



RUDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10th November 2025 at Rudgwick Hall, Bucks Green, RH12 3JJ at 7 pm.

Present: Councillors S Alker, D Buckley (Chairman), R Gardiner-Hill, A Haynes, P Kornicky, S Kornicky, I Maclachlan, A Ryan, S Torn.

Also, present Anna Clayton – Clerk

Public: two attendees

Cllr Roger Noel (Horsham District (HD) Councillor)

West Sussex County Councillor Christian Mitchell

	The Chairman opened the meeting with the sad news of the passing of Ted Brown. His work for the Parish Council over the years has been very much appreciated, as a previous Councillor and our Parish tree warden. He will be greatly missed by all. Condolences to his family at this time.
FC139-25/26	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from R Landeryou (Horsham District (HD) Councillor) and noted .
FC140-25/26	Declarations of Interest It was unanimously resolved to note that no Declarations of Interest as defined under the Localism Act 2011 and the Parish Council Code of Conduct were made.
FC141-25/26	<u>Minutes of Council Meeting of 13th October 2025</u> It was unanimously resolved for the Minutes as an accurate record of the Council Meeting held on 13 th October 2025 and for the Chairman to sign these.
FC142-25/26	Co-option of new Councillor Two applications for co-option were received. It was resolved to co-opt David Palmer and Gabriel Luchian as Councillors. The Councillors signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and were issued a Declaration of Interest form.
FC143-25/26	District and County Councillors Reports (for noting only) It was unanimously resolved to note: West Sussex County Councillor Christian Mitchell's report <u>Questions raised:</u> Church street traffic calming, meeting held on the 13 th October, Cllr P Kornicky advised waiting for a response from Andy Ekinsmyth, will copy in WS County Councillor Christian Mitchell.

	Clarification over the availability of George Fort and Adam Bazley and if they are both still in position at WSCC. WS County Councillor Christian Mitchell confirmed they were both still at WSCC. Cllr Roger Noel (Horsham District (HD) Councillor) report: • Update on Cllr Landeryou • Water Neutrality: On 31 October 2025, Natural England issued a Withdrawal Statement confirming that its Water Neutrality Position Statement of September 2021 has been withdrawn. https://www.horsham.gov.uk/news/2025/11/statement-on-natural-england-withdrawing-position-statement-on-water-neutrality. • District Plan – exchange of letters between Horsham Planning and inspectorate. Expectation is the plan is finished. Unlikely any future local plans will be accepted until the planning infrastructure bill comes through in the next few months. • Neighbourhood Plans – attended a SALC meeting, briefing from a planning consultant, no further update until the planning infrastructure bill is in place. • Food Waste – Collections will start March 2026, collected weekly. Will be a dedicated food waste orange topped bin. • CEO WSCC gave an update at the SALC meeting, disagreed with HDC decision on having two unitary authorities. West Sussex put forward that there should be only one unitary authority, at least an addition 30 million extra cost, which would be passed on in the form of rates. <u>Questions raised:</u> Council Tax - Cllr Roger Noel advised it was a bit too early to advise. Loss of call-in rights update, RPC were advised this would be raised by Trevor Leggo at the SALC meeting. Advised this was not discussed at the meeting. The Chairman formally thanked both Cllrs for their updates.
FC144-25/26	Public Speaking Session There were no public speakers.
FC145-25/26	Planning To report on:
xi)	It was unanimously resolved to move item xi) Mucky Duck DC/24/1856 Mucky Duck DC/24/1856 It was unanimously resolved to note • HDC Planning Committee date to be confirmed. • Planning application DC/24/1855 (The Mucky Duck, Rudgwick) • Planning application DC/24/1856 (Old House, Rudgwick) The recommendation is 'To delegate approval to the Head of Development and Building Control subject to appropriate conditions and the consideration of any comments from Natural England in response to the Appropriate Assessment.' The deadline for registering a representative to read a statement on behalf of RPC is midday on Friday 14th November. Cllr Alker has agreed to be the RPC representative. Cllr Buckley can attend if Cllr Alker is unable to do so. Clerk to advise HDC.
i)	Current Planning Applications were resolved unanimously and noted for comment to Horsham District Council (HDC).
Applications considered at Rudgwick Parish Council Meeting 10th November 2025	

Application No: DC/25/1706 22.10.2025	Response/Comments: Rudgwick Parish Council has no objection to this change to agricultural use application seeking to provide animal welfare support, but only on the understanding that the documents referring to 'extension of residential curtilage' have been supplied erroneously (see 1 st page of the applicant's submitted planning and heritage statement, dated September 2024). This page/statement heading should be amended forthwith, for the avoidance of any doubt that the current application is purely one for change to agricultural use and nothing more.
Applicant: Hyeswood, Guildford Road, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Change of use of existing pod for agricultural use.	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determination 17.12.2025	
Application No: DISC/25/0334 28.10.2025	Response/Comments: Rudgwick Parish Council has no objection to this condition being discharged and the development proceeding, with strict adherence to the details outlined in the arboricultural method statement to protect the tree and its RPA.
Applicant: 9 Cape Copse, Rudgwick	
Reason for Application: Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Condition 3 to approved application DC/23/0574.	
Official Response Date: Not available / Determine 23.12.2025	

ii)	It was unanimously resolved to note Planning Applications comments made under delegated powers (for noting only);
iii)	It was unanimously resolved to note the Schedule Planning Decisions made by Horsham District Council on previous applications;
iv)	It was unanimously resolved to note applications being considered/determined by the Planning Inspectorate.
v)	It was unanimously resolved to note the new Planning Compliance issues being considered by HDC (for noting only).
vi)	It was unanimously resolved to note there are no planning applications being considered at Planning Committee.
vii)	It was unanimously resolved to note the report on the schedule of outstanding Planning Compliance being considered by HDC.
viii)	Bucks Green Housing Development Task & Finish Group – Welbeck Land - It was unanimously resolved to note. RPC comments submitted to HDC 27.10.2025. - RPC to arrange a meeting with Welbeck and the PC task and finish group – date still to be confirmed. - Communications with Sussex Police re Speedwatch, ongoing. Further observations submitted to HDC Planning & WSCC.

	Correspondence with HDC Planning Officer ECE Planning HDLP Hearings / Rudgwick & Bucks Green Housing Sites
ix)	Government Planning Reforms It was unanimously resolved to note Delegation of Planning Applications & loss of call-in rights – Update at WSALC Conference on 4th November 2025.
x)	Field House DC/25/1377 It was unanimously resolved to note Felling of the oak at Field House has been permitted. Email correspondence with HDC Arboricultural Officer Cllr P Kornycky advised he would draft a potential complaint to bring to the December meeting for discussion, to be considered.
xi)	Mucky Duck DC/24/1856 It was unanimously resolved to note HDC Planning Committee date as 18th November. Cllr Alker to attend to read RPC statement.
xii)	Water Neutrality Update It was unanimously resolved to note HDC Update: We are writing to give you an important update on water neutrality. On 31 October 2025, Natural England issued a Withdrawal Statement confirming that its Water Neutrality Position Statement of September 2021 has been withdrawn. I attach this for your information. The Council's press release on this issue is available to view from the following link: https://www.horsham.gov.uk/news/2025/11/statement-on-natural-england-withdrawing-position-statement-on-water-neutrality. The change in Natural England's position follows agreement between Natural England, Southern Water, and the Environment Agency that a reduction in the licence cap on water abstraction will ensure with sufficient certainty that development will not adversely impact the protected Arun Valley habitats. While the licence modification will address issues related to planning, growth, and abstraction, a separate package of measures is also proposed to support recovery and enhance ecological resilience at Pulborough Brooks SSSI. Natural England has advised that local authorities are not required to consider these additional measures when determining relevant plans or projects. Whilst the Position Statement has now been withdrawn, it remains the case that Horsham District Council is the competent authority under the Habitats Regulations, and therefore we must be assured that the mitigation will be effective in practice and suitably secured. Given the licence change has not yet taken place (the withdrawal statement refers to March 2026), we cannot be certain that the issue is yet fully resolved. Therefore, until the formal licence change by Southern Water is completed, we will continue to consider the potential for development to impact the Arun Valley habitats as part of our decision-making, and will be using the 2024/25 water efficiency savings made by Southern Water to allow all development to move forward as water neutral from 1st November 2025. However, applicants will no longer be required to provide water neutrality statements or find their own water neutrality solutions. Given the area remains at water stress, all applications for new housing will be required by condition to comply with the Building Regulations Part G Optional Technical Standard (currently 110 l/p/d) as required by Policy 37 of the Horsham District Planning

	Framework. Further details on the changes are also being placed on the Council's website https://www.horsham.gov.uk/planning/water-neutrality-in-horsham-district. Arun Valley withdrawal statement
FC146-25/26	Correspondence Update (for noting only) It was unanimously resolved to note the correspondence update. • HALC Advice - CIL - Self Builds in The Rudgwick Parish – Clerk emailed HALC for advise on 16.9.25, chased 20.10.2025 and 03.11.25, awaiting response. • West Sussex Local Nature Recovery Strategy Public Consultation – closes 26th November 2025.
FC147-25/26	Chairman's Report It was unanimously resolved to note Chairman's announcements. • KGV Ditch • River Arun Weirs – Environment agency
FC148-25/26	Clerk's announcements/decisions (for noting only) It was unanimously resolved to note Clerk's Weekly Updates (from 13th October – 7th November 2025) • Gale Tree Consultancy quotation for staff tree training. • HDC Community Asset Transfer List - RPC have registered their interest 'Land on the north side of Furze Road, Rudgwick'. • HDC have advised that a 5day notice has been granted to fell a dead Oak tree (T22 of TPO/0895) Pondfield Road, Rudgwick. • Letter sent to Hawkridge requesting for the hedge partially obscuring the northern gateway to be cut back. • Clerk liaising with Little Street re PIR lighting at KGV. • VOA Complaint – September FCM action Date for meeting with Cllr Roger Noel and Cllr Tricia Youtan to be confirmed. Items for discussion currently include Business Rates issue (VOA and HDC Revenues & Benefits), Land North of Guildford Road (Bucks Green) DC/25/1269 and the Mucky Duck DC/24/1856. • Resident email received advising: A281 from the Horsham direction, noticed a tree leaning over the road. Safety concern. • St Catherine's letter of thanks • Clarification was required on request for the Clerk to write to HDC to check on number of persons on the housing register that have a Rudgwick connection and have put Rudgwick as their number one priority. Rudgwick Parish Council website https://rudgwick-pc.gov.uk/clerks-weekly-update/
FC149-25/26	Parish Council representatives on outside Organisations It was unanimously resolved to note the reports received. • Next RYC Meeting management committee meeting November 2025 • WSALC AGM & Conference, AMEX, 4th November 2025
FC150-25/26	Finance It was unanimously resolved to note payments/transfer made/received/ Detailed Receipts & Payments by budget heading/Bank Reconciliation Lloyds Accounts/Monthly Bank Reconciliation and to resolve to approve transfer/ payments to be made. • Payments made/received October; • Detailed Income & Expenditure by budget heading October;

	• Bank Reconciliations for October: Lloyds: Business, Savings, Savings (TFR £20k) Deed and NS&I; • Monthly Bank Reconciliation October; • Payments to be made. Replacement Pump KGV Showers (Goodwins have quoted £685.00 + vat) Proposed by Cllr P Kornycky and seconded by Cllr S Torn.
FC151-25/26	Committees and Working Groups Appointment of New Members for the 2025/26 municipal year - To confirm committees/working groups membership for new Cllrs (members need to be appointed before HROS & FPHR committee meetings in November 2025). It was unanimously resolved to appoint new members: FPHR Committee – Cllr S Torn appointed as a Vice Chair. All other Cllrs not on committees to be invited to committee meetings as members of the public to observe the committees available, so vacancies can be filled.
FC152-25/26	Parish and Neighbourhood Council Climate Action Network Representative It was unanimously resolved to appoint Cllr S Alker as the representative.
FC153-25/26	Jubilee Hall Project It was unanimously resolved to note: • The commencement of the registration forthwith of our title. On the HROS agenda 17th November 2025 for further discussion to proceed. • Update on (Church) Kings Head project It was unanimously resolved to approve a ACV submission ACV Appendix 2 and approach the district council to apply to make the Kings Head an asset of community value. Clerk and Assistant Clerk to liaise over submission.
FC154-25/26	WSCC Highways/Traffic Calming It was unanimously resolved to note: • Church Street Traffic Calming Initiative Update General Arrangement Diagram 3 • CHS Update from WSCC (Awaiting update from WSCC, nothing received at time of agenda publication) • SID (Rowhook) Update – Due to high cost of SID installation, agreed to review provision across the whole village regarding additional sites. 1x NAL Socket & 1x 4.5m (90 diameter) Pole 2025 October SID Installation Quotes 2021 SID Purchase/Installation Invoice • Church Street Bus Stop Update RTA Church Street
FC155-25/26	Downs Link Crossing Design It was unanimously resolved to note the reports received. • Downs Link Crossing Design • The Road Safety Audit (RSA) Report which contains information on the decisions taken as part of the report. The RSA was completed in reference to an earlier design completed in August.
FC156-25/26	CAGNE Judicial Review

	It was unanimously resolved to confirm that RPC would not be making a contribution for judicial review as the Council considered it not cost effective.
FC157-25/26	Staffing It was resolved to approve overtime payments for the Clerk and Assistant Clerk for additional hours to cover annual leave/workload – Oct. Clerk – 7 hrs Assistant Clerk – 8 hrs Proposed by Cllr A Haynes seconded by Cllr A Ryan.
FC158-25/26	Date of next Meeting: 8th December 2025, at 7.00 pm It was resolved to note the date of the next meeting as 8 th December 2025, at 7.00 pm

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.01 pm

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Councillor D Buckley
Chairman

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Date