



LAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Laughton Parish Small Hall Wednesday 20th May 2026 at 7PM

Present: Councillors Huggett, Wilson, Syad, Whiting

Also in attendance: Representatives from Community Action.

Public Participation

Four members of the public were present.

They raised a number of concerns regard to the planning appeal Ref: 6008628, Land at Church Lane, Laughton, BN8 6AH. Their information was noted by the Councillors and residents were encouraged to make their own representations alongside that which Laughton Parish Council will make.

1. Election of Chair and Receive Acceptance of Office

Cllr J Alford

2. Election of Vice Chair and Receive Acceptance of Office

Cllr S Huggett

3. Election of Chair for current meeting

Cllr S Huggett

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

There were no declarations of interest made.

5. East Sussex County Council and Wealden District Council reports

ESCC – None

WDC – It was noted that the Council has been in purdah. It was noted that both the Chairman and CEO of Southeast Water have resigned. The County Council, and existing Councillors, will operate a two-year term whilst the decision is made on a future unitary authority, target date May 2027. The new food waste collection service has been introduced – please let the Parish Council know if there are problems with collections. Cllr Wilson highlighted the Councillor Ward Budget Scheme which can make funds up to £10,000 available.

6. Apologies

Cllr Alford

7. To accept the minutes from the meeting held on 15th April 2026.

It was RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th April 2026 and these were duly signed by the Chair.

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

Members were informed that there were no confidential items on the Agenda.

9. Co-option of the following new council members:

Jake Kennaird

Jamie Chalmers

The above were co-opted to Laughton Parish Council and joined the meeting.

10. Appointment of Councillors as Parish Representatives

- Village Hall Committee/Trustee – Clerk to check whether this is a formal requirement.
- Laughton Parish Council Tree Warden – Carla Halford (Voluntary Role), to be invited to June Meeting.
- WDALC (Wealden District Association of Local Councils) – Cllr Huggett
- Parish Emergency Officer – Cllr Alford, agreed to identify one more representative
- Neighbourhood Watch/Crime prevention initiative -Cllr Huggett to contact Neighbourhood Watch
- Footpath Representative – The full council will share out the footpaths. It is hoped to work towards holding a Beating the Bounds event

11. Adoption of Policies

11.1 Publication Scheme

11.2 VDU Policy

11.3 Financial Regulations 2026

11.4 Standing Orders 2026

11.5 Data Audit 2026

The above policies were adopted by Laughton Parish Council.

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

- a) Laughton Fete – The Roebuck have agreed to run the bar which is very helpful.
- b) Defibrillator – No update
- c) SLR Meeting – Clerk to request date for next meeting

13. Planning

a) Planning applications approved, refused, referred, withdrawn or appeals

Application(s)

WD/2026/0672/FR

PART RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION TO RAISE EXISTING ROOF AND CREATE ACCOMMODATION IN THE NEW VOID TOGETHER WITH NEW GROUND AND FIRST FLOOR REAR EXTENSION. BRICKHURST POTTERY, BRICKHURST LANE, LAUGHTON BN8 6DD

Application withdrawn, full application will be made in due course.

Application No. WD/2026/0645/LDE

USE OF LAND AS RESIDENTIAL, ANCILLARY TO THE DWELLINGHOUSE

HAWTHORN COTTAGE, 203 LAUGHTON PLACE, COW LANE, LAUGHTON, BN8 6DA

Laughton Parish Council – no comment.

Appeal

LAND IN CHURCH LANE, LAUGHTON, BN8 6AH

Proposal: DEVELOPMENT OF PARCEL OF LAND TO PROVIDE 1 X 4 BEDROOM DWELLING, 4 X 3 BEDROOM DWELLINGS AND 2 X 2 BEDROOM DWELLINGS, OFF ROAD PARKING AND LANDSCAPING

Planning Inspectorate Ref: 6008628 – written representation

Laughton Parish Council objects and will make written representation.

Decision

Application No. WD/2025/1767/FR PART RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR CREATION OF 2 NO. TRACKS AND ROUND PEN, AREA OF HARDSTANDING FOR MUCK HEAP, AND ERECTION OF 2 NO. FIELD SHELTERS AND LEAN-TO ADJOINING STABLE BUILDING, ALL FOR EQUESTRIAN PURPOSES. LAND ADJOINING 1 MILLWARDS COTTAGES, LEWES ROAD, LAUGHTON, BN8 6BN

Approved 11th May 2026

Noted.

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

14. 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.

- May Payments – To approve
- May Direct Debits – To approve
- Approve budget - £3500 plus VAT for replacement noticeboard – subject to finalisation of location. **Approved**

15. Update on audit

Internal audit review booked for the 9th June 2026.

16. ITEMS FOR DECISION AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

16.1 Insurance – Zurich Insurance quote approved. Gallagher Brokers could not improve on Zurich offer.

16.2 MP Visit to Parish – Date confirmed 19th August 2026, The Roebuck Inn will host.

17. REPORTS (by leave) NOT FOR DECISION

17.1 Open consultation

Modified proposals for local government reorganisation in East Sussex and Brighton and Hove. Closing date for comment 15th June 2026.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/modified-proposals-for-local-government-reorganisation-in-east-sussex-and-brighton-and-hove/modified-proposals-for-local-government-reorganisation-in-east-sussex-and-brighton-and-hove>

18. Date of Next Meeting – 17th June 2026