

SLAUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting MINUTES

Meeting held on Thursday 25th June 2026 – The Sports Pavilion, High Street, Handcross

Sally Mclean – Parish Clerk clerk@slaughtam-pc.gov.uk Website: <http://www.slaughtam-pc.co.uk> Tel: 01403 733881

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



Present: Cllr Eric Prescott, Cllr David Dunn, Cllr James Keating, Cllr Lesley Read,

1. **Apologies for Absence:** To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr Gary Marsh, Cllr Jane MacNaughton,
2. **Declaration of interest from members in respect of any items on the agenda:** To record any declarations of interest: None
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting/s held - To receive and approve the Minutes of the meetings held on 28th May 2026 (Extraordinary Council) 26th May 2026. Proposed Cllr Prescott Second Cllr Dunn APPROVED RESOLVED**
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 and to approve meeting/note minutes from meeting held: The Clerk reported that the external auditor had queried Boxes 7 and 8 on the AGAR and requested the figures in their own format. The Clerk confirmed the information had been resubmitted and an asset register correction made.
 - 6.2. **Recreation:** To update members on current activities and to approve meeting/note minutes from meeting held: Members discussed ongoing recreation projects and the need to convene a further meeting due to workload pressures and multiple active projects.
 - 6.3. **Neighbourhood Planning: Land at St Martin Close** - To update members on current activities to review and approve meeting/note minutes where required:
 - 6.3.1. Members received an update on arrangements for forthcoming village surgeries, including display boards, maps, explanatory material, and a statement clarifying the Parish Council's statutory role.
 - 6.3.2. Members are asked to approve the appointment of Dale Mayhew (Dowsett Mayhew Planning Partnership) to provide planning consultancy support to the Parish Council, including preparatory work relating to the proposed sites currently undergoing in combination testing as part of the District Plan Examination. Cllr Prescott, Cllr Read **APPROVED RESOLVED**
 - 6.3.3. To approve a budget allocation in the range of £8,000–£12,000 for this work.
Recommendation: That the Council appoint Dale Mayhew (Dowsett Mayhew Planning Partnership) to undertake this work and approve a budget of £10,000 noting that sufficient provision exists within the Council's approved budget. Cllr Dunn, Cllr Prescott **APPROVED RESOLVED**
 - 6.4. **Planning Committee:** Members to consider updates: To approve meeting minutes of meeting/notes (*attached*)
7. **Chairman's Report:** to receive verbal report for the Chair:
 - 7.1. To update members on the acquisition of Woodgate Pavilion, Pease Pottage from Thakeham Homes.
The Chairman updated members on the acquisition of the Woodgate Pavilion from Thakeham Homes. Members discussed forthcoming works including kitchen design, accessibility requirements, and anticipated timelines.
8. **Clerks Report** – to receive information, verbal or written report from the Clerk papers *cc'd in advance*
The Clerk provided updates on current workload, noting significant time pressures arising from District Plan Examination deadlines. Members discussed the impact on routine tasks and the need for additional engagement events following publication of the Inspector's next update.
9. **Finance Matters Payments and receipts** The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve:
 - 9.1. Payments and receipts The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve: To approve Bank Reconciliation for May 2026 - Approval in line with scheme delegation (*Ref: Bank Payment in advance*)
 - 9.2. The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve the schedule of payments for June 2026 previously distributed.
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:
Discussion included ongoing issues with changing road closure dates, communication delays from WSCC and National Highways, and localised speed concerns.
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:**
Members discussed the increasing administrative burden associated with managing bookings for Council buildings and the potential need for a dedicated booking or facilities support resource. The Clerk highlighted the growing workload, the forthcoming addition of further facilities, and the need for a strategic resourcing plan. This will be discussed at the next Finance Governance & Estates Committee for review.
14. **Date of next meeting/s –**

Signed: _____ Date: _____