



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

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS, RECREATION & CEMETERIES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 18TH AUGUST 2026 AT 7:30PM IN LIBRARY ROOM AT ROTHERFIELD COMMUNITY HUB (MEMORIAL INSTITUTE)

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Cllr Paul Beach (Co-Chair)	Cllr Robert Harris	Cllr Georgina Frowde
Cllr Paul Turner (Co-Chair)	Cllr Peter Kember	Cllr Beverley Johnstone
Cllr Benj Cheeseman	Cllr Janice Richardson	

COUNCILLORS ABSENT

Cllr Lucy Buck

ALSO PRESENT

Christian Mills	<i>Associate Member</i>
Adam J Hardy	<i>Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer</i>
Members of the Public	5

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 Paul Snelling, Cllr David Hiles and Cllr Douglas Johnstone

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 the Highways, Lighting & Transport Committee meeting held on 9th June 2026, be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

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Clerk & RFO: Adam J Hardy, 3 Trinity Mews, Mill Crescent, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 2QU
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It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes were a true record of the meeting, and the Committee Co-Chair (Cllr Paul Beach) signed them.

e) Report and updates regarding matters arising and actions from previous meetings.

- The Clerk confirmed that the contractor had been notified about the Bus Shelter refurbishments.
- The Clerk confirmed that he had revisited the documents on the slip road closure on the A267 by Pennies Nursery. East Sussex Highways agreed the slip road closure request from Rotherfield Parish Council on safety grounds as a result of vehicles speeding past the school. The Committee noted that bollards had been removed and it was agreed these should be replaced. **Clerk** to arrange replacement.
- The Clerk confirmed he had written to the properties along the roadside from the Mark Cross Millenium Green Car Park. However, this matter was now on hold because of renewed interest from East Sussex Highways for street lighting in this area. As a result of investigations, the Clerk had discovered that the new administration at East Sussex has closed the match funding applications for the time being.
- The Clerk reported that the new SID had been purchased.
- The Clerk reported that an approach has been made to East Sussex County Council/Highways regarding a possible weight restriction in the Parish. East Sussex County Council Policy is to not restrict the road network any more than necessary and would therefore not consider a weight restriction in Rotherfield Village.

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

i. Discuss and consider further actions regarding anti-social and dangerous parking on the New Road/South Street junction in Rotherfield Village.

Members of the public addressed the Committee regarding this item. The Committee made the following resolutions:

- It was **RESOLVED** to install plastic bollards on the junction of South Street and New Road. **Clerk** to purchase bollards and arrange a contractor for installation.
- It was **RESOLVED** to contact the PCSO regarding the dangerous parking on this junction. **Clerk** to contact the PCSO.
- It was **RESOLVED** to lobby East Sussex Highways for the repainting of the existing lines and Keep Clear boxes. **Clerk** to raise with East Sussex Highways.
- It was **RESOLVED** to add an item to the 27th August 2026 Parish Council Meeting for the Council to officially support the petition of New Road residents. **Clerk** to add item to the Parish Council meeting agenda.
- It was **RESOLVED** to contact Rotherfield Village residents and appeal for considerate parking respecting the keep clear boxes and white lines on the highways.
- It was **RESOLVED** to brief Cllr Michael Lunn, East Sussex County Councillor on the proposed petition. **Clerk** to share County Councillor contact details with petition leaders.

The Chair thanked the residents for attending.

ii. Discuss and agree locations for and movement schedule for the new Speed Indication Device (SID).

It was **AGREED** that a timetable would be produced for the relocation of the SID device that Councillors could sign up to. **Clerk** to produce timetable.

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iii. Receive an update on the restart of the Parish Speed Watch Scheme.

Cllr Robert Harris updated the Committee on his meeting with Sussex Police. He also shared correspondence with Speedwatch volunteers. It was noted that a new leader of the Speedwatch group had been appointed. It was **AGREED** that Cllr Robert Harris would be the official liaison with the Speedwatch group as it required Council underwriting for insurance purposes.

Cllr Robert Harris advised that we are awaiting a response from Sussex Police regarding the resident's correspondence.

iv. Receive an update on the raising of Kerb Sets at the bottom of Station Road, Rotherfield.

The Clerk updated Councillors on correspondence with East Sussex Highways on this matter. The Operations Team have now completed their investigation and advised that, when their contractors attended site to carry out the works, a cable was identified beneath the kerb sets during utility detection scans. As a result, the proposed works are currently being reassessed to ensure they can be undertaken safely.

Cllr Paul Beach reported that he felt communication from East Sussex Highways was very poor on all Highways matters. The Clerk confirmed that this was the view of many Clerks in Wealden and they have asked SLCC under Trevor Leggo to intervene. It was **AGREED** that Rotherfield Parish Council support SLCC in this approach. **Clerk** to contact Trevor Leggo to see what progress has been made.

v. Receive an update on Bridge Works at the bottom of Station Road, Rotherfield.

The Clerk updated Councillors on correspondence with East Sussex Highways on this matter. The Structures Team have advised that the design stage has now been completed. However, some adjustments are required following the initial design work, which has resulted in a revised programme. At present, the team is anticipating that the works will take place in November. That said, they are actively exploring opportunities to bring the programme forward if possible.

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would chase this up in mid-September. **Clerk** to chase East Sussex Highways.

vi. Discuss and review possible locations for additional street lighting in Mark Cross Village.

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

It was **RESOLVED** to request three streetlamps at the following location in Mark Cross.

- 1) Next to the bus stop at the top of the junction with Wadhurst Road.
- 2) On the corner of the entrance to Mark Cross Millenium Green Car Park.
- 3) On the corner of St Mark Mews junction with the main road.

Clerk to notify East Sussex Highways.

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

1)	The Parish Council is working with Sussex Police and residents to restart the Parish Speedwatch initiative.
2)	The Parish Council agreed to fund the installation of plastic bollards on the junction of South Street and New Road in Rotherfield Village.
3)	The Parish Council will shortly be deploying its new more portable SID. Please keep an eye out for it as you travel the parish.
4)	The Parish Council is asking residents to park responsibly and asking that drivers respect white lines and keep clear boxes in the parish.
5)	The Parish Council continues to liaise with East Sussex Highways with regard to the bridge replacement at the bottom of Station Road. This is currently scheduled for November but no definitive date is yet known.

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

Tuesday 13th October 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 an increase in communications regarding the allotments. He suggested that a meeting with plot holders be held in September. It was **AGREED** to hold a meeting of allotment plot holders in early September. **Clerk** to arrange meeting. Cllr Robert Harris requested that we ensure the landlords of the allotments are consulted on council decisions regarding them.
- Cllr Paul Turner asked the Council to reconsider the policy of vehicles on the Recreation Ground for parish events. It was **AGREED** that an item would be put on the 17th September Parish Council meeting agenda for further discussion. **Clerk** to add item
- Cllr Benj Cheeseman reported that he had seen good use of the new basketball hoop on the Recreation ground.
- Cllr Beverly Johnstone asked what progress had been made with regard to repairing the fingerposts in the Parish. The Clerk confirmed that the survey of fingerposts had been arranged with the contractor but would not take place until September.
- Cllr Beverley Johnstone reported that the street light on Tubwell Lane was still not working. **Clerk** to raise with East Sussex Highways.
- Cllr Robert Harris asked whether our contractor could cut the grass on the triangle at Mark Cross, opposite Pennies Nursery. It was **AGREED** that this can be done. **Clerk** to notify our contractor.
- The Clerk informed the Committee about the forthcoming road closure of Church Road. A large amount of correspondence on this matter had been received, and an announcement will be made on the Parish Council Social Media Channels.
- Cllr Paul Turner asked if we could chase Gillridge Fencing about fencing the land adjacent to Rotherfield Recreation Ground. **Clerk** to contact Gillridge Fencing.
- Cllr Georgina Frowde reported that Sat Naps were currently showing incorrect speed limits along the Forstal and Groombridge Lane in Eridge. It has also, in some instances, removed the Forstal for traffic, which means lorries and agricultural vehicles have been going along Groombridge Lane and getting stuck. **Clerk** to raise with the Department for Transport.
- Cllr Paul Turner reported that he had recently walked the footpath alongside the former Legat Ballet School and found no evidence of aggressive dogs, as on previous occasions.

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The meeting closed at **9:26pm**.

Signed:

Date:

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