



**Hamsey Parish Council**

**www.hamseyparish.gov.uk**

*Marie Owen, Clerk to Hamsey Parish Council*

*Beechwood Hall & Rural Park, Beechwood Lane, Cooksbridge, East Sussex, BN7 3QG*

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**Draft Minutes of the meeting of HAMSEY PARISH COUNCIL  
held at Beechwood Hall & Rural Park on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026, 7.15pm**

**Present:**

Cllr M Cadwallader  
Cllr L McKenzie  
Cllr T Gaydon

Cllr D Bush  
Cllr C Henry  
Cllr K McBrown

**Apologies:**

Cllr N Osborne

**In Attendance:**

Marie Owen (Parish Clerk) Minutes  
Cllr Andy Holman Barcombe Parish Council

*The meeting started at 7.15pm*

**12.03.01 Apologies for absence**  
Cllr Osborne's apologies were accepted.

**12.03.02 Questions from the Public**

Cllr Holman of Barcombe Parish Council spoke about the Parish's Design Statement and how it is being used to communicate the village's expectations to developers regarding the design of new developments. The document covers a range of issues including the appearance of houses, the protection of important views, access arrangements such as cycle paths, improvements to roads, and ecological considerations.

The Design Statement was prepared by a working party of twelve people, made up of both councillors and members of the public. Residents were invited to view the draft and provide comments at the village hall, and it was also made available on the parish website.

**12.03.03 Declarations of interest from any Councillor regarding items on the agenda.**  
No declarations of interest were made.

**12.03.04 The minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026 were agreed and signed.**

**12.03.05 Update on any matters arising from the last meeting.**  
All actions on the action log are in progress or completed.

### **12.03.06 Financial Matters**

**a) To approve the Invoice payments made since the last meeting (including VAT).**

All payments were approved. **Proposed: Cllr Henry. Seconded: Cllr Bush**

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

The current financial position was noted and agreed. Bank balances as at 29<sup>th</sup> February 2026 for the current account was £26,087.78 and the balance on the savings account was £63,597.17.

### **12.03.07 Policies**

The Clerk outlined the Data Retention Policy and the ICO model publication scheme, explaining the requirement for the Council to be compliant with Assertion 10 ahead of the next audit.

**Proposed: Cllr Cadwallader. Seconded: Cllr Gaydon.**

### **12.03.08 Planning matters**

All planning applications in progress, refused and determined since the last meeting were noted.

#### **New Developments.**

Cllr McKenzie spoke about the need to establish when the Cala Homes application will be considered by the Planning Committee and to be prepared with a concise speech when required.

**Action: Cllr McKenzie to prepare speech.**

### **12.03.09 Grant Applications**

There were none.

### **12.03.10 Beechwood Hall working group – update.**

Cllr Henry reported that the recent Beechwood Hall meeting had gone well in a less formal environment and that the hall was currently aiming to break even. She was congratulated on successfully securing a further £2,000 grant.

The Hall Manager reported that the first of the ten weddings scheduled for this year had gone well and that photographs had been posted on the website.

Cllr McKenzie stated that parking in Beechwood Lane during the recent celebration of life had been dangerous. The Hall Manager responded that the number of attendees was a one-off and that the issue was unlikely to occur again.

Cllr Gaydon asked about the pricing structure for the wedding packages and asked if people would pay for extra visits. It was agreed that we wished to have a clear “all in” price for weddings. Cllr Gaydon was invited to the next Beechwood Hall meeting.

It was noted that the SDNP application for CIL funding closes on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 and that we could apply for adding to the solar panels.

**Action: Cllr Bush to apply to SDNP for CIL funding for solar panels.**

### **12.03.11 Environment**

The Parish Clerk stated that Cllr Slater was establishing a working group named LEAF. Lewes Ecology Advisory Forum in the north of the district to provide local ecology knowledge to planning applications. The Councillors were asked to think of residents that would have expertise.

### **12.03.12 Highway and traffic issues**

Cllr McKenzie stated that a formal complaint should be submitted to East Sussex Highways, as the service they are providing is considered to be poor.

Proposed: Cllr McKenzie. Seconded: Cllr Cadwallader.

**Action: Cllr McKenzie to compile formal complaint for agreement.**

<https://live.eastsussexhighways.com/report-problem> - to report highways issues.

### **12.03.13 Rail and bus issues.**

Cllr McBrown stated that she had attending the last rail committee meeting and that there are some road closures due to carry out works on the lights on the crossing. She also stated that local artists are being requested to provide art for the station.

### **12.03.14 Police/Neighbourhood watch issues**

Please report any issues of fly tipping using the address below:

<https://lovecleanstreets.info>

### **12.03.15 General Improvements to the Parish**

It was agreed to apply for CIL funding from both the South Downs National Park and Lewes District Council for the village sign. Cllr Cadwallader has obtained a quote from a forge in Kent that has been producing high-quality village signs for 40 years.

**Action: Cllr Henry to apply for CIL funding.**

### **12.03.16 Reports from meetings attended**

The Parish Clerk reported that she had attended the Town and Parish Council Engagement Steering Group and had provided the Parish's feedback on the recent consultation evening held at Beechwood Hall. She explained that the next stage of the Local Plan process will be the Regulation 19 consultation, which focuses on the legal compliance of the document. Local residents will require guidance from the Parish Council on how to respond.

### **12.03.17 Events**

28<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Easter Trail and Spring Market  
5<sup>th</sup> September Community Day  
15<sup>th</sup> November 2026 Theatre  
Weekend 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> December 2026 Christmas Events

### **12.03.18 Footpaths and rights of way**

Nothing to add.

### **12.03.19 Neighbourhood Plan and Rural Design Code**

Nothing to add.

**12.03.20 Communication**

**Action: Cllr Gaydon to take over the regular posting on the Parish Council WhatsApp group.**

**12.03.21 Correspondence**

Nothing to add.

**12.03.22 Future agenda items**

**12.03.23 Date for next meeting**

**Tuesday 19<sup>st</sup> May 2026. 7:30pm.**

**Please note the change of date and time. Annual Parish Meeting to be held at 7pm.**

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The Chair thanked all for attending and the meeting ended at 10.20pm

Signed .....Chair

Date.....

Minutes taken and prepared by Marie Owen, Parish Clerk/RFO

## Appendix 1 – Action Log

Number	Regarding	Responsibility	Action
1	Bike racks	LMcK	Awaiting to hear from LDC planning.
2	Speak with Antler Homes re issues and opportunities & drawings.	MC	Send email asking for freehold.
3	Children crossing signs for Bevernbridge	CH	To find out price for sign from Highways. Awaiting.
4	Rural Design Code & Neighbourhood Plan	MC	Ongoing. Think about next steps.
5	Mood board for village sign	MC	Ask school to design.
6	Request notification on road closures and request hatchings at end of Beechwood Lane and school.	KMcB	Not possible for school. Looking into Beechwood Lane.
7	Cycleway	MC	Ben from SDNP to liaise with landowners.
8	Report overhanging trees and barriers to Highways	KMcB	Ongoing.
9	Inform Highways to go ahead with dropped kerb	CH	Balfour Beatty saying that there is a problem with location. Awaiting more details.
10	Speak to school re parking	LMcK	Email school asking them to send out reminder details of yellow lines.
11	Investigate cost and process of vehicle activated sign	CH	Awaiting info
12	Investigate use of WhatsApp Communities	TG	Done. TG to take over posting.
13	Look into TPO's	LMcK	
14	Look into tree legacy	MC	Problem as not owners.
15	Collate all outstanding highways issues	KMcB	
16	Prepare speech for Cala Homes application to committee	LMcK	
17	Apply to SDNP CIL for solar panels for Beechwood Hall	DB	
18	Prepare formal complaint to East Sussex Highways Department	LMcK	
19	Apply for CIL funding for village sign	CH	
20	Ask Bernie to advertise stalls for Easter Market	CH	