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SLAUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Council Meeting AGENDA**

**The Council Members are summoned to a Meeting to be held on**

**Thursday 27th February 2025 at 7pm – The Sports Pavilion, High Street, Handcross**

***Sally Mclean - Clerk to the Council Email*** [***clerk@slaughampc.co.uk***](mailto:clerk@slaughampc.co.uk) ***Website:*** [***http://www.slaughampc.co.uk***](http://www.slaughampc.co.uk/)

**Press and Public are welcome to attend -** *The Parish Council is an open and transparent local authority and encourages public attendance at meetings.*

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**Present:**

**Others Present:**

1. **Apologies for Absence**: To receive and accept apologies for absence.
2. **Declaration of interest from members in respect of any items on the agenda**: To record any declarations of interest.
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting/s held on 30th January 2025** -To receive and accept the Minutes.
4. **Adjournment for questions from the public**: Council to consider adjournment of the meeting in accordance with Council’s Standing Orders, to receive questions from members of the public in attendance in respect of items on the agenda.
5. **Matters from District & County Councillors**: to receive verbal reports from representatives of other authorities.
   1. **Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC):** Press Release/s updates *cc’d in advance.*
   2. **West Sussex County Council County Local Committee (WSCC/CLC)** – Press Release/s updates *cc’d in advance*
6. **Committee Reports**: Council to consider the recommendations, receive and note committee and advisory group/updates: To approve meeting and or briefing notes received in advance of the meeting convened:
   1. **Finance & Policy Committee:** To update members on current activities: To approve meeting/note minutes distributed
      1. **Members are asked to approve the security system access control system for the Sports Pavilion, Handcross**

**£3636.10 plus VAT *papers cc’d in advance***

* + 1. **Members are asked to review and adopt the following:**
       1. Standing Orders
       2. Financial Regulations
       3. Councillors Code of Conduct - Civility and Respect Pledge
  1. **Recreation:** To update members on current activities: To approve meeting/note minutes from meetings held:
     + 1. Allotments Handcross
       2. Allotments Warninglid
     1. Furnace Pond & Common Land
     2. Knapes Field Clearance
  2. **Neighbourhood Planning: Land at St Martin Close -** To update members on current activities/status: To approve meeting/note minutes from meetings held:
  3. **Planning Committee**: Members to consider the following applications: To approve meeting minutes of meeting/notes *cc’d in advance*:
     1. **Traffic Calming Working Group-** To update members on current activities/recommendations:

1. **Chairman’s Report**: to receive verbal report for the Chair:
   1. **Woodgate Pavilion** – The Council resolves to review and consider the appropriate legal framework options for the acquisition of Woodgate Pavilion and to assess design considerations and any necessary requirements for its public use.

To facilitate this, the Council will:

* + 1. Review proposed legal structures for acquisition, including ownership, lease, or partnership arrangements.
    2. Evaluate compliance with relevant regulations and obligations for public access and use.
    3. Identify potential design adaptations or modifications necessary to meet community needs.
    4. Provide feedback on any arising matters to the team at Thakeham for further discussion and consideration ahead of formal resolution

The Council further agrees to discuss and determine the next steps at a future meeting following receipt of relevant information and recommendations.

1. **Clerks Report –** to receive verbal or written report from the Clerk:
   1. Annual Parish Meeting – An **Annual Parish Meeting** is a formal meeting held once a year by a parish council, where all residents of the parish are invited to attend. It is not a council meeting, but rather an opportunity for the parish council to report on its activities, plans, and finances for the past year. The meeting allows parishioners to ask questions, raise issues, and discuss matters of local concern. It is typically an open forum designed to encourage community engagement and transparency.
   2. To update members on the following:
      1. Cottage building Recreation Ground, Handcross
      2. Tree Planting, High Street, Handcross
2. **Finance Matters:**
   1. **Payments and receipts** The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve: Bank Reconciliation for January 2025 - Approval in line with scheme delegation (*Ref: Bank Payment February 2025 in advance*) **RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee approves the schedule of payments for 27th February 2025 previously distributed.
3. **Correspondence/Information Items/Publications/Consultations**: (*Correspondence cc’d in advance to members)* 
   1. Devolution – The consultation on proposals for a **Mayoral Combined Authority for Sussex and Brighton** is now open, allowing residents and organisations to share their views until **Sunday, 13 April**. All interested parties are welcome to have their say, including organisations as well as individuals who live and work in the region. The consultation specifically asks about:

1. The proposed geography

2. Governance arrangements

3. Supporting the economy

4. Improving social outcomes

5. Local government services

6. Improving the local natural environment

7. Supporting the needs of local communities and reflect local identity

West Sussex County Council, alongside East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, will submit responses and encourages public participation. The proposed **strategic authority**, led by an elected mayor and representatives from each council, aims to secure greater powers and funding for local issues like transport, housing, and employment.

The government will decide whether to proceed based on consultation feedback. While no formal steps can be taken until then, informal discussions will continue to ensure readiness if approval is granted. Separately, discussions on local government reorganisation are ongoing, with an update expected soon.

Full details of the consultation can be found on the gov.uk website here: [Sussex and Brighton devolution - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/sussex-and-brighton-devolution)

Further information is available in the government press notice here: [Devolution Priority Programme consultations launch - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/devolution-priority-programme-consultations-launch)

1. **Highways/Footpaths**: to review highways projects/items: To update members of the following:

# Police / NHW Report / Resilience Group Reports

* 1. Crime Reports cc’d members – Updates issued to members in advance.

# Any other matters that the Chairman wishes to raise for future discussion:

1. **Date of next meeting/s –**

Signed: Date: