



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

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY & EVENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 12TH MAY 2026 AT 7:30PM IN THE PARISH COUNCIL ROOM AT ROTHERFIELD VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT

Cllr J Richardson (Chair)
Cllr Paul Beach
Cllr Douglas Johnstone

Cllr Robert Harris
Cllr David Hiles

Cllr Paul Snelling
Cllr Jerry Gosney

COUNCILLORS ABSENT

Cllr Lucy Buck

ALSO PRESENT

Adam J Hardy	Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
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1. INTRODUCTION OF COUNCILLORS AND 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 Beverley Johnstone.

It was **RESOLVED** that the reasons for these apologies 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) Approval of the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 17th February 2026

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes were an accurate record and they were signed by the Chair.

e) Clerk's updates on actions from previous meetings.

- The Clerk reported that he had arranged for a Councillor to speak to Ashdown Radio about a forthcoming parish event.
- The Clerk confirmed that he had made arrangements to mark the Lamp Light of Peace 2026.
- The Clerk reported that all arrangements for the Parish Get Together (Parish Meeting) were put into action.

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Clerk: Adam J Hardy, 3 Trinity Mews, Mill Crescent, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 2QU
Tel: 07969512099. Email: clerk@rotherfieldparishcouncil.co.uk

Parish Council Website: www.rotherfieldparishcouncil.co.uk Twitter [@rotherfieldpc](https://twitter.com/rotherfieldpc) and on Facebook

- The Clerk confirmed that had informed the former Twinning Association of the decision to have a planter on the green by the book exchange.
- The Clerk confirmed that the April/May Parish Newsletter was sent out on time.

f) Receive committee financial report and agree any actions arising.

The financial reported was **NOTED** by the committee.

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

i. Discuss and review the Annual Parish Meeting (The Parish Get Together) 2026.

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

The Chair felt at first she was a bit disillusioned at the event due to the non-attendance of some groups and organisations however, the event was well attended and appeared to be a success in numbers attending. However, it confirmed that attendees were from a limited age range, mainly over 40 or under 10 with parents, and none in the 30 -40 age group and were either visitors from outside the parish or lived very locally in Rotherfield village centre, and this is something that the committee must continue to address. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would send follow up emails to the organisations that did not attend. **Clerk** to send emails.

The Chair spoke with the Headteacher of Rotherfield Primary School and that she felt that next year she would be able to bring some students along.

It was suggested that additional smaller events such as wine & cheese at the parish meetings held in Mark Cross and Eridge.

It was felt that the event could also include a review of what the council had accomplished in the last year.

Cllr Robert Harris raised points that attendees raised at the meeting and the Clerk will action these for future meetings. **Clerk** to add items to future agendas.

ii. Discuss and agree associated actions following correspondence from Saint-Chéron..

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

It was **RESOLVED** that an online meeting would be held with the newly elected representatives of Saint-Chéron. **Clerk** to arrange meeting.

Cllr Robert Harris asked that we proceed with the new planter adjacent to the Book Exchange. **Clerk** to speak to contractor and arrange construction.

iii. Discuss and review the Parish Newsletter.

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Paul Snelling would be the editor of the next issue of the Parish Newsletter.

Cllr Robert Harris asked for his message to be at the end of the newsletter and to invite other Councillors to have the opening message section. It was **AGREED** that Cllr Paul Beach and Cllr Paul Turner would write the opening section of the next edition of the newsletter.

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

1)	The Parish Council thanks all the organisations who attended the Parish Get Together. The Council would welcome ideas from the residents on what they would like at the next Parish Get Together.
2)	The Parish Council would like to offer its condolences on the sudden death of Lee the Landlord of the Catts Inn.
3)	The Council has welcomed the fresh approach from the Town Council of Saint-Chéron and look forward to building a closer relationship with our twin town.
4)	The Parish Council continue to monitor the plans for local government reorganisation. We will keep residents informed as it becomes aware of proposals.
5)	The Parish Council offer congratulations on the election of Cllr Michael Lunn and Cllr Georgia Taylor to East Sussex County Council.

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

- Tuesday 4th August 2026, at 7:30pm in the Rotherfield Parish Council Room at Rotherfield Village Hall.

6. REPORT DETAILS OF ANY URGENT ISSUES FOR NOTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDA.

- The Clerk asked if the Parish Council wanted to have a stall at the Rotherfield School PTCA Colour Run event at the Recreation Ground on 27th June 2026. It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council will have a stall at the PTA Colour Run event.
- The Parish Council **AGREED** to ask for a stall at the Rotherfield & Mark Cross Bonfire Society Summer Fair on Saturday 8th August 2026.
- Cllr Beverley Johnstone understood from parent communications that cadets planned to return to Crowborough Camp in September 2026.
- Cllr Robert Harris reported that the Council Bee Suit has been passed to the new keeper.
- Cllr Robert Harris asked if the Rotherfield Village Hall had made any further revisions to hire fees following discussions with the Bonfire Society. The Clerk reported that fees were being revised further and will report back to Cllr Robert Harris.
- Cllr Robert Harris (and Cllr Paul Turner via email) proposed a contribution towards recreation ground drainage works of £4,000. It was **AGREED** that the Council would contribute £4,000 towards the drainage works as a delegated fund. **Clerk** to notify Rotherfield Sports Club.

Meeting ended at: **8:31pm**

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

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