

GUESTLING PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF GUESTLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 12 MAY 2025 7.30PM AT THREE OAKS VILLAGE HALL

CHAIR: Cllr MARION ROBERTS

PARISH COUNCILLORS: Cllr GRAHAM FURNESS Cllr PETER KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN

Cllr MARTIN GRIFFITHS

Cllr CARL MAYNARD

PARISH CLERK: BRYONY YOUNG

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1	APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE: None received	
2	ELECTIONS: 2.1 TO ELECT A CHAIR – Cllr Griffiths 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 Roberts nominated Cllr Graham Furness, Cllr Knatchbull-Hugessen 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 Marsham Group – Cllr Roberts and Clerk	
3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None	
4	MINUTES: The Chair is authorised to sign the Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held 13 May 2024 and the last Council meeting 10 March 2025	
5	MATTERS ARISING OR UNRESOLVED NOT COVERED SEPARATELY IN AGENDA FROM LAST FULL COUNCIL MEETING: - Sign at entrance QE2 Field – One quote obtained, get another quote, suggested “Welcome to Guestling” sign at Water Lane, BY to check if Highways permission required - Marsham Meeting – Arranged with Clerk and Chair, report at next meeting - Meeting dates – Agreed to stay as is - Parish MP Meetings – Clerk chase overview of meeting with Helena Dollimore MP - QE2 Playing Fields entrance- Spec doc required to get quotes, meeting at site to decide - Football Club/Bowls Club – Meetings with both for contract rollover dates - Park Cottage new resident meeting - Chair and Vice Chair met and exchanged contact details	BY BY/MR BY ALL BY
6	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Cllr Carl Maynard – - Devolution timing September 2025, Mayoral Election should get go ahead at this time - Southern Water have taken responsibility for the water leak down Butchers Lane and ESCC Highway Steward is awaiting further response, Clerk report to SW again to check response Cllr Maynard left 8.10pm	BY
7	CORRESPONDENCE: None	
8	FINANCE: Insurance annual renewal £851.29, Payroll Services £25 per month	
9	ACCOUNTS 2024/2025: i. Guestling Parish Council to apply for a Certificate of Exemption 2024/2025 under the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 – AGREED AND SIGNED ii. Guestling Parish Council signed an Annual Governance Statement 2024/2025 – AGREED AND SIGNED iii. Guestling Parish Council signed the Accounting Statements 2024/2025 – AGREED AND SIGNED	
10	GRANT APPLICATIONS 2025: ARC support agreed unanimously £250, MOPPS application declined, further information for specific funding requirement and better advertising within Guestling Parish required to qualify, Action Against Abuse request declined as does not cover Guestling Parish	

11	OVERVIEW OF RALC MEETING: Quarterly RALC meeting took place on 23 April. ESCC Highways were due to give an update but were unable to attend. Lorna Ford, Chief Exec of RDC, gave a presentation on devolution and local government reorganisation setting out the expected timetable for the changes. Also outlined the process through which RDC could devolve assets and services to town and parish councils. Trevor Leggo, CEO of ESALC also gave an update of reorganization and proposed that he arranges a briefing event, possibly in June, for East Sussex Councils. Cllr. Field spoke about the role town and parish councils could play in addressing the climate change emergency and implementing the RDC Climate Change Policy. There was some discussion as to the role of RALC and whether part of its purpose should be to give feedback to RDC regarding concerns that towns and parishes might have. Topic to be discussed at future meeting, in the meantime everyone encouraged to complete the survey of members. Next meeting: 23 July.	
12	STRATEGIC GAP DISCUSSIONS WITH ROTHER REF LOCAL PLAN: Should be Marsham, BY to arrange meeting via Cllr Mier	BY/Cllr Mier
13	GUESTLING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: Strategic Gap Meeting would link to this, Cllr Griffiths/Cllr Knatchbull-Hugessen to scope out what we would require and how, Cllr Knatchbull-Hugessen to write to CPRE	MG/PK-H
14	OUTSTANDING PLANNING ENFORCEMENT ISSUES: Clerk to ask for a list of current outstanding enforcement in Guestling according to Rother as the list shown online does not seem to be up to date and has very few cases on it, to then be looked at by PC	BY
15	PLANNING APPLICATIONS: RR/2025/579/P WARREN HOUSE THE THORNE GUESTLING TN35 4LU Demolish existing side (north-east) extension & replace with two-storey side extension with adjoining single-storey element, enlarged porch to front elevation, updated external finishes to the existing property (walls, roof & door/windows) & new parking area to the front of the property Recommend approval. RR/2025/609/P RR/2025/610/L CURLS ROCK WHITE HART HILL GUESTLING GREEN TN35 4LS Replacement of lean-to and side extension with new single-storey extension. New vehicular access and construction of terrace and home office building The Parish Council approve in principal but would like to ensure that all materials used are in line with the Rural design Guide, approved for a building with listed status and in keeping with local vernacular. RR/2025/725/NA HASTINGS CONSULTATION – OPEN SPACE ADJACENT TO SANDROCK PARK NORTH OF ST HELENS CHURCH INCLUDING THE LODGE Outline Permission for the erection of up to 65 dwellings (C3), public open space, landscaping and sustainable drainage system (SuDS) and vehicular access Guestling Parish council object to this application. The Ridge is a major arterial road being the access to, among others, the Hospital, the Crematorium, the Fire Station, 3 schools, a junction to an ever expanding industrial estate and many junctions for the large number of housing developments that have taken place over recent years. The road is above capacity and with the recent debacle of the Queensway Gateway there has been an unsustainable increase in traffic through the tiny rural lanes trying to avoid the queues The lanes have suffered major deterioration making them more like cart tracks. There is no strategic plan to protect these lanes. This application needs to include a better design to help ease congestion. Yet another junction onto the Ridge is not seen as acceptable. We would like to see a large roundabout to ease the coming together of Elphinstone, Chowns Hill, Stonestile Lane, this new junction, the Petrol station etc.	
16	A.O.B. None Meeting closed 9.25PM	
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