

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 16th February 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Mrs A Gillett
Cllr Mr T Brooks
Cllr Mr A Campbell
Cllr Mrs N Goddard
Cllr Mr A Persson
Cllr Mr A Vernon

In attendance: Cllr Mr G Evans, Cllr Mr C Todhunter

20. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Mr T Piedade (holiday)

21. Disclosures of Interest:

Cllr A Gillett and Cllr A Persson declared an interest in planning application **26/00099/DOM** & **26/00100/LBC** as a neighbour of the property.

22. Public Participation:

There was one member of the public in attendance.

23. Approval of Meeting Minutes

To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th January 2026 be signed as a correct record.

24. Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Janet Dunton

At the moment it gets difficult to give lots of news. Yes, of course everything we should be doing as a County is continuing but the uncertainty over our future still sits in the background. That said we will continue to deliver our Services as always.mention of Highways here. They are working 24/7 because of the terrible weather that has caused many problems, not only on the roads and drains but on some of the rights of way as well. They are, I can assure you, working flat out

So here are just a few things that have been happening. I'll start with Trading Standards. I do give up dates as to the happenings in this department and believe me they do their best to keep us safe from unscrupulous trades people, food outlets and Scams etc.

Their biggest success recently was the prosecution at Portsmouth Crown Court of a retailer in Bognor who was supplying illegal Tobacco and Vapes and can you believe storing them in Orange juice cartons, I believe this is not a first event and he was found guilty and charged £105.000 . Lets hope it's taught him a lesson and perhaps others who may be trying the same scam pause to think about what they are doing.

A new length of the King Charles the 111 Coastal Path is being carried out by West Sussex in agreement with the other local authorities from Southampton. This will be a National long distance trail and with more walking in the open air it should make for a lovely walk and on a sunny day what could be nicer than walking along the coast.

The budget will be finalised at this months County Council and it has been agreed by the Cabinet. No surprise to most of you that it is likely to be 4.99% again and this does give us a balanced budget without cutting our Services. All in all we spend somewhere in the region of 2.3billion so it's no mean sum.

You may have heard that Councils are looking at closing Libraries in parts of the Country. Well West Sussex isn't and long may this be so. You will all know that although we don't want Libraries closed most do have other activities in them as shared space. For instance in Petworth Library there is not only small groups for several age groups but Petworth Town Council has all it's business run from the Library so the Clerk also gets his office there and a small space for anyone wanting a private chat. It's working well, all the books are on movable shelving so when it's Council meetings they just have to be rolled away and the tables and chairs put in their place.

Something you have already been told about is that the District and Borough Councils are starting to collect food waste and that is because we now have the special facility to accept it. Chichester I believe starts in March.

When collected County take it to an Anaerobic digestion Plan near Horsham where it is turned into Fertilizer for Crops and energy for power. This must be a win win.

The normal plea. We still need retained Fire and Rescue recruits and a desperate need for Foster Parents. If you know anyone that would be interested in either of those please ask them to look on the County web site. The Cabinet member for Children and Education is taking part in a 10K run with other members of the Fostering team to try and raise awareness of the need.

There is nothing I can say about the future of devolved Government except to say that the Government have confirmed the new Strategic authority for East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove and our Cabinet have approved the recommendation from Government. What we don't know yet is if there is or is not a County election in May. Hopefully we will have a definitive answer on this soon.

Janet Dunton
County Councillor Petworth division

Cllr Gareth Evans / Cllr Charles Todhunter

Local Updates

Foxbridge Golf Club – The application for the wellbeing and leisure development at the former Foxbridge Golf Club is now scheduled not coming to planning committee in February with the earliest expected date to be April. This is due to the length of time that the application has been live, and officers now need to reconsult on several aspects which are no longer up to date. We continue to support the Parish Councils in opposing this application, which is not suitable for the area and our infrastructure. It is noted that whilst there is strong opposition to this, there are also many supportive comments. We will be asking officers that a robust S106 is in place to safeguard against aspects such as change of use.

Local Government Reorganisation – West Sussex County Council made a request to central government that the county council elections be postponed due to ongoing preparation for devolution. West Sussex County Council was one of twenty nice local authorities who made this request. Whilst it has been accepted by central government it is subject to a legal challenge and as such CDC, who administer the election, will continue with preparations in the event the decision is overturned.

CDC Wide Updates

Food Waste Recycling – As previously communicated this is due to be rolled out across the district in May 2026. CDC will commence communication to residents throughout February (placed on residents bins) outlining what they can expect to receive. Throughout March kitchen caddies and outside bins will be delivered to residents. This is a huge project covering 300 square miles so the service will need to be delivered in stages across the district.

Keep in touch with CDC – to keep up to date with everything going on at CDC please do sign up to their newsletter and messenger channel:

www.chichester.gov.uk/newsalerts

www.messenger.com/channel/ChichesterDistrictCouncil

Business Survey - The Business Survey went live 23 January and will remain open until 11.59pm on Friday 6 March 2026. Please encourage any businesses that you know to respond and you can reassure them that their responses will be treated confidentially. Businesses can complete the survey via this link <https://app.snapsea.io/p/c/chichester/businesssurvey>

The survey asks businesses about the local economic conditions they operate in, the opportunities for growth and development, and the challenges they face. It also seeks to understand premises demand, future growth ambitions, and explores the impacts of climate change on businesses and their journey towards achieving net zero. The results of this will provide valuable insights into the support local businesses may need now and in the future.

Supporting you Team - The Supporting You Team continues to make a real difference to residents and the success of this team is very evident. The team can take referrals from members, using the email supportingyou@chichester.gov.uk or by directing residents to refer themselves online at via the team pages at: <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyoucampaign> A budgeting calculator is available for residents to use at: <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/benefitsandbudgetingcalculator> This can be used by residents to self-serve or to work with a Supporting You Officer to identify budget changes and quick wins such as applying for discounts and benefits or accessing social tariffs. If you have any groups that you feel would benefit from hosting a 'Supporting You' advice session or would be open to working with the team further please get in touch.

Surgeries

Cllr. Gareth Evans is available to meet residents face to face via one of his regular surgeries. Gareth will be available at the advertised venues from 12pm-2pm:

February: Saturday 7th, Northchapel Club, Saturday 28th Stag Inn Ebernoe

March: Saturday 7th Wisborough Green (Old Mill Café)

25. Correspondence

Correspondence had been received regarding the illuminated sign at Orchard Park being left on overnight.

Correspondence had been received from a resident regarding parking issues in Townfield.

Correspondence had been received from a resident regarding dangerous driving on the A272.

26. Chairperson's Announcements

A spring clean would be arranged for April/May.

The Foresters Arms would be re-opening on 20th February after a two week closure.

27. Finance

- a) Bank Reconciliation – this was approved
- b) Summary of receipts and payments – this was approved
- c) Payments for approval – these were approved

Grant application from BEAT. This was agreed in the sum of £500

28. Planning

Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plan

22/02346/OUT | Outline application for a wellbeing and leisure development comprising up to 121 holiday units; the construction of a spa with accommodation of up to 50 bedrooms; the conversion of the former clubhouse into a restaurant and farm shop; the formation of a new vehicular access from Foxbridge Lane, new internal roads, footpaths, cycle routes and car parking areas; the construction of a concierge building and new hard and soft landscaping, including the formation of new ponds. All matters reserved except for means of access. | Foxbridge Golf Club Foxbridge Lane Plaistow West Sussex RH14 0LB. It was agreed to object to this application.

26/00021/DOM | Construction of external pool, pool house and associated landscaping. | High Barn Farm Plaistow Road Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0JS. No objection.

26/00099/DOM & 26/00100/LBC | Replacement and relocation of existing swimming pool. | Herons Farm Village Road Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0ND. No objection

KD/26/00049/TPA - Tree Apps (TCA's and TPA's) Proposal: Reduce by 3m and crown lift by up to 8m (above ground level over road) on east sector and reduce west sector by 0.5m on 1 no, Oak tree (T1) subject to KD/98/00593/TPO. Oakfield House, Village Road, Kirdford, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 0NU. No objection. Comments submitted under scheme of delegation.

KD/25/03036/DOM - Other Dev - Householder Developments. Part retrospective s73a for alterations to existing barn and relocation of oil tank. Proposed replacement barn doors, glazed screen and doors to midstretey. High Barn Farm, Plaistow Road, Kirdford, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 0JS. No objection

DECISIONS

The following CDC decisions were noted:

KD/25/02462/COU Bridgefoot Meadows Glasshouse Lane Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0LW
Use of land as private gypsy site (2 caravans) - Variation of Condition 2 (Occupants) of Planning Permission KD/06/05584/COU (APP/L3815/A/08/2065822/NWF) for parents sole use to be changed to allow son and family members to occupy the site as main residence. REFUSE

Enforcement Notice – none received.

29. Great Common Pavilion Update

No update

30. Drains, Grips, Ditches & Gullies

No update.

31. Footpaths

No update.

32. Speed Limits Plaistow Road

It was agreed that Cllr Campbell to contact Oliver King at West Sussex County Council for further assistance.

33. Health & Safety

Cllr Persson reported that some tree surgery work would need to be undertaken along the footpaths adjacent to/between Bramley Close and Orchard Park.

Weeding to be arranged for School Court Playground.

34. Public Participation

No further participation.

35. Date of next meeting: 16 February at 7.30pm at Kirdford Village Hall.

36. Matters for Consideration at the Next Meeting

Spring Clean
Townfield Meadows
CAGNE

37. Confidential Matters

None

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Chairman

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Date