



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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Minutes of the meeting of HAMSEY PARISH COUNCIL

held at Beechwood Hall & Rural Park on Thursday 10th September 2026, 7.15pm

Present:

Cllr D Bush	Cllr L McKenzie
Cllr C Henry	Cllr T Gaydon
Cllr N Osborne	Cllr K McBrown

Apologies:

Cllr M Cadwallader

In Attendance:

Marie Owen (Parish Clerk) Minutes
District Cllr Mark Slater
District Cllr Joa Sanders

The meeting started at 7.15pm

10.09.01 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Cadwallader and accepted. Cllr Henry was elected Chair for the meeting.

Proposed: Cllr McBrown. Seconded: Cllr Bush

10.09.02 Questions from the Public

District Cllr Slater gave an update on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), which is currently on hold until further notice. District, Town and Parish elections will be held in May 2027, and it appears District Councillors will serve a two-year term. He explained the implications of the LGR hold for the Lewes District Local Plan: the Local Plan cannot now progress, and the next steps remain unknown. LDC could agree to a 30-month Development Plan, but this would mean accepting the housing numbers put forward by the Government.

Cllr Slater also updated the Council on the Cala housing application. He stated that a meeting for environmental stakeholders was due to take place, but felt this was aimed only at mitigating damage to the river caused by the building works, rather than preventing the application from succeeding. Cllr McKenzie would be present at this meeting.

Cllr Henry asked how the Parish Council could influence the planning application by gaining Section 106 funds for infrastructure. Cllr Slater stated that the Parish Council could do this during the 5 minutes the Parish Council is given to speak during the planning meeting. Cllr Henry asked Cllr Slater to support the local community in this process.

Action:

All: Put together a "wish list" for S106 infrastructure improvements.

10.09.03 Declarations of interest from any Councillor regarding items on the agenda.

No declarations of interest were made.

10.09.04 The minutes of the meeting held on the 9th July 2026 were agreed and signed.

10.09.05 Update on any matters arising from the last meeting.

All actions on the action log are in progress or completed.

10.09.06 Financial Matters

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

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

b) To note the Council's current financial position

The current financial position was noted and agreed. Bank balances as at 25th August 2026 for the current account was £7,296.44 and the balance on the savings account was £79,274.42.

Proposed: Cllr Osborne. Seconded: Cllr Bush.

c) To accept the engagement letter for the internal auditors, Mulberry and to consider their independence.

The engagement letter was accepted and it was agreed that Mulberry were confirmed to be independent to the Parish Council.

Proposed: Cllr Henry. Seconded: Cllr McKenzie.

d) To review and confirm the external audit and its conclusion.

The Parish Clerk noted that there were no comments from the external auditors and the conclusion of the audit had been publicised on the website and noticeboards.

Proposed: Cllr Bush. Seconded: Cllr McBrown.

10.09.07 Policies

a) Emergency Plan

The Parish Clerk stated that she had had a phone meeting with the Emergency Plan Coordinator at LDC regarding the Hamsey Parish Emergency Plan. Beechwood Hall is now established as a Rest Centre, and contact details have been exchanged.

Action: PC and Cllr Henry to complete the Emergency Plan and copy to LDC.

10.09.08 Planning matters

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

10.09.09 Grant Applications.

There were none.

10.09.10 Beechwood Hall working group – update.

The AGM for Beechwood Hall is booked for the **8th October 2026**.

Cllr Henry was pleased to announce that Beechwood Hall had received £1,000 for the baby group from Tesco Blue Coins. It was agreed that there would be a young children's event on Friday 4th December. Most likely soft play.

Cllr Henry thanked Tamsyn d'Arienzo for the kind donation of £265 to Beechwood Hall via Amex.

Cllr Henry asked for ideas for spending the £2000 youth grant. Cllr Osborne stated that some of the youth club attendees would like some board games.

Cllr McBrown suggested a trip to Lewes on the train to visit the cinema.

Cllr Henry stated that a local company had offered to teach the children and an accompanying adult how to make sushi.

Cllr Gaydon recommended VR headsets.

Cllr Osborne said that he was keen to have defibrillator and general first aid training for the community.

It was agreed that some of the grant funds would be used for the theatre booked for November.

Action: NO to ask youth club what board games they would like. PC to purchase.

Action: NO to ask if the youth club attendees would like a cinema trip and the cooking course.

Action: PC to arrange defib training with St John's Ambulance.

10.09.11 Environment

It was noted that the People's Emergency Briefing will be shown at Beechwood Hall on the 22nd September.

10.09.12 Highway and traffic issues

Cllr Henry reported the dangerous pathway by Downsview Cottages.

Action: Cllr McBrown to report and send photos to Highways.

Cllr McBrown stated that she is still trying to get the hedges cut back in Bevernbridge.

It was noted that the hedge on the A275 at the end of Beechwood Lane is overgrown.

Action: Cllr McBrown to report.

Action: Cllr Gaydon to send details of what is needed regarding a yellow box for Chatfield Close to Cllr McBrown for her to report.

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

10.09.13 Rail and bus issues.

Cllr McBrown stated that she had reported the lack of bins at Cooksbridge station to the National Rail Meeting and they were not aware that they had been removed.

Cllr Gaydon stated that the railway sign was reported to be dirty.

Action: Members of the Rail committee to report dirty sign.

10.09.14 Police/Neighbourhood watch issues

Cllr McBrown reported that she had asked the PCSO for our area to attend the Parish Council meeting and had received no reply.

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

<https://lovecleanstreets.info>

10.09.15 General Improvements to the Parish

Cllr Henry was disappointed to report that we had not been successful in gaining CIL funding from SDNP for the village signs and solar panels for Beechwood Hall. It was noted that an application has also been made to LDC for CIL funding.

Cllr Henry reported that three quotes had been received for refurbishing the Meridan sign by the Monday Group. It was agreed to go with Lasercut Uckfield.

Proposed: Cllr Henry. Seconded: Cllr Gaydon.

Action: MC/PC to ask the Monday Group to arrange the repair.

10.09.16 Reports from meetings attended

Nothing to report.

10.09.17 Events

31st October 3pm – 5pm. Children’s Halloween Event.

15th November 2026 Theatre

Weekend 4th -6th December 2026 Christmas Events

10.09.18 Footpaths and rights of way

Nothing to report.

10.09.19 Neighbourhood Plan and Rural Design Code

Nothing to add.

10.09.20 Communication

It was agreed to purchase “leaflet holders” to hold the Hamsey News at Offham bus stop and Hamsey.

Action: PC to purchase.

10.09.21 Correspondence

Nothing to add.

10.09.22 Future agenda items

Nothing to add.

10.09.23 Date for next meeting

Thursday 12th November 2026. 7:15pm.

The Chair thanked all for attending and the meeting ended at 10:07pm

SignedChair

Date.....

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

Appendix 1 – Action Log

Number	Regarding	Responsibility	Action
1	Bike racks	LMcK/NO	Kevin Ashdown to fix in place.
2	Children crossing signs for Bevernbridge	CH	To find out price for sign from Highways. Awaiting. Send to Cllr Keenan
3	Rural Design Code & Neighbourhood Plan	MC	Meeting with LMcK, TG & DB in September
4	Mood board for village sign	MC/TG	Design Complete. Get quotes for specific design.
5	Cycleway	TG/PC	Ongoing. PC to put the PC response to the discharge of conditions on the planning portal. Email Send
6	Inform Highways to go ahead with dropped kerb	CH	Awaiting reply from Senior Transport Officer.
7	Investigate cost and process of vehicle activated sign	CH	Awaiting info. Email Cllr Keenan
8	Prepare speech for Cala Homes application to committee	LMcK	Ongoing. Add S106 conditions.
9	Ask Monday Group to repair Meridan Sign	MC/PC	Ask Monday Group to go ahead with Lasercut Uckfield. Emailed.
10	Investigate new house in Bevernbridge	LMcK	
11	Advertise for a team of cleaners for Beechwood Hall	KMcB	Pass PC details to local cleaner.
12	Review wedding brochure	MC	
13	Chatfield Close yellow box	KMcB/TG	TG to send details to KMcB
14	Covers flower planters	MC	
15	Purchase bulbs	MC	
16	Purchase leaflet holders.	PC	Done
17	Report to Mark Slater on new Waste Laws	DB	
18	Emergency Plan	PC/CH	
19	Ask youth club what games	NO	
20	Ask youth club re cinema & cooking	NO	
21	Arrange Defib training	PC	
22	Report Downsview Cottages path	KMcB	
23	Report hedges at end of Beechwood Lane	KMcB	
24	Report dirty railway signs	KMcB/NO/DB	