



Minutes of the Council meeting held Wednesday 2nd July 2025 at 7.30pm at Peasmarsh Memorial Hall.

Present: Councillors: Ben Randall (BR) (Chairman), Peter Lamont (PL) (Vice Chairman), Mick Coleman (MC), Georgina Dunham (GD), Gina Sanderson (GS) and Rose Kiley (RK).

Also present: Clerk and RFO Amy Head (AH), County Councillor Paul Redstone (PR) and District Councillor Paul Osborne (PO).

- 56. Apologies for absence** – District Councillor Lizzie Hacking (LH), Councillors Marcus Gould (MG), Suzy Mills (SM) and Robert Barham (RB).
- 57. Disclosure of interests under the Council's Code of Conduct** – MC for item 71.3.
- 58. Minutes of the last Council meeting - Monthly meeting** 4th June 2025 - agreed by all and signed by BR.
There were no members of the public present.
- 59. District & County Councillor reports – County Councillor Report** – PR supplied a written report which is attached and on the PC's website. The Clerk asked if there was any update from ESCC regarding fencing the layby between Beckley and Peasmarsh to prevent fly-tipping. PR said that ESCC discouraged this as it would involve a stopping order which is expensive. The Clerk also asked PR if he had received any response from Rye Foreign PC regarding sharing half the cost of a traffic survey between Peasmarsh and Rye Foreign. He said that he hoped to have a response next week at their meeting. **District Councillor Report** – PO reported that RDC had launched their Draft Local Plan, Housing Sites and Housing Needs questionnaire and work continues to process the responses from their devolution of assets questionnaire ready for the 2026 Mayoral election. The deadline for the establishment of the unitary authority is May 2027. PR discussed how the mayor would be 'light touch', managing at a strategic level. RK raised concern that larger towns will need more attention and smaller, more rural areas will be forgotten. GD asked if there were any updates on action ESCC Highways were taking to improve safety at the Maltings pedestrian crossing. PR said that he had not got any update on this yet. PR left at 7.50pm.
- 60. Authorisation of scanned invoices as per item 72.2** – All agreed the invoices. Clerk to raise the invoices for payment on 04/07/25 when RB returns from holiday. The applications for three additional signatories have been completed for MG, SM and GD but Lloyds are still processing them.
- 61. Annual grants/donations - £700 budget – RESOLVED:** £200 to RNLI, £200 to KSS Air Ambulance and £200 to Hands of Hope. £100 to be retained for any other requests this financial year.
- 62. Housing, major developments and neighbourhood planning for Peasmarsh** – No updates.
- 63. Devolution** – The Clerk confirmed that she had completed and submitted the RDC questionnaire, requesting the freehold of the Recreation Ground and the allotments and awaits answers to her queries regarding the legal costs for completing these transfers.

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64. Draft Rother Local Plan, housing sites and housing needs questionnaire – RESOLVED: All agreed to submit the response as drafted by GS and PL. GS explained the reasoning behind the style of response. PL said that it would be good to receive feedback from questionnaires completed to be able to understand their impact on decision making.

65. Village traffic and roads

65.1 VAS – PL supplied a written report which is attached and on the PC website. He said that there has been a large drop in recordings in June, but there is no explanation for this.

65.2 Speed Watch - PL supplied a written report which is attached and on the PC's website. He also reported a Speed Watch session completed today with police in attendance with their own device. PL said that ideally it would be good to have the police at one end of the village and him at the other to get a complete picture of speeds.

65.3 Speed monitoring survey on the Rye Road to Rye Foreign – As discussed under Item 59 - the Clerk said that no confirmation had been made by Rye Foreign PC yet as to whether they would pay half for this.

65.4 Black Cat speeding device – PL supplied a written report which is attached and on the PC website. He reported on monitoring the area around the proposed turn off for the Kitewood development to gather evidence. The Clerk confirmed that all Black Cat licenses were now renewed and would not need to be renewed again until June 2027 as the website confirmed that it was a two-yearly license.

66. Recreation Ground/Playspace/Pavilion/Skate Park – The Clerk reported that Beckley Rangers would no longer be using the Recreation Ground and Pavilion as their team had disbanded. **RESOLVED:** Clerk to make contact with Rye Bay FC to see if they wish to hire the grounds. David Pankhurst's memorial bench is due to be delivered on 03/07 and the caretaker is due to install it and the plaque. **RESOLVED:** To be sited in the Play area. The Clerk issued keys to GD and PL as emergency keyholders. Due to reports of overflowing bins at the Pavilion, the Clerk has got the Pavilion cleaner to do more regular checks on the bins at the Recreation Ground/skate park. Bourne Sports has booked 4 dates over summer holiday for football training – 28th-29th July, 11th and 26th August. MC raised the possibility of getting another contractor in to cut the grass. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to ask the Clerk's Rother Network for recommendations and obtain quotes for comparison. Also, the Clerk to ask to see Francis Warren's public liability insurance documentation. GD asked for an update on unlocking one of the gates into the play area; the Clerk said that she had checked with Francis Warren and he said that it had been locked due to a safety risk flagged by RoSPA – there is a risk of finger-trapping in the latch. Therefore, the gate should remain locked.

67. Coronation Garden – The Clerk said that the weeds in the shingled communal pathways need to be dealt with. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to ask the tenants to manage the weeds together or the rents will need to be increased to deal with the issue separately.

68. Allotments – Nothing to report as MC has been away. Hedges look fine, bind weed needs to be kept under control.

69. Caretaker report/repairs and maintenance – Noted. The cleaner and the Clerk dealt with excess rubbish in the bin by the Pavilion. The Clerk to unlock Biffa gate so excess rubbish can be removed by the caretaker. The deteriorating picket fencing around play area to be monitored.

70. Oast Cottage – The Clerk said that it was due to be demolished, but the developer had emailed on 01/07 to say that they were waiting on information from ESCC to be able to clear the archaeology planning condition.

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71. Reports and other items

71.1 Clerk's Report for June – Noted. The Clerk presented a draft of an 'actions tracker' document to be able to monitor actions following monthly meetings. The PC agreed to the Clerk presenting this document in future meetings.

71.2 Beckley layby – Discussed under item 59.

71.3 Memorial Hall Committee – MC reported that the Memorial Hall Committee was obtaining quotes for cleaning the wooden floors in the main hall. MC said that he would request the assistance of Mike Preston (the framer of the map and member of the Memorial Hall Committee) to mount the framed Peasmarsh estate map on the meeting room wall as soon as possible.

71.4 Framing of WW1 scroll – PL showed the PC the scroll, however, MC said that the Memorial Hall Committee did not want any further items to be placed on the walls so the idea was dismissed.

71.5 ESCC Highways report – No reports.

71.6 Rights of Way and Footpaths report – No reports.

71.7 Police and PCSO Reports – The Clerk reported that following emails seeking interest in PCSO street surgeries, a community engagement event took place a couple of weeks ago outside Jempsons, but no contact was made with the Clerk prior to the event so it is unknown whether this was well attended.

71.8 Village and environment – Clerk to report to ESCC Highways the overgrown pavement and bank leading to the Memorial Hall from Malthouse Lane. The PC agreed to monitor the increased signage at the ESCC Highways junction to Starvecrow Lane erected by Tillingham vineyard.

72 Financial Matters

72.1 Reports – PL approved.

72.1.1 Monthly statement of receipts and payments – for June 2025.

72.1.2 Budget comparison and bank reconciliations – for June 2025.

72.2 To approve and ratify payments – all approved. MC and RB to provide authorisation.

72.2.1 Clerk's June pay – monthly standing order: £944.10 – comes out on 26th of the same month.

72.2.2 NI Employer contributions Month 3 (6th June – 5th July 2025): £79.11 paid by business debit card by the Clerk on 11/06/2025.

72.2.3 Clerk's June expenses: £26.00 – working from home allowance.

72.2.4 Chubb Fire and Security Ltd: £223.55

72.2.5 Reeves Water Services – Coronation Garden water pipe installation: £4,998.00.

72.2.6 Francis Warren Rec Ground/PC mowing for March and April: £625.00

72.2.7 Cleaning of Recreation Ground/Pavilion – June – no invoice as no cleaning done in June.

72.2.8 ESCC Highways – Black Cat license renewals x 2: £130.00 – paid by business debit card on 18/06/25.

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72.2.9 School Furniture Direct – Memorial bench, plaque and fittings: £787.86 – paid by business debit card on 16/06/25.

72.2.10 Clerk's phone – Tesco Mobile – June £16.66 – paid via direct debit on 09/06/2025.

72.2.11 Caretaker monthly fee - July: £100.00 – paid via standing order on 2nd of each month.

72.2.12 South East Water – direct debit for Pavilion on 02/07/25: £1.00

72.2.13 EDF – direct debit for Pavilion electricity paid in June: £38.14

72.2.14 Biffa Waste collection – monthly direct debit paid in June –: £103.98

72.2.15 RoSPA annual inspection of Play area/skate park etc: £80.00 + VAT – invoice not yet received.

72.3 Receipts – None to date.

73. Correspondence -

73.1 Castle Water – 04/06/25 – Allotment water bill £30.03 in credit.

73.2 Castle Water – 04/06/25 – Coronation Garden water bill £1.50 in credit.

74. Planning Matters – Noted.

Applications – [RR/2025/598/P](#) and [RR/2025/599/L](#) - **Cobblers Cottage, Flackley Ash, Peasmarsh TN31 6YH** - Reduce the Height of the Second Chimney. Unstable and bowing brick chimney stack reduced and capped off at eaves level. (Retrospective). **Comment agreed: *The Parish Council note this planning application and has no comment.***

[RR/2025/532/P](#) and [RR/2025/533/L](#) - **Sunnyside Cottage, Main Street, Peasmarsh TN31 6SP** - Alterations to side bay window inserting a pair of french doors to provide disabled access and the raising of existing lead flat roof. **Comment agreed: *The Parish Council note this planning application and has no comment.***

Decisions – [RR/2025/527/P](#) - Pencil Patch Projects Ltd, Wittersham Road, Peasmarsh TN31 6TD – **APPROVED CONDITIONAL – 13/06/25.**

[RR/2025/520/P](#) - Cornerways, School Lane, Peasmarsh TN31 6UT - Variation of conditions 2 & 12 imposed on RR/2024/1040/P to add additional lighting – **APPROVED CONDITIONAL – 20/06/2025.**

Appeals – [3069](#) - **Partridge Farm, Starvecrow Lane, TN31 6XN** - Change of use of building and land from holiday let accommodation to permanent dwelling. **Appeal started 20/03/25 – no update.**

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75. Dates of Forthcoming Meetings: No August meeting. Next monthly meeting, 7.30pm, 3rd September 2025, Memorial Hall, Peasmarsch.

The meeting finished at 9.10pm.

DRAFT

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