



Working for the Community in Rotherfield, Mark Cross, Eridge Green, Boarshead and surrounding areas

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 3RD JUNE 2025 IN THE PARISH COUNCIL ROOM AT ROTHERFIELD VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30 PM

PRESENT

Cllr D Hiles (Vice-Chair)
Cllr R Harris
Cllr E Holmes-Cutting

Cllr P Snelling
Cllr J Gosney

Cllr P Beach
Cllr B Johnstone

COUNCILLORS ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

Adam Hardy (Parish Clerk & RFO) and three members of the public.

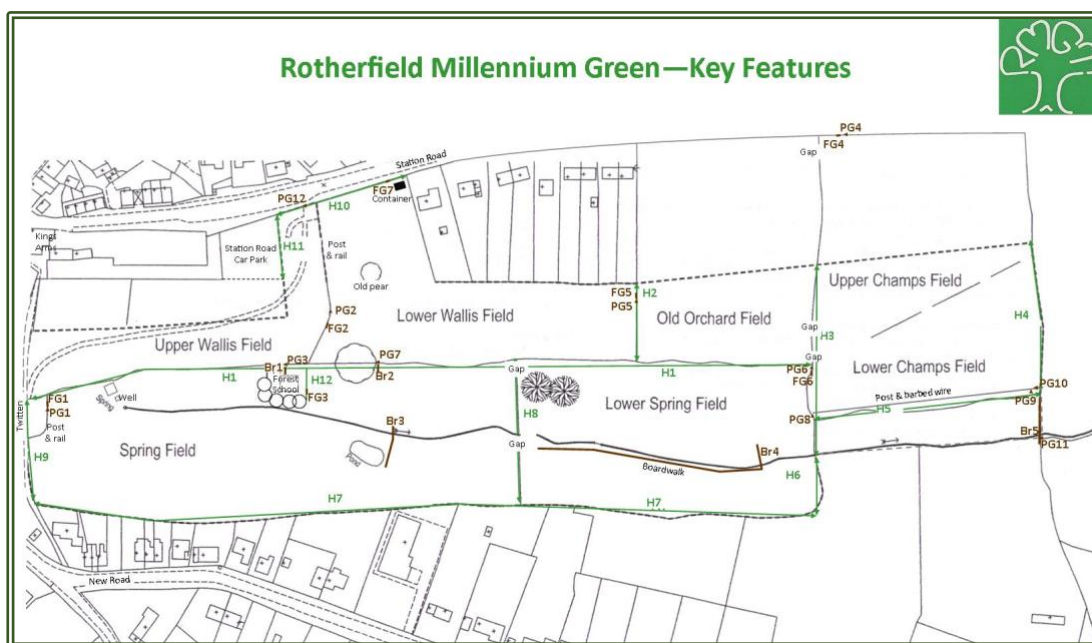
1. INTRODUCTION OF COUNCILLORS & OFFICERS

The Councillors and Officers introduced themselves to the members of the public.

2. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING: -

a) Public Forum:

A presentation was received from a representative of the Millennium Green Trustees on the current status and future of the Millennium Green.



- The Millennium Green now has nine trustees, volunteer wardens and monthly working parties all playing an active part in managing the Green.
- The charity has developed a regular maintenance plan for the Green.

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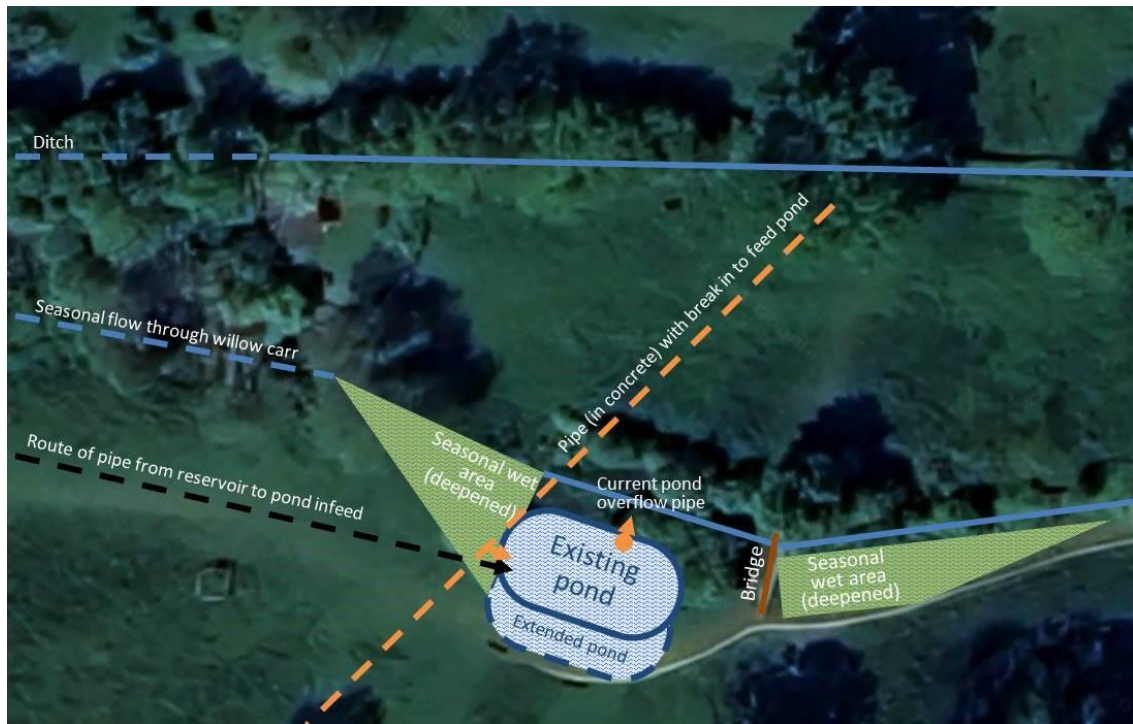
Tel: 07969512099. **Email:** clerk@rotherfieldparishcouncil.co.uk

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- The trustees would like to approach the Parish Council with regard to taking on responsibility for managing the hedge running along the side of the St Chéron Twitten. The Clerk advised they would need to write to the Council for this to be considered by the Council.
- The next project of the charity is to reconfigure the boardwalk to exclude cows and dogs from entering the wetland.



- The trustees are currently working on a longer term project to extend the existing pond (see above) and refence it permanently to replace the need for the electric fence to be erected each year.
- The Charity would like to prevent dogs from entering the pond as the tick and flea treatments on dogs can wash off and harm the pondlife. It was suggested that the Charity could consider erecting some signage saying dogs are not allowed in the pond.
- There is an increasing amount of dog poo being left on the Green and not put in the bins, this could be because the bins are very full but attempts to negotiate more frequent collections or larger bins with Wealden District Council have been unsuccessful.
- Finances have dropped over recent years and the number of Friends of the Millennium Green have dropped. The Charity is going to have a recruitment drive this year to try and increase the number of friends.
- Councillors asked if the permissive access that the Green has over parts of the land had any conditions attached. The Trustee confirmed that the permissive access can be withdrawn at any time. As a result long term projects in these areas are not being considered by the Chairty at this time.
- Cllr Harris thanked the Trustee for the presentation and urged the Trustees to approach the Council for any support they may require.

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b) Apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85):

Apologies have been received from Cllr P Kember.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the reasons for apologies.

c) Declaration of personal, prejudicial, and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda, and updates to members' register of interests.

- Cllr Beverly Johnstone declared a prejudicial interest in item 4c as she is an immediate neighbour of the application site. Cllr B Johnstone confirmed she would abstain from voting on this application.
- Cllr Paul Snelling declared a prejudicial interest in items 4a and 4b as he is a friend of the applicant. Cllr P Snelling confirmed he would be abstaining from voting on the application.

d) To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on Tuesday 13th May 2025 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

It was **RESOLVED** that these minutes represented a true record, and they were signed by the Chair.

3. RECEIVE A PRESENTATION ON THE STATE OF SEWAGE DISCHARGED INTO ROTHERFIELD RIVERS.

The Clerk reported that this item had been placed on the agenda in error.

*The Vice-Chair of the meeting suspended the Standing Orders at 19:55.
The meeting resumed at 20:09*

4. TO CONSIDER AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS AND OTHER PLANNING MATTERS.

a) WD/2024/1141/F - The Kings Arms, High Street, Rotherfield, TN6 3LJ

Removal of external fan housing including partial replacement kitchen window. Partial installation of new internal kitchen extract duct now to terminate via new opening in existing balcony deck with duct, extract fan, silencer and ventilation cowl mounted on existing balcony. Installation of snow guards to all exposed eaves. Replacement guttering, hoppers and downpipes in cast iron. Replacement ground floor window to north-west elevation.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Wealden District Council that this application be **APPROVED**. The Committee had no further comments on the application.

Cllr P Snelling abstained from voting as per his earlier declaration.

Cllr P Beach abstained from voting on this application as he felt that this application should not have been brought before the Committee at all.

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- b) **WD/2024/1076/LB**- The Kings Arms, High Street, Rotherfield, TN6 3LJ
Removal of external fan housing including partial replacement kitchen window. Partial installation of new internal kitchen extract duct now to terminate via new opening in existing balcony deck with duct, extract fan, silencer and ventilation cowl mounted on existing balcony. Installation of snow guards to all exposed eaves. Replacement guttering, hoppers and downpipes in cast iron. Replacement ground floor window to north-west elevation.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Wealden District Council that this application be **APPROVED**. The Committee had no further comments on the application.

Cllr P Snelling abstained from voting as per his earlier declaration.

Cllr P Beach abstained from voting on this application as he felt that this application should not have been brought before the Committee at all.

The Vice-Chair suspended the Stanning Orders at 20:16.

The meeting resumed at 20:18.

- c) **WD/2025/1189/F** - Little Hayesden, Treblers Road, Jarvis Brook, Crowborough, TN6 3RL
Demolition Of Existing Conservatories And Erection Of Single Storey Extension.

Two members of the public addressed the Committee speaking in favour of the application.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Wealden District Council that this application be **APPROVED**. The Committee had no further comments on the application.

Cllr B Johnstone abstained from voting as per her earlier declaration.

- d) **WD/2025/1045/LB** - 4 Chapel Cottages, Church Road, Rotherfield, TN6 3LF
1. To remove existing bathroom window.
 2. To supply and install new hardwood window (painted white) with clear single glazed glass, handle, friction hinges, espagnolette locking and trickle vents. No other building works. No structural work.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Wealden District Council that this application be **APPROVED**. The Committee had no further comments on the application.

- e) **WD/2025/1167/FR** - Boars Head Golf Club, Eridge Road, Boars Head, TN6 3HD
Retrospective application for erection of plant room and storage building.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Wealden District Council that this application be **APPROVED**. The Committee had no further comments on the application.

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- f) **WD/2025/0880/FR** - Southern Heights, Stone Cross, Crowborough, TN6 3SJ
Retrospective Application For Change Of Use From Annexe/Storage Buildings To Mixed Use
As Annexe/Storage Buildings And Business Use For Dog Day Care.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Wealden District Council that this application be **APPROVED**. The Committee supports the development of this local business.

5. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING FROM WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

i. Decision Notices.

- **WD/2025/0499/F** – 26 Court Meadow, Rotherfield, East Sussex, TN6 3LQ
Conversion of existing garage to living accommodation.

Recommended for **APPROVAL** by this Council and **APPROVED** by Wealden District Council.

- **WD/2024/2956/MAJ** - HIGHFIELDS FARM, NEW ROAD, ROTHERFIELD, TN6 3JS
Demolition of stable and extension of existing bungalow. Demolition of agricultural buildings and erection of 10 no. Dwellings. Improvements to existing access, parking and landscaping

Recommended for **REFUSAL** by this Council, but the application was **WITHDRAWN**.

ii. Planning correspondence.

None.

iii. Any enforcement, conservation or appeal matters.

Enforcement:

None.

Conservation:

None.

Appeals:

- **Appeal Decision - APP/C1435/W/24/3357229** - Yew Tree House, Yew Tree Lane, Rotherfield, East Sussex TN6 3QP
Conversion of existing barn to 3 bed dwelling with associated external alterations, access, parking and landscaping.

The Appeal is **DISMISSED**.

Recommended for **REFUSAL** by this Committee and **REFUSED** by Wealden District Council.

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6. TO AGREE ON FIVE POINTS FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY DOCUMENT.

1)	The presentation on the current status and future of the Millennium Green. Encourage support of the Millennium Green through joining the Friends of Rotherfield Millennium Green.
2)	The Parish Council recommendation of approval for the Kings Arms planning applications WD/2024/1141/F and WD/2024/1076/LB.
3)	The Parish Council continues to support applications for improving windows and environmental efficiency in listed buildings as in application WD/2025/1045/LB. This is supported by Historic England in Advice Note 18 - Adapting Historic Buildings for Energy and Carbon Efficiency.
4)	Two applicants addressed tonight's meeting. The Parish Council encourages parishioners to attend Planning & Environment Committee meetings and address the Committee on applications.
5)	The Parish Council are pleased to note that appeal (APP/C1435/W/24/3357229 - Yew Tree House, Yew Tree Lane) was dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate supporting the Parish Council's recommendation for refusal.

7. TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE.

Tuesday 24th June 2025 at 7:30 pm in the Parish Council Room at Rotherfield Village Hall.

8. TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF ANY URGENT ISSUES FOR NOTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDA.

- Cllr Gosney asked when the Planning Committee or Council would get a further update or application on the Highfields Farm site. The Clerk confirmed that we would have to wait and see if a further application was submitted before making further comments.
- The Clerk reminded Councillors of the forthcoming presentation from Action in Rural Sussex on a Housing Needs Survey for the Parish. The presentation will take place on Thursday, 19th June at 7:00pm in the Upper Hall at Rotherfield Community Hub (Memorial Institute).

The Chair declared the formal business of the meeting closed at **20:46**

.....Chair.....Date

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