



The Queen's Hall
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Cuckfield
West Sussex
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Noemi Ripert: Parish Clerk
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Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held at 8.30pm on Thursday 27th August 2026

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

In attendance: Ms N Ripert (Clerk) & Mr M Avery (District Councillor)

Public Question Time: None

FC048 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Burton offered his apologies which were accepted.

FC049 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

Cllrs King and Symonds declared interest regarding agenda item FC058 as trustees of the museum.

FC050 To approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 6th August 2026

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 6th August 2026 were approved and signed.

FC051 To receive reports from the District Councillors and County Councillor

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lloyd and Knight.

Cllr Avery attended the meeting and provided an update on matters relating to Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC). Members were advised that the Secretary of State was expected to make the final decision regarding the Cuckstye Appeal and that residents continued to lobby the Government on the matter.

Cllr Avery reported that South East Water's hosepipe ban, introduced on 20th July 2026, remained in force. He also advised that consultation on the District Plan had commenced and encouraged councils to submit comments before the closing date of 7th September 2026.

Members were further informed that the Government had published a revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) on 17th August 2026, which came into immediate effect and introduced a number of significant changes. Cllr Avery also reported that Local Government Reorganisation had been postponed until October 2026, with elections anticipated in May 2027 and the new unitary authorities expected to become operational from April 2028.

Cllr Avery advised that the village strategic traffic survey remained ongoing and that key issues continued to be discussed with Cllrs White and Lloyd.

Concerns were raised regarding the potential for unauthorised traveller encampments on the fields at Whitemans Green. Cllr Avery reassured Members that appropriate preventative measures were in place.

FC052 To receive a verbal report from the Chairman

No report was available at this time.

FC053 To note the Full Council Action List

The action list was reviewed and noted.

FC054 To note the signed External Auditor's Report to accompany the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2026

Council noted and approved the signed External Auditor's Report to accompany the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2026.

FC055 To approve Bank Reconciliation Statements for NS&I account for June and Unity Trust and CCLA accounts for June and July 2026

Council reviewed and approved the bank reconciliation statements for the NS&I account for June and Unity Trust and CCLA accounts for June and July 2026.

FC056 To review and approve the current year to date budget and expenditure for 2026-27 (to 27th August 2026)

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

FC057 To consider and adopt the council and committee meetings dates for 2027-2028

Council reviewed and agreed to the council and committee meetings dates proposed for 2027-2028.

FC058 To consider giving the Museum trustees access to Horsefield Green container to be used as a designated emergency storage base

Council agreed to grant the Museum trustees access to Horsefield Green container as a designated storage base in case of an emergency.

FC059 To consider the quotes for producing the 2027 Cuckfield Calendar

As opinions were divided, Council resolved to take a vote on the production of the 2027 Cuckfield Calendar. The motion received two votes in favour and seven against. It was therefore resolved that a Cuckfield Calendar would not be produced in 2027.

FC060 To ratify the amendments made to the Preschool Occupational Licence for 2026-27

Council ratified the amendments made to the Preschool Occupational Licence for 2026-27 previously agreed.

FC061 To receive an update on the progress of the new website

Council noted that the development of the new website was progressing well, with content continuing to be uploaded to the site. Members recognised that this represented a significant piece of work and acknowledged the considerable time and effort being invested by the Communications and Administration Officer. Council further noted that the project had proven to be more extensive than originally anticipated, involving the replication of content from the existing website, the creation of new pages, and the establishment of a structure that could be updated and amended as required in the future. Council instructed the Clerk to agree a target completion date for the website project with the Communications and Administration Officer.

FC062 To receive an update on the Section 106 key infrastructure requirement requests for the parish to be submitted to the Section 106 & Infrastructure Manager by 1st September 2026 and to identify projects to be allocated against the remaining balances in both the Local Community Infrastructure and Public Art categories

Council noted the updated Infrastructure Plan shortlist, which was to be shared with the Section 106 and Infrastructure Manager. Members discussed the allocation of the remaining balances within the relevant funding categories and agreed to propose the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device (SID) under the Local Community Infrastructure category and the installation of white village gateways incorporating an artistic design under the Public Art category.

Council further requested a detailed breakdown from the Section 106 and Infrastructure

Manager for each project to which Section 106 funds had been allocated, including the purpose for which the funds had been spent, the date of expenditure, and the amount expended.

FC063 To receive an update on the Summer Show 2027

Council noted that the Summer Show 2027 will be organised and managed by Mr Sheldon under the auspices of the Parish Council. Council was advised that 16th and 17th July 2027 had been provisionally booked for the event.

FC064 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.

FC065 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 9.22pm

Signed _____

Future Meeting: 22nd October 2026