



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

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS, LIGHTING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH JANUARY 2026 AT 7:30PM IN LIBRARY ROOM AT ROTHERFIELD COMMUNITY HUB (MEMORIAL INSTITUTE)

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Cllr P Beach (Chair)	Cllr B Johnstone	Cllr P Kember
Cllr D Johnstone (Vice Chair)	Cllr J Gosney	Cllr R Harris

COUNCILLORS ABSENT

None

ALSO PRESENT

Adam Hardy (Clerk to Rotherfield Parish Council) and two members of the public.

1. INTRODUCTION OF COUNCILLORS & OFFICERS.

The Councillors and Officers introduced themselves.

2. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING: -

a) Public forum.

None.

b) Apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85).

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr D Hiles.

It was **RESOLVED** that the reasons for absence be accepted.

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

None.

d) To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 19th August 2025 , be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes were a true record of the meeting, and the Committee Chair signed them.

e) Budget report to date for this Committee and consider any actions required.

The Clerk reported that there had been no changes to the Committee budget since it was presented to Full Council in December 2025.

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Clerk & RFO: Adam J Hardy, 3 Trinity Mews, Mill Crescent, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 2QU
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f) Report and updates regarding matters arising and actions from previous meetings.

- The Clerk reported that he had chased up East Sussex Highways regarding a meeting to discuss additional street lighting at Mark Cross. It is hoped a meeting date can be agreed for the first week of February 2026.
- The Clerk reported that he had chased Wealden District Council regarding the drainage at the New Road & Station Road junction. The item appears on the agenda later in this meeting.
- The Clerk confirmed that he had written three times to APCOA regarding Eridge Station Car Park but no response had been received from the parking company. Following a site meeting at Eridge Station this is now being followed up by Cllr Georgia Taylor (East Sussex County Council).
- The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the MP in August raising the Parish Council's concerns with regard to the bus service.
- The Clerk confirmed that an inspection of Rotherfield Pre-School building had taken place.
- The Clerk reported that the container had now been installed at the Recreation Ground and has continued to be in use.
- The Clerk reported that he had notified Wealdlink about Cllr Gosney's interest in becoming a Trustee and that he was now a Trustee.
- The Clerk confirmed that he had raised the condition of the Station Road pavements with East Sussex Highways. He has asked Cllr Standley (East Sussex County Council) to follow this up.
- The Clerk confirmed that some letters regarding overgrown hedgerows had been sent to properties in the Parish.

3. TO CONSIDER INFORMATION AND MAKE DECISIONS ON ACTIONS AND EXPENDITURE AS REQUIRED REGARDING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

i. Receive presentation from the A272-A267 Road Safety Group and agree on further actions.

Two members of the public presented the following to the Committee:

- There have been two fatal accidents on the A267; in March 2022 at Isenhurst Junction and in October 2024 at Mayfield Flat.

The fatality in March 2022 at Isenhurst happened after an elderly man crossing the A267 to a bus stop was in collision with a southbound private car. At the inquest in February 2024, the Assistant Coroner asked the accident investigation specialist police officer to read out his comprehensive findings.

The officer reported that the vehicle involved had been travelling at 51mph. He said that if it had been travelling at 40 mph, the victim would have probably survived the accident.

- The investigation at Mayfield Flat in 2024 is still ongoing.
- After the Mayfield Flat accident, a group was set up, calling itself the A267 Road Safety Group.

The group flourished with Susan and Melvyn being the driving force behind the group. They both made numerous presentations to Parish Councils and liaised with County and District Councillors.

A Facebook page was set up, and by October 2025, we had 1,000 members. During October 2025, there was a serious security breach.

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To capitalise on all their hard work and the subsequent positive results, they proceeded by forming another group, calling it the New A272 - A267 Road Safety Group. A new Facebook page was set up. Currently, they have 300 members, and happily, it is growing by approximately 100 members per month.

- The New A272/A267 Road Safety Group. The A267 is the main arterial road from Tunbridge Wells to the coast. While terminating at the Boship roundabout, the route itself continues southwards as the A22. The A272 joins the A267 at Hadlow Down and proceeds to Petersfield in Hampshire.

The Group's involvement will cover the A267 from the Boship roundabout to Mark Cross. On the A272, the cover begins at the A272/A267 Junction, extends through Hadlow Down and Buxted and ends at the A26 Budletts Roundabout (near Uckfield).

The reason for expanding the area is that we've received enquiries from people living nearby, or driving along both the A267 and A272. They have asked to be included in the group, hence the boundary changes

The group's Administrator is Melvyn Butcher.

The group has regular meetings with all the parish councils, namely Heathfield and Waldron, Horam and Vines Cross, Hadlow Down, Mayfield and Five Ashes, Buxted and hopefully Rotherfield. Melvyn is a Lay Member of the Mayfield and Five Ashes Road Safety Committee.

The group is in communication with ESCC regarding the Speed Reduction Scheme due to start on the A267 at Wellbrook Hill; the A267/A272 junction speed reduction, and the speed reduction at Mayfield Flat. This is a £500k project, and hopefully it will all be completed by November this year.

The group are fully aware that making the A267 and the A272 safer for all users will not be a quick fix. We are prepared for a long haul. Hopefully, by working in partnership with all parties, they will be able to make the A272 and the A267 better and safer roads for all vehicle users, cyclists, and pedestrians alike.

The Chair thanked the members of the group for their presentation. It was **AGREED** that Rotherfield Parish Council would like to be part of the group and use the media resources the group has to raise the profile of Highway Issues on the A267.

Cllr B Johnstone asked whether the media resources the group had could be extended to help with other Highways projects in the Parish, particularly the need for speed-reduction measures on the A26. Cllr P Kember suggested that we could also extend it to the B2100 road to Jarvis Brook.

Clerk to write to Melvyn and Susan to confirm that Rotherfield Parish Council would like to work in partnership with the group and discuss next steps in using their media connections to raise the profile of some of the Council's Highways projects.

ii. **Discuss and consider actions to address speeding vehicles on Mayfield Road, Rotherfield.**

Documents relating to this item had been circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting.

Councillors discussed the speed of vehicles on Mayfield Road and confirmed that the data had been shared with our PCSO, who had agreed to pass it on to the Road Safety Team.

Discussion about speeding in the Village was covered under the next agenda item.

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iii. Discuss and consider actions for the location of SID and speeding throughout the parish.

Councillors discussed the existing locations for deploying the Speed Indication Device (SID). It was **AGREED** that extra sites should be sought for approval to deploy the SID. **Councillors** to submit locations of possible SID sites to the Clerk so a list can be compiled and agreed at a future meeting. Councillors are asked to include What3Words locations.

The Chair suggested that if the Council should consider getting any more SIDs, they should be battery-powered, as the solar array is very hard to deploy.

Cllr D Johnstone reminded the Committee that we still needed to purchase additional brackets. **Clerk** to prioritise this action.

Further speed reduction measures were discussed for traffic through Rotherfield Village. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would begin discussions with East Sussex Highways towards a feasibility study for the possibility of the following on the village approaches:

- 1) Rumble Strips
- 2) Speed Pads
- 3) Speed Humps
- 4) A school area speed limit of 20mph.

Clerk to contact East Sussex Highways.

iv. Discuss and review further lobbying and action for speed reduction measures on the Boars Head to Eridge Road section of A26.

Due to Councillors having to leave, the meeting became inquorate, and this item could not be discussed. Clerk to add to another meeting agenda.

v. Discuss and consider actions for improving the junction visibility at the New Road junction with Mayfield Road/South Street.

The Chair agreed that this item could be taken after item 3i on the agenda.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk request that East Sussex County Council repaint the lines on the junction as a matter of urgency.

The Councillors understood the frustration of parking and are equally frustrated by the lack of enforcement for illegal parking in Wealden.

vi. Receive an update on actions regarding surface water running down New Road to Station Road.

Due to Councillors having to leave, the meeting became inquorate, and this item could not be discussed. Clerk to add to another meeting agenda.

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

1)	The Parish Council was pleased to received a presentation from the new A272/A267 Road Safety Group. The Council is looking forward to working in partnership with them.
2)	The Parish Council is continuing to investigate solutions to the surface water issues on New Road. It has secured a commitment from East Sussex Highways of a regular cleaning of the drains.
3)	The Parish Council will be surveying additional locations to deploy our Speed Indication Device across the Parish.

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4)	The Parish Council will approach East Sussex Highways to repaint the junction lines at the top of New Road Rotherfield. We kindly ask residents not to park on the double yellow lines or junction markings.
5)	Did you know that you can request Highways asset maps from East Sussex Highways to see who is responsible for hedgerows and roadside verges.

5. TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE.

Tuesday 24th March 2026 at the Rotherfield Community Hub (Memorial Institute) at 7:30pm.

6. REPORT DETAILS OF ITEMS AND ISSUES FOR INVESTIGATION, FURTHER ACTION OR FOR FUTURE AGENDA.

- The Clerk reported that he had obtained the Highways asset maps for the Bletchinglye Lane & Catts Hill junction. This is in relation to the land ownership of trees and hedgerows on the junction. Cllr Harris will go back to the resident concerned. **Cllr D Johnstone**, in conjunction with the **Clerk**, will take this forward with the resident who raised this issue.

The meeting became inquorate and was forced to close at **20:37**.

Signed:

Date:

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