

GUESTLING PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF GUESTLING PARISH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY HELD MONDAY 12 MAY 2025 7PM AT THREE OAKS VILLAGE HALL

CLLRS: Cllr MARION ROBERTS Cllr GRAHAM FURNESS Cllr MARTIN GRIFFITHS

Cllr PETER KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN

Cllr C MAYNARD

PARISH CLERK: BRYONY YOUNG

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1	MEETING STARTED 7.05PM APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE: Cllr ANDREW MIER Cllr TIM GROHNE Cllr BEVERLEY COUPAR	
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND MINUTES RESOLVED: Declarations of interest - None. That the Chair of the Council is authorised to sign the minutes of the last Parish Assembly held 8 April 2024	
3	REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL: Welcome to Guestling Parish Assembly 2025. The members of the Parish Council continue to do their very best to serve and enhance the Parish of Guestling. We remain committed to maintaining and improving the QE2 playing field alongside the expanding hard working team at Hastings Athletic F.C. We are still looking at replacing the 1960's pavilion with an updated structure. It is taking a lot longer than originally thought! Guestling Bowls Club, in the same location, continues to flourish. The Parish Council continue to support Guestling Church. I attended the Remembrance Day service and laid a wreath on our behalf. We continue to respond to all planning applications. This year we commissioned the restoration of the Guestling sign on the A259. This sign includes a QE2 coronation plaque and a Sussex plaque so it was felt vital to look after it for the future. When setting our precept for this year it was necessary for a 3.5% rise. This is below the real increase with rises in insurances, ESCC increasing their verge cutting charge and also the grass cutting for the QE2 field costs rising. We do continue to lobby Highways and our ESCC Councillor regarding the state of the lanes and I know, I said this last year!! This has been exasperated in the last year by the situation with the Queensway gateway debacle that has seen our lanes used as even more of a rat run and unofficial diversion. This has led to a huge amount of deterioration to the tiny narrow rural lanes and, whilst some potholes get repaired(some more than once!!) with seemingly daily road closures, the situation is seen as far from satisfactory with the large volume and size of traffic that short cuts through the Parish. Since the assembly last year there has been a change in parliamentary boundaries leading to Guestling Parish Council having 2 M.P.s Kieran Mullen MP for Bexhill and Battle now covers the majority of the Three Oaks ward and Helena Dollimore MP for Hastings and Rye covers the Guestling ward. Some Parish Councillors have met with both of them. We found the meetings positive, felt that they both engaged and listened to the local issues that we put before them, coming up with differing solutions to similar problems. As far as I am aware these have not ,so far, come to fruition but it is early days. We are entering a time of uncertainty for local politics with the expected push for devolution and a complete restructuring of local government. We are reconvening the occasional Marsham meetings between Guestling,Pett and Fairlight. It is felt important, particularly now, with the aforementioned local government changes that we look to work together in this moving forwards. We hope to be learning more about the future role of Parish Councils soon. We have offered and still are offering small grants to local community groups and projects. The Parish Council is looking for new members if anyone feels they have what it takes and would like to join us please speak to myself or the Clerk.	
4	PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: None Meeting closed 7.15pm	
	BRYONY YOUNG – PARISH CLERK 07730 015684 guestling.clerk@gmail.com	