUNG – PARISH CLERK 07730 015684 guestling.clerk@gmail.com	

Appendix 1

Working Group

Affordable Housing Working Group

Background

The role of this Working Group is to engage with all key stakeholders regards proposals of any affordable housing developments within or closely adjacent to Guestling Parish and to provide advice, comment and recommendation to Full Council.

Members of the Working Group will be: Cllr Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen, Cllr Graham Furness, Cllr Martin Griffiths

Terms of Group

1. The Working Group will act under the Code of Conduct of the Parish Council and declarations of interest will be required at all meetings.
2. The Working Group may determine the number and time of its meetings.
3. The Working Group may appoint its own Chair.
4. The quorum of the Working Group will be THREE.
5. Any extra or additional members shall be appointed by the Parish Council.
6. General minutes of each meeting and meetings with other bodies shall be kept - These minutes should show the time and place of the meeting, its attendance and the topics discussed and any conclusions reached. A copy of the minutes or notes must be lodged with the Proper Officer.
7. The Working Group will report at each full Parish Council meeting.
8. The Working Group may make recommendations to the Parish Council.
9. The Working Group has no power delegated to it to make any decision, statement or to give any undertaking, or understanding on behalf of the Parish Council.

Dated : 28 September 2023.

Signed: Cllr P Knatchbull-Hugessen

Signed: Cllr G Furness

Signed: Cllr M Griffiths

Signed Proper Officer Bryony Young

Appendix 2

GUESTLING PARISH COUNCIL SCHEDULED PARISH MEETINGS 2026 - 2027

***** EXTRA PLANNING MEETINGS (ONLINE) TO BE SCHEDULED IF
NECESSARY TO MEET RESPONSE DEADLINES AND ADVERTISED ON
SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE*****

Monday May 11th 2026 7pm – ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND
ANNUAL ASSEMBLY – **THREE OAKS VILLAGE HALL**

Monday July 13th 2026 7.15pm – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – **THREE
OAKS VILLAGE HALL**

Monday September 14th 2026 7.15pm – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING –
THREE OAKS VILLAGE HALL

Monday November 9th 2026 7.15pm – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING –
THREE OAKS VILLAGE HALL

Monday January 11th 2027 7.15pm – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING –
THREE OAKS VILLAGE HALL

Monday March 8th 2027 7.15pm – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – **THREE
OAKS VILLAGE HALL**

Monday May 10th 2027 7.15pm – ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH
COUNCIL AND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – **THREE
OAKS VILLAGE HALL**