

SLAUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting AGENDA

The Council Members are summoned to a Meeting to be held on
Thursday 30th January 2025 at 7.00pm – The Sports Pavilion, High Street,
Handcross

Sally Mclean - Clerk to the Council Email clerk@slaugham-pc.gov.uk Website: <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.



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 28th November 2024** -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
 - 5.1. **Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC):** Press Release/s updates *cc'd in advance*
 - 5.2. **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:
 - 6.1. **Finance & Policy Committee:** To update members on current activities: To approve meeting/note minutes and recommendations: 25th November 2024: *papers cc'd in advance*
 - 6.1.1. To review and approve the Income and Expenditure Year Ended 31st March 2025
 - 6.1.2. To review and approve Trial Balance Current Year
 - 6.1.3. To review and adopt the recommended budget for the financial year 1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026
 - 6.1.4. To review and approve the recommended precept for 2025/26:

The Committee recommends that the Council adopt a precept of £170,000 for the 2025/26 financial year, reflecting an increase of £31,000 from £139,000 to £170,000. With the tax base rising from 1860.3 to 1972.0, this equates to an annual increase of £11.49 per Band D property, bringing the total to £86.21—a percentage increase of approximately 11%.

| | Tax Base | Precept | Band D | Increase |
|--|----------|----------------|--------|-----------|
| 2023/24 | 1781.4 | £136000 | £76.34 | |
| Current 2024/25 <i>This presented a reduction of approx. £1.62 on a BAND D property.</i> | 1860.3 | £139000 | £74.72 | £3000.00 |
| Proposed 2025/26 | 1972.0 | £170000 | £86.21 | £31000.00 |

The Committee would advise that the increase in this year's precept has been primarily allocated to ear marked reserve (EMR) funding for several major projects scheduled for delivery 2025/26. These projects aim to enhance and maintain key community assets and infrastructure. The reserves will be distributed as follows:

 - **EMR Car Park MacNaughton Hall:** £20,000
 - **EMR Knapes Field:** £5,000
 - **EMR Tree Surgery:** £3,000
 - **EMR Furnace Pond/Common Land:** £5,000
 - **Neighbourhood Plan Review:** £10,000

The Council recognises the importance of managing its reserves responsibly and remains committed to seeking additional funding opportunities wherever possible. This proactive approach will help safeguard the Council's reserves and reduce the financial burden on the community while ensuring these essential projects are successfully delivered.
 - 6.2. **Recreation:** To update members on current activities and to approve meeting/note minutes from meeting held:
 - 6.3. **Neighbourhood Planning: Land at St Martin Close** - To update members on current activities to review and approve meeting/note minutes where required: Minutes 20th January 2025
 - 6.4. **Planning Committee:** Members to consider updates: To approve meeting minutes of meeting/notes *cc'd in advance*
 - 6.5. **Communications Committee:** Members to consider updates: To approve meeting minutes of meeting/notes
7. **Chairman's Report:** to receive verbal report for the Chair:
 - 7.1. The English Devolution White Paper was published by central government on 16 December 2024. This document outlines the government's plans to expand and deepen devolution across England, granting mayors powers. It focuses on devolution and local government arrangements within England. [English Devolution White Paper - "Power and Partnership: Foundations for Growth"](#). What might this mean for local town and parish councils.
8. **Clerks Report** – to receive information, verbal or written report from the Clerk papers *cc'd in advance*
 - 8.1. To update members on other matters/projects currently being pursued by the Clerk.
 - 8.1.1. Tree planting project, by Nymans, Handcross -
 - 8.1.2. Adoption of the sales pavilion, Woodgate -
 - 8.2. Handcross Community Bus – Committee request for guidance regarding future management challenges update.

9. **Finance Matters Payments and receipts** The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve: Bank Reconciliation for month November & December Approval in line with scheme delegation (*Ref: Bank Payment Analysis January cc'd in advance attached*) **RECOMMENDATION:** The Committee approves the schedule of payments for December 2024 & January 2025 as listed:
10. **Correspondence/Information Items/Publications/Consultations:** (*Correspondence cc'd in advance to members*)
11. **Highways/Footpaths:** to review highways projects/consultation items: Members are asked to consider the following:
11.1. Nymans TRO 30mph speed reduction additional traffic calming, B2114
11.2. Bus Shelter requirement: Woodgate, Parish Lane, Pease Pottage
12. **Police / NHW Report / Resilience Group Reports**
12.1. Crime Reports cc'd members – Updates issued to members in advance
13. **Any other matters that the Chairman wishes to raise for future discussion:**
14. **Date of next meeting/s –**

Signed: _____ Date: _____