



LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 16th July 2025 at 7.30pm at Laughton Parish Hall

Present:

Councillors Sally Huggett, Steve White, Kay Syrad. Councillor Nick Bennett (ESCC)

The Clerk was also in attendance.

Public Session

MOPS present: 1 member of the public was in attendance.

1. Election of Chair for meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Sally Huggett as Chair for the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Alison Wilson, Cllr Jane Alford

3. To accept the minutes from the meeting held on 2nd July 2025.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 2nd July 2025 to be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Declarations of interest. To receive notices of declarations personal and prejudicial, in respect of items on this agenda.

There were no interests declared.

5. Members to agree confidential items on the agenda for the exclusion of the press and members of the public.

It was agreed that there were no confidential items on the agenda.

6. East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council reports

Councillor Bennett (ESCC) updated Councillors on the Mayoral Elections and Strategic arrangements stating that Brighton and Hastings were still under discussion. He provided an update on funding and stated that Reserves are diminishing and there is increasing cost pressure from Employers NI increase and the National Living Wage placing an additional £18million costs.

7. Working Groups – to receive reports and agree further actions

The Laughton Sports Court Working Group provided a verbal update stating that the planning application would be submitted at the end of the month and is to be shared with Councillors and the Earl of Chichester. The plans are to limit the hours of use and the Primary school would be the main user. It is anticipated that there will be no financial obligation sought from the Parish Council.

8. Planning applications approved, refused, referred, withdrawn or appeals (to note)

8.1 WD/2025/0859/FR for Five Oaks, Lewes Road, Laughton, BN8 6BJ
Decision Issued: REFUSAL

8.2 WD/2025/1033/F for 4 Elm Cottages, Shortgate Lane, Laughton BN8 6DQ
Decision Issued: APPROVAL

9. Other planning matters – to discuss or note any other planning matters brought to the attention of the Parish Council.

9.1 **WD/2025/1197/FR**
Millwards Farmhouse, Milwards Estate, Lewes Road, Laughton BN8 6BN

Retrospective application to retain marquee on site for weddings and other events including associated parking.

It was **RESOLVED** to offer **NO OBJECTION** to the application.

10. Financial Matters – Authorisation of payments of accounts –To approve accounts for payment – (a schedule of receipts & payments will be presented at the meeting) – list of payments on separate sheet.

10.1 June 2025 Payments – To approve

It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments for June.

10.2 June 2025 Direct Debits – To approve

It was **RESOLVED** to approve direct debits for June.

11. Items For Decision and Allocation of Resources

11.1 Parish council noticeboard replacement

It was determined that the noticeboard needs to be replaced.

It was **RESOLVED** to investigate potential locations for a free standing replacement noticeboard.

11.2 Recruitment of new councillors - to cover the 2 current vacancies available for co-option

The Co-option of potential new councillors was discussed and there is a possibility that a resident may be putting themselves forward for co-option at a forthcoming meeting.

11.3 Visit from MP on 1st August

Arrangements were discussed and it was confirmed that the Parish Hall had been booked. It was agreed to publicise the event on social media.

11.4 Community Engagement and Christmas

It was **RESOLVED** to order and install a Christmas tree on the Green before the first weekend in December and to arrange a Lighting Up event. Volunteers will be sought to help to arrange the event.

A potential Parish event for Christmas was discussed.

11.5 Correspondence Management

It was **RESOLVED** to forward all non-Spam emails to Councillors and then review Correspondence administration at the August meeting.

11.6 Local Government Re-Organisation

Councillor Bennett provided an update and will continue to provide verbal and written updates as necessary.

11.7 Annual Playground Inspection Reports

It was **RESOLVED** to action the one RED issue identified and Councillors are to review the Amber issues for discussion at the next meeting.

11.8 Monthly Playground Inspection Report – to discuss findings and potential actions

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should order the identified items needed and hold a small stock to enable replacement.

11.9 Scribe Update (new accounting software)

The software has been purchased and now needs to be implemented and put into use with the Clerk to provide a progress update at the next meeting.

12. REPORTS (by leave) NOT FOR DECISION

There were no reports put forward for consideration.

The next Full Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th August 2025 at 7:30pm

Meeting ended 20:36