



The Queen's Hall
High Street
Cuckfield
West Sussex
RH17 5EL

01444 454276

Noemi Ripert: Parish Clerk
clerk@cuckfield.gov.uk

Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held at 7.30pm on Thursday 11th June 2026

Present: Mr A Burton (Chair), Mr P Ceccherini, Mrs M Dormer, Mrs A King, Mrs A Kyle, Mr A Podmore, Mr S Symonds and Mrs J White

In attendance: Ms N Ripert (Clerk), Mrs L Lloyd (County Councillor) and Mr J Knight (District Councillor)

Public Question Time: None

FC028 To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs Oversby-Powell and Sheldon offered their apologies which were accepted.

FC029 To receive declarations of interest from Members in respect of any matter on the agenda. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If you become aware, during the meeting, of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item you must immediately disclose it
None

FC030 To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 7th May 2026

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 7th May 2026 were approved and signed.

FC031 To receive reports from the District Councillors and County Councillor

Apologies were received from Cllr Avery. Cllr Lloyd and Cllr Knight attended the meeting.

Cllr Lloyd provided an update on matters relating to WSCC, including the recent elections and the ongoing local government reorganisation. Since her appointment as County Councillor, Cllr Lloyd had met with residents and councillors to gain a better understanding of local priorities and concerns. Cllr Lloyd also confirmed her continued opposition to the proposed Cuck-Stye development and advised that she remained actively involved in raising the profile of the Say No to Cuck-Stye campaign. In addition, Cllr Lloyd reported that a meeting with Cllr White had been arranged for the following week to discuss local road safety concerns.

Cllr Knight provided an update on matters relating to MSDC. He advised that the Cuck-Stye appeal had been referred to the Secretary of State earlier that day. Cllr Knight further reported that the King's Counsel appointed to represent MSDC at the appeal had presented a strong case in opposition to the proposed development and had robustly set out the reasons why the scheme should not proceed.

Cllr Knight also provided a brief update on the District Plan review, noting that a further 35 potential sites had been identified and were currently under examination.

FC032 To receive a verbal report from the Chair

Cllr Burton welcomed Cllr Lloyd to her first Full Council meeting in her capacity as County Councillor.

Cllr Burton noted that the Cuck-Stye appeal was ongoing and that the outcome was difficult to predict at this stage. Cllr Burton referred to a report he had previously circulated regarding local water infrastructure concerns, highlighting the potential impact that the proposed development could have on an area already experiencing water-related issues. The report had been presented as part of the appeal process.

Cllr Burton expressed concern that the appeal had now been referred to the Secretary of State. Cllr Burton commented that it was difficult to anticipate the Government's position or the actions that might be taken and stressed the importance of securing support from the local MP at this critical stage.

FC033 To note the Full Council Action List

The action list was reviewed and noted.

FC034 To note and approve the Internal Auditor's Report

Council resolved to accept and approve the Internal Auditor's Report.

FC035 To ratify the recommendation made at the F&GP Committee to approve the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2026, Section 1 – Annual Governance Statements 2025/26

Council reviewed and resolved to approve the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2026, Section 1 – Annual Governance Statements 2025/26.

FC036 To ratify the recommendations made at the F&GP Committee to approve the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2026, Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2025/26

Council reviewed and resolved to approve the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2026, Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2025/26.

FC037 To approve Bank Reconciliation Statements for Unity Trust and CCLA accounts for April and May 2026

Council reviewed and approved the bank reconciliation statements for Unity Trust and CCLA accounts for April and May 2026.

FC038 To review and approve the current year to date budget and expenditure for 2026-27 (to 11th June 2026)

Council reviewed and approved the current year to date budget and expenditure for 2026-27.

FC039 To consider and adopt the council and committee meetings dates for 2027-2028

Council considered and provisionally approved the schedule of council and committee meetings dates for 2027-2028. Council noted that the Annual Meeting of the Council scheduled for 6th May 2027 may need to be rescheduled to the following week due to the local elections taking place on that date.

FC040 To consider and adopt the IT policy and Accessibility Statement that applies to the new Parish Council website

Council considered and approved the adoption of the IT Policy and Accessibility Statement.

Council suggested seeking advice from the IT support provider on whether guidance relating to the use of artificial intelligence tools, including Microsoft Copilot, should be incorporated into the IT Policy. Council also requested that the potential benefits and costs of an enterprise licence for Microsoft Copilot be explored.

In addition, Council suggested that the use of WhatsApp for council business be addressed within the policy.

FC041 To consider the quote for the installation of the ramp into the Angela Fox Nature Garden

Council considered the quotation and agreed in principle to proceed. Council however, noted that the proposed handrail material (Alvin Keylock handrail) was not considered to be

the most aesthetically suitable option for the location and agreed that alternative handrail options should be explored, including stainless steel or other materials that would provide a more visually appealing finish while meeting the required safety standards.

FC042 To receive an update on the organisation of the Big Summer Picnic 2026 scheduled for 5th July 2026

Council noted that arrangements for the event were progressing well and were under control. Stallholders had been confirmed, and the necessary services, including waste management, toilet facilities and security, had been arranged. The skate jam had been booked with a local provider, and the entertainment programme had been finalised, including the provision of a stage and marquee.

Council further noted that the event continued to be actively promoted and Councillors were encouraged to help publicise the event amongst local residents, family and friends.

FC043 To review the following grant applications and resolve whether to award the funds:

- a. **Application on behalf of the Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex to contribute towards the operating costs of HEMS - Helicopter Emergency Medical Service - helicopters, rapid-response vehicles, medical equipment, fuel, highly-trained crews.**

Council resolved to award a grant of £200.

FC044 To note the process for submitting Section 106 infrastructure requirement requests to the planning officer within the 3-week consultation period on individual planning applications and to consider a draft list of key infrastructure requirements for the parish to be submitted to the Section 106 & Infrastructure Manager by 1st September 2026

Council noted the process for submitting Section 106 infrastructure requirements and agreed to submit a list of key infrastructure requirements for the parish.

FC045 To receive an update on the proposed Cuckstye development

Council noted that Cllr Burton's update had been provided under the previous verbal report item.

FC046 Confidential Business: To consider whether to resolve to exclude the press, broadcast media and public (pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960) during +consideration of the following confidential business to be conducted.

a) Council assets

No updates were available at this time.

FC047 To note items arising after the preparation of this Agenda which the Chairman agrees to take as urgent. Such matters will be for noting only or deferral to a future meeting only

None

Meeting closed at 9.02pm

Signed _____

Future Meeting: 27th August 2026