

**Hamsey Parish Council**

[www.hamseyparish.gov.uk](http://www.hamseyparish.gov.uk)

Marie Owen, Clerk to Hamsey Parish Council  
Beechwood Hall & Rural Park, Beechwood Lane, Cooksbridge, BN7 3QG  
Tel: 07801 803252 Email: [clerk@hamseyparish.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hamseyparish.gov.uk)

Members of **HAMSEY PARISH COUNCIL** are summoned to attend the **meeting of Hamsey Parish Council** to be held on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7.15pm** at **Beechwood Hall & Rural Park.**

*Up to fifteen minutes only, are available at the start of the meeting for members of the public to have their correspondence addressed relating to a specific item on the agenda.*

*Should any member of the public wish to have the Council address any issue on the agenda then they may email the Parish Clerk directly on [clerk@hamseyparish.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hamseyparish.gov.uk) before 5pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024 or they may attend in person.*

*This meeting may be recorded for the purpose of minute taking.*

**1. Apologies for absence**

**2. Questions from the public**

**3. Declaration of interest from any Councillor regarding any item on the agenda**

**4. Minutes from the meetings held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024 to be agreed and signed as a true record**

**5. Update on any matters arising from last meeting – review and update actions - see action log at appendix 1 to this agenda**

**6. Financial matters**

**a) To approve payment of invoices as detailed (including v.a.t).**

**Current Account**

<b>Transaction number</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
V39	Kevin Ashdown – Parish Repairs	110.00
V40	Marie Owen – Salary	667.40
V41	HMRC	39.00
V42	Barcombe Landscapes – Grass Cutting	228.00
V43	Marie Owen – Salary	667.40
V44	HMRC	39.00
V45	Marie Owen – Printer Ink	11.99
V46	N Kinch – Printing	32.02
V47	Kevin Ashdown – Parish Repairs	231.00
V48	Marie Owen – Dog Bag Dispenser	105.00
V49	D James – Bus Shelter Cleaning	20.00
V50	PFK Littlejohn – External Audit	378.00

**b) To note the Council's current financial situation**

Detailed below is the expenditure and income for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Audit	710.00	
Capital Expenses	-	
Grants	305.00	
Grounds maintenance	595.00	
Office expenses/administration	4,123.42	Includes clerk's salary
Other expenses	550.41	
Premises	4,508.91	
Subscriptions	787.11	
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,579.85</b>	

<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Precept	19,125.00	
Lottery Grant	-	
VAT reclaim	-	
CIL payment	-	
Bank Interest	85.32	
Other payments	186.00	Urban Grass Cutting
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,396.32</b>	

<b>Balance per bank statement as at 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>	<b>£</b>
Unity Trust - current account	18,846.05
Unity Trust - savings account	12,529.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,376.00</b>

**c) To review and adopt the new Accounting Regulations.**

**d) To note and approve the external auditors comments on the 2023/2024 AGAR and to approve the Conclusion of the Audit.**

## **7. Councillors' Roles**

## **8. Policies**

## **9. Planning matters - to receive any report from the planning committee:**

**a) Applications still awaiting decision/in progress (as at 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024)**

**LW/24/0292 – 2 Malthouse Hall, Cooksbridge**

Flat- roofed rear garden room.

**SDNP/24/02198/TCA – The Blacksmith Arms, The Street, Offham**

T1 – Beech – Reduce by 2-3m all round to natural pruning points.

T2 – Horse Chestnut – Reduce by 2-3m all round to natural pruning points.

**b) Applications determined/approved since last meeting.**

**c) New Applications**

**SDNP/24/01819/FUL – The Granary Mill Laine Barns, Mill Laine Farm, The Street, Offham.**

Retrospective change of use from furnish holiday lates to residential accommodation.

**d) Discussion on new developments and the implications for the Parish.**

**10. Grant Applications**

To consider any grant applications received

**11. Beechwood Hall Working Group – Cllrs Henry and McBrown**

To receive any reports from Beechwood Hall working group

**12. Environment**

To discuss any Environmental issues affecting the Parish

**13. Highway and Traffic issues - Cllr McBrown**

To discuss any Highway and Traffic issues

**14. To consider Rail and Bus issues – Cllr McBrown and Cllr Sanders**

To discuss any rail and bus issues

**15. Police/ Neighbourhood Watch - Cllr McBrown**

To discuss any Police & Neighbourhood watch issues

**16. General improvements to Parish**

To discuss general improvements to the Parish

- a) Agree to support the Church window display.
- b) Discuss and agree the Urban Grass Cutting Contract 2025.

**17. Reports from meetings**

To receive any additional reports from meetings attended by Councillors or Clerk

**18. Events**

**19. Footpaths and rights way**

To discuss footpaths and rights of way within the Parish

- a) Shooting near Copyhold Farm.

**20. Neighbourhood Plan**

- a) To write and adopt a Parish Priority Statement with regards to planning.

**21. Communication**

**22. Correspondence**

To note correspondence received since the last meeting and any action required.

Please see July and August correspondence logs previously circulated.

- a) To review the vexatious policy and agree to terminate.

**23. Future agenda items**

To discuss and note future agenda items/reports

**24. Date for next meeting**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

**Signed**..... **Dated**.....  
Marie Owen – Hamsey Parish Clerk/RFO

*Notes*

- 1. Agenda Item 22 relevant to any correspondence received – see monthly spreadsheet circulated previously. This spreadsheet includes various correspondence received weekly including newsletters from: NALC, Chief Executive Bulletin, Rural Bulletin, CPRE, Public Sector Executive and planning application details from LDC and SDNPA and meeting invitations and agendas.*
- 2. Should any resident like to see a copy of the monthly correspondence log please contact the Parish Clerk on [clerk@hamseyparish.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hamseyparish.gov.uk)*

**Appendix 1 – Action Log**

<b>July 2024 Meeting</b>		<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Completed</b>
1	Bike racks	CH	Bike racks on order. Awaiting delivery and fitting.
2	Lost woods Project – proposals to move forward the project	MC	Resident has kindly taken up this with the Woodland Trust and is receiving free training.
3	Lack of signage near Bevernbridge	KMcB	SLR Meeting on 24 <sup>th</sup> September
4	Phone Books funding	KMcB/AS	Looking at other funding options.
5	Speak with Antler Homes re issues and opportunities	MC	To email Antler re community centre.
6	Email ESCC School Patrol Officer	CH/KMcB	Ongoing. KMcB to discuss at SLR meeting.
7	Find out from Development and Control about double yellow lines	RB	First stage of appraisal by Highways. Some local resistance due to school drop offs.
8	Review Grant Policy	PC/CH	Ongoing
9	Fitting of noticeboards	MC	Yes
10	Contact Dan W re crash barriers in Bevernbridge	MC/KMcB	SLR Meeting
11	Signage for bins at Beechwood	RB	Yes
12	Send social media policy to RB	PC	Yes
13	Speak to headmaster re parking	CM	
14	Ask contactor to fix hook to phone books door	PC	Yes
15	Send meeting dates to District Councillors	PC	Yes

## **Appendix 2 – Councillor’s Reports**

### **Report from East Sussex County Councillor Matthew Milligan September 2024**

During the summer I continued to regularly report potholes and other road defects and undertook various casework from local residents.

The updates from county are:

#### Local authority fostering partnership launched

Families in East Sussex considering fostering with their local authority will now be supported by a regional hub.

Launched in early July, Local Authority Fostering South East is a new virtual fostering hub in partnership with other councils across the South East. The aim is to increase the number of foster carers across the region.

The new hub, funded by the Department for Education, will ensure prospective foster carers have access to a centralised platform for enquiries, working collaboratively to provide the best support. Prospective foster carers will also benefit from a new fostering ambassador scheme, which enables them to speak to an existing carer to learn more about the realities of fostering.

With more than 11,000 children in care across the South East, and fewer than 3,000 local authority approved foster carers, there is an urgent need to recruit more people able to provide safe, loving, and local homes for vulnerable children.

Local authority foster carers benefit from comprehensive local training, generous financial assistance, and ongoing support from a non-profit organisation.

More information regarding the scheme is available [here](#).

#### Increased investment in East Sussex’s road patching

Investment in the county’s road patching programme will be doubled after a £1 million boost was agreed in July. This is in addition to the £1 million already committed for patching this year, and annual spending of £2.5 million for pothole repairs.

The additional funding is from the council’s capital budget for one-off projects, and brings the total investment in highways over the past three years to £85 million.

Increasingly wet winters have impacted East Sussex roads, resulting in a significant increase in the number of potholes forming. The council’s new highways contractor has increased the number of repair gangs over the last 12 months in a bid to deal with the increase. There will now be 400 patching upgrades over the next 12 months, with priority for the most in need, especially on A and B roads.

The new spending brings the council’s additional investment in roads to £22.5 million over the past three years.

More information regarding this investment can be found [here](#).

#### Congratulations to East Sussex students as exam results announced

Council leaders have praised the efforts of young people across East Sussex as they received their A Level, Technical and Vocational qualifications, and GCSEs this month.

Advice for parents and young people who have just completed their GCSEs on potential next steps available including further education, work experience and volunteering, traineeships, apprenticeships, T Levels and support for young people with additional needs can be found at [www.careerseastsussex.co.uk](http://www.careerseastsussex.co.uk).

The Youth Employability Service also provides one to one support for 16 to 18 year olds who may need extra support with the next step in their education, employment or training. Career advice, support and guidance is available at [www.cxk.org/services/youth-employability-service-yes](http://www.cxk.org/services/youth-employability-service-yes), and at [www.cxk.org/resources/east-sussex-18-resources](http://www.cxk.org/resources/east-sussex-18-resources) for 18-year olds.

Young people, parents and carers can find information on the help available to support their mental health and wellbeing at [eastsussex.gov.uk/mentalhealthresources](http://eastsussex.gov.uk/mentalhealthresources).

The Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust is also offering help for students via a text messaging service. Students are encouraged to text the word SUSSEX to 85258 to access support.

More information on results days can be found [here](#).

## Councillor Carolyn Henry

August and September 2024

### Areas of work

Areas of responsibility	Activities
Beechwood Hall	<p>I continue to be the Safeguarding trustee of the hall and have attended another online training session to keep up my skills in Safeguarding. I have also reviewed the new British standard guidance to ensure we comply.</p> <p>I continue to work closely with Rachel the accountant and Marie the Parish Clerk to ensure we have the processes and procedures in place as well as a suitable access to funds through our bank.</p> <p>I have worked with Kelly and Kevin on projects and ideas to maintain the hall and the park, such as fixing the outside toilet door and painting the inside where needed.</p>
Community Events	<p>I coordinated the distribution of the flyers for the theatre event on the 25<sup>th</sup> October and the tickets are now on sale. I have organised the refreshments ready for the event.</p> <p>I coordinated the community event on the 31<sup>st</sup> August which was a great success. Many families turned up for the day and the feedback was great.</p> <p>Planning is starting for the 14<sup>th</sup> December light trail. A save the date was put in the Hamsey news.</p> <p>I have also supported on coordinating the distribution of the Hamsey News as the volunteer is now not available to do that.</p>
Meet Up with Mini's	<p>I am discussing the future options with local parents of younger children and also looking for children's groups that would like to book in the hall to provide local groups for younger children.</p>

	Ideas include a Halloween special during half term and also a Christmas bouncy castle party as we did last year which was well received.
GDPR	No updates
Emergency Planning	No updates
Projects	I am attending the road safety meeting.  I am coordinating with the SDNP on a grant to get the bike park at beechwood.

## **CLlr Amanda Sanders, Report September 2024**

### **Phone Books Library**

Myself and Inclusion Officer, Natalie Kinch re-stocked the Phone Books again on 29<sup>th</sup> July. Kevin has also fitted a bolt to the bottom of the door which can be hooked into a hole in the ground. This makes it much easier when re-stocking as we can hook the door open, and hopefully it will help others as well.

### **Rail and Bus issues**

Following an email from ESCC Transport regards bus service changes from 1<sup>st</sup> September. I have checked the changes document and we have no changes to all the services (121, 122 and 166) that affect the Hamsey Area. I have also read through the fare reductions document on ESCC website and nothing has changed since April 2024. The fare reductions are continuing until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

### **Cooksbridge Area issues**

Sadly, due to ongoing sickness there is nothing to report back on all the issues we raised in June with the new Caseworker for the Cooksbridge Area. I have since been communicating with his manager who has apologised regards staffing shortage, and we have agreed we will try and move forward with all the issues, including gardening, trees and Downs View car park.

In the meantime, he was able to organise a green waste collection from LDC, both for the first volunteer gardening day, which has already happened, and the second, which is next Sunday.

### **Volunteer Gardening, Phone Books Area + Little Mead and Chandlers Mead**

Inclusion Officer Natalie Kinch designed some leaflets for our gardening days. CLlr Kate McBrown did some laminating and they put up some posters around the area; and I delivered the leaflets in Little Mead and Chandlers Mead. Natalie also did a risk assessment for the days.

The first date was Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August and although only Kate, Natalie, myself and their partners came to help, we actually got quite a bit done, and also a big thank you to Robert McBrown who went back and did more work one morning last week.

We have planned what we would like to do for this Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> September, and hope we might see a few more volunteers for that day. If anyone would like to join us, we are meeting at the Phone



Date of Issue: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Books at about 10.30am...and even an hour would be great. We will also put a post on the Hamsey Facebook. If you fancy popping along, please bring your own tools and gloves, etc.

When we meet, we'll discuss whether people think it might be worth doing any more. I would still like to make the area look nice, but knowing human nature and busy lives we obviously need to plan that as little upkeep work as possible is required going forwards.