

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF EAST CHILTINGTON
held on 2nd May 2018 at 7.00 pm in Plumpton Village Hall

www.eastchiltington.net
email: clerk@eastchiltington.net

Present: Cllr. E.Harrison

In attendance: Mrs J.Toomey - Clerk to the Council.

5 members of the parish council. 1 member of the public.

	Meeting commenced: 7.00pm
1	Apologies for absence were received from : Cllr. S.Osborne (ESCC, LDC). Cllr.Funnell Cllr.Harrison welcomed the public
2	There were no questions from the public but a resident said he would like to thank the members of the parish council for all the work they do on behalf of residents.
3	The chair gave her report (attached)
4	Council noted the report from the clerk and financial officer, as attached to the agenda.
5	Minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2017 were agreed and signed. There were no matters arising.
6	District Cllr.Sarah Osborne had advised the council that she would be unable to attend. County Councillor Jim Sheppard was not in attendance and had sent no report.
	The meeting closed at 7.20

JT 08/05/2017

Signed.....(Chairman) Dated.....

Mrs J.Toomey, Clerk to East Chiltington Parish Council
Bowling Green, Chiltington Lane, East Chiltington BN7 3QU, East Sussex Tel: 01273 890621

East Chiltington Parish Council - Chair's report 2017-8

The Parish Council

The membership of the Parish Council has remained stable over the last year.

Councillor roles and responsibilities reflect key areas of work of Parish Council.

In addition to the Chair (Buzz Harrison) and Vice-Chair (Carol Funnell), these roles are:

1. Chair of Planning and Environment Committee: Mary Symes.
2. Finance and staffing: Chris Farmelo.
3. TECT Trustees: Chris Farmelo, Mary Symes.
4. Environment (footpaths, rights of way, trees, flooding, organising litter-pick, phone-box maintenance, sandpit): Jodie Smith, Carol Funnell.

5. Community Care (provision for those in need within the parish, e.g. elderly, those without transport, young children, teenagers, etc; link to Plumpton and EC Good Neighbours Scheme): Carol Funnell, Jodie Smith.
6. Communications (Parish magazine, website): Chris Farmelo, Buzz Harrison.
7. Community events and facilities (Parish Party and other social events, leisure and community facilities and fund-raising for these): Buzz Harrison, Roger Nurse.
8. Highways and verges: Julia Tingle, Carol Funnell

Jenni Toomey remains our invaluable clerk. This year, along with Hamsey Parish Council, the PC nominated Jenni for the 'Clerk of the Year' award. Although this was not in the end successful, it is an indication of how highly we regard everything that Jenni does for the PC. Thankyou Jenni!

Overview of the year

Much of the work of the Parish Council involves commenting on planning applications and liaising with other bodies such as ESCC Highways (for example with regard to signage, road safety and so on) and LDC. In addition, councillors participate in meetings of bodies such as the SDNP and CPRE and respond to individual requests and enquiries from residents.

Highlights from 2017-8 include the following.

June 2017. The Forge planning application

The proposal to convert the old forge to a house met with considerable local resistance and the Parish Council also objected to this proposal. Eventually, the planning officers recommended refusal and, although the applicant initially wanted this to go the planning committee, he withdrew from this at the last minute. The planning application was duly refused.

June 2017. Parish Party

The 2017 Parish Party included Jeux Sans Frontieres fun and games, and dancing to the fabulous Stanmer Band, including East Chiltington's very own Elliot.

November 2017. Village Green Application success

In November 2017, East Sussex held its Town and Village Green Registration Panel, which agreed unanimously to award Village Green Status to the Hollycroft Field. The documentation for this was lodged in January 2018. The decision to apply for Village Green Status followed a referendum of the Parish back in 2013 and an overwhelming vote in favour. The whole process took nearly four years and involved a great deal of work by various people, but particularly on the part of Joe Newbigin, the pupil barrister who worked for us for a nominal fee, thanks to the Environmental Law Foundation.

The future management of the Hollycroft field is now the subject of discussion between the PC and LDC. We have just received an offer from LDC to devolve the field, and other grassed areas at Hollycroft, to the PC. This would give the PC full ownership of the land but would obviously also incur maintenance costs. No decision about this will be taken until the range of costs and benefits is ascertained and a full consultation with residents is undertaken.

March 2018 – litter pick

The litter pick was delayed because of the awful weather and eventually took place on a day in which the rain and snow held off for a while. The pile of rubbish collected was huge and there was a great turn out of helpers. Carol Funnell and Teresa Shopland made delicious cakes and the PC rewarded everyone with liquid refreshment.