

CHALVINGTON WITH RIPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in Hayton Baker
Hall, Ripe on Thursday 12th May 2016

PRESENT: Cllr Dunbar Dempsey (Acting Chair) Cllr Shonfeld
Cllr White Cllr Ward
Cllr Brass

ATTENDING: District Councilor Ede, A Stevens (Clerk) and five members of the public were in attendance.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors English and Webb.

2. To elect a Chairman for the ensuing year

Cllr Ward proposed and Cllr White seconded Cllr Webb for the role of Chairman to Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council. All were in favour.

Cllr Webb had previously confirmed he will accept the role of Chairman to Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council.

3. To elect a Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year

Cllr White proposed and Cllr Ward seconded Cllr Dunbar Dempsey for the role of Vice Chairman to Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council. All were in favour.

Cllr Dunbar Dempsey kindly accepted the role of Vice-Chairman to Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council.

Councillors then agreed the item about the Business Plan would be moved to this point in the meeting to allow District Ede to be in attendance.

4. Business Plan

Councillor White asked;

1. If Wealden District Council will attend a future Parish Council Meeting to answer their questions about the Local Plan.
2. Why officers appear to contradict themselves, specifically with small scale developments sometimes arguing for dense developments and sometimes arguing for those that are more thinly spread.
3. Why officers will not say if any other sites in the Parish have been put forward.
4. Why Wealden appears to be forcing a local landowner to build six properties when the landowner says he only wants to build two.
5. Why some barn conversions are included in the housing numbers and some are not.

6. For more detail about the 5 year availability of land.

Councillor White asked District Councillor Ede to ask if Wealden will attend a future Parish Council Meeting to address their concerns.

Councillors were also concerned that the housing allocation figures include some of Eastbourne's and Tunbridge Wells' allocation under the Duty to Co-Operate and suggested both towns should be considering building more flats. They will include their concerns in the next LDF Consultation.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th May 2015 were noted having been previously approved at an earlier meeting.

6. To adopt the Standing Orders/Financial Regulations for the ensuing year

Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council resolved to adopt the latest Standing Orders for the ensuing year which had been circulated by the Clerk before the meeting.

Councillors resolved to accept a change to the Financial Regulations recommended by the Internal Auditor and agreed to remove the line 'The Council shall seek credit references in respect of members or employees who act as signatories' because the bank carries out any necessary credit reference checks. They then resolved to adopt the Financial Regulations for the ensuing year.

7. To appoint Councillors as Representatives of the Parish Council on the following bodies:

Councillors resolved that the following Councillors serve on the outside bodies listed;

Police Local Action Team	Cllr Webb
Emergency Co-ordinator	Cllr Brass
Wealden District Association of Local Councils	Cllr Dunbar Dempsey
Tree Warden	Cllr Ward
Hayton Baker Hall	Cllr Brass
ESALC AGM	Cllr White

The Clerk will send Councillor Dunbar Dempsey the date of the next Wealden District Association Meeting.

8. To consider payment of the following annual subscriptions;

Councillors resolved unanimously to pay the following subscriptions for the ensuing year;

Wealden District Associations of Local Councils
Society of Local Council Clerks
Sussex Association of Local Councils
Zurich Insurance

9. To agree the meeting dates for the year ahead

Councillors resolved unanimously that the dates will be;

2016

July	4 th
September	5 th
October	3 rd
November	7 th
December	5 th

2017

January	5 th (Thursday)
February	6 th
March	6 th
April	3 rd
May	4 th (Thursday)
June	5 th

10. To agree bank signatories

Councillors resolved that two councillors sign each cheque and that there are four signatories – Councillors Webb, Brass, Ward and Dunbar Dempsey.

11. To adopt the accounts for the financial year to 31st March 2016

Councillors **resolved** to accept the Receipts and Payments Account, Bank Reconciliation, Asset Schedule, Annual Return, Annual Governance Statement, Risk Management Document and Internal Control Arrangements for 2015-2016.

Councillors also agreed to put a notice in the noticeboard inviting local clubs and organisations to apply for grants, at precept setting time.

12. To adopt the Code of Conduct for the ensuing year

Councillors resolved to accept the Code of Conduct and Register of Interests introduced by Wealden District Council under the Localism Act 2012.

13. General Power of Competence

Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council resolved that it meets the prescribed conditions for the General Power of Competence.

14. TPO's

This was covered in the Annual Parish Meeting.

15. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to be considered on this occasion.

16. Questions from Members

Councillor White asked if the Police and Crime Commissioner can be invited to a future Parish Council Meeting to talk about the future of Police Community Support Officers.

Councillor Dunbar Dempsey asked members to consider an update to their decision to contribute to the fencing on the drive/path to the field that is used by the village to park for the hall. The Parish Council agreed last year to pay for the wood and the adjoining land owner said she would pay to have it erected. The Parish Council was given a verbal estimated cost of £250 and agreed to that (see minutes AGM 26th May 2015). The actual cost is going to be £464. Councillors asked that the contractor sends a copy of the estimate to the Clerk.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.00pm.