Supporting Paperwork for Brede Parish Council meeting 23ʳᵈ September 2025

Item 9e External Audit
The external audit has returned with no concerns.
Recommendation:- To note the return of the external audit.

Item 11 Community Orchard
A grant is available for Parish Councils to support planting a Community Orchard. The Orchard must be in a fully accessible place. The grant application must be in by 30ᵗʰ November and Planting competed before March 2026. Grants are for between £500 and £5000)
Council were considering more planting on the Recreation Ground which may be a suitable place for one. It would need to be maintained, yearly pruning and clearly signed.
Alternatively Council may prefer not to put edible items on the Recreation Ground.
Possible Planting could include (prices from Roots Plants)

Discovery Apple	2 yr tree in pot	£55
Braeburn Hillwell Apple	2 yr tree in pot	£55
Golden Delicious	2 yr tree in pot	£46
Bramley	2yr tree in pot	£55
Conference pear	2 yr tree in pot	£55
Doyenné Du Comice' Pear Tree	2 yr tree in a pot	£50
Jubilee Plum	2 yr tree in pot	£50
Greengage	2 yr tree in pot	£60
Fig Brown Turkey	Half standard tree	£55
Cherry Sunburst	2 yr tree in pot	£55
Tree rings	To protect from Cutting Machines	Approx £15 each
Stakes	To support young trees	£15 to £30 depending if single stake or Double with bar.

Area to plant, back left of Recreation Ground, behind fitness equipment
Recommendation:- To consider planting a Community Orchard.

Item 12 Seat on the Village Green
The seat around the Oak on the Village Green is now touching the tree, due to the trees growth over the years. The Arborologist has recommended getting the seat moved away from the trunk, to prevent damage and infection. Supplied by Chris Allum, a request to enlarge the seat was made. Chris has advised that trying to enlarge the seat will damage its structural strength and appearance. He has recommended a new seat and supplied a quote. Quote circulated separately.
The existing seat could be reused on the Recreation Ground around one of the new Oaks, for the cost of relocation and installation. (£500-£600 to include sanding and reoiling).
Recommendation:- To consider the options for the seat.

Item 13 Asset Risk Check.
The assets were risk assessed during August and the report is circulated separately.
Recommendation:- To note the asset risk check, discuss works required and approve..

Item 14 Clerks Pay increase
The new pay rates were announced in August, a 3.2% payrise was agreed by National Joint Council for Local Government Services to be backdated to April 2025. This will be added to the October pay.
Recommendation: To note the pay increase..

Supporting Paperwork for Brede Parish Council meeting 23rd September 2025

Item 15 Archiving of Old Minutes.

The Clerk has been sorting and correctly filing all the old minutes which were found in the Village Hall Office. These date back to 1965 and include 2 minutes books and 6 Arch lever files of signed minutes. The clerk would like to take these minutes, up to and including December 2019 to the County Archives at The Keep in October.

Recommendation:- To approve the sending of minutes from 1965 to December 2019 to the County Archives.

Item 16 Poppies for Remembrance

The Council has 11 display poppies and 12 lorry poppies which can be placed around the parish as usual. To consider of further poppies are needed, or a wreath to lay at church. Poppies would be put up on Monday 6th November and taken down on the 17th. This would be from S137 moneys

Recommendation: To consider poppies and approve any costs.

Item 17 Christmas Trees.

Council may wish to consider Christmas Trees on the Recreation Ground and the Village Green. Costs would be around £100 £120per tree for a 10-12ft tree (including delivery and post Christmas collection), plus costs for a base, securing ropes and battery lighting. Total costs likely to be around £175-£200 per tree. Volunteers would be needed to put the trees up and take down again. The bases will need to be stored for future use.

Recommendation:- To discuss.