

East Chiltington Parish Council

www.eastchiltington.net

Mrs J.Toomey, Clerk to East Chiltington Parish Council
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Members of **East Chiltington Parish Council** are required to **attend the annual meeting** of the parish council on **Tuesday 21st May 2024 at 7.30pm** in **Beechwood Hall, Cooksbridge**

Jenni Toomey, Clerk to East Chiltington Parish Council

Dated 2024

Up to fifteen minutes are available near the start of the meeting for the public to express a view or ask a question on relevant matters on the following agenda or to bring items to the attention of the council for possible discussion at a future meeting. Public are welcome to stay and observe the rest of the meeting.

- 1 **Election of chair/vice chair and any apologies for absence.**
2. **To consider any declaration of interest on any of the agenda items/update of interests.**
3. **Any questions from the public**
4. **Minutes of the parish council meeting** held 5.3.24 (to be agreed / signed as a true record)
5. **Matters arising from last meeting** (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) to note actions taken.

6. **Financial matters**

- a) To approve payment of invoices (including v.a.t) and any cheques to be signed

*Cheque No: 101195	£	Clerk salary/expenses for March 24
*Cheque No: 101196	£150.00	Plumpton & EC News subscription
*Cheque No: 101197	£118.66	Subscription for Nalc/Esalc
*Cheque No: 101198	£ 7.87	Cllr.Funnell. Refreshments for annual litter pick
*Cheque No: 101199	£	Clerk salary/expenses for April 24
*Cheque No: 101200	£150.00	S.R.Brentnall Internal Audit
*Cheque No: 101201	£311.11	CAS Insurance

- b) **To note** the Council's current financial situation
- | | |
|--|------------------|
| Business Current Account | £ 6074.95 |
| (*Less payments outstanding) | |
| Reserve account | £ 3132.26 |
| **Includes Village day funds (£407.87ring fenced) and (£320) | |

2024 precept received: £4350 (half year)

- c) To declare that East Chiltington parish council is an exempt authority within the definition contained in the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015
- d) To consider the findings of the internal audit review
- e) To approve the Annual Governance Statement
- f) To consider the Accounting Statements and to approve the Accounting Statements
- g) To ensure the Accounting Statements are signed and dated by the chair
- h) To note that the accounts and accounting records will be available for public inspection between the 13th June and the 22nd July 2022.
- i) To consider the annual subscription to NALC/ESALC - £118.66

7. **Planning matters** (P&E committee: Cllr.Symes (chair), Cllr.David, Cllr.Nurse, Cllr.Medvei)

- a) **To note or discuss any current application**

LW/24/0187 Greensand, Chiltington Lane: Installation of 2 first floor balconies at rear, access stairs at side elevation and rooflight to front roof – council had no objection

LW/24/0243 Land at North Barnes Lane, East Chiltington – Erection of 4 bedroom detached two storey dwelling – Council objected on grounds of building outside of the planning boundary

LW/24/0277 3 May Tree Cottages, Mill Lane: Single storey rear extension– council had no objection

b) To note any decisions by LDC/SDNP:

c) Any update on the Lewes District Plan - sites EC2 and EC11

d) Minutes of the P&E meeting held 6th May 2024 (to be agreed / signed as a true record)

8. To consider any councillor responsibilities and reports:

a) **Finance & Staffing:** Cllr.David

b) **Hollycroft grass and maintenance:** Cllr.David

c) **Communications/website/magazine entry:** Cllr.Elms

d) **Magazine committee:** Cllr.Medvei

e) **Environment/Litter pick:** Cllr.Nurse

f) **Community events:** vacant

g) **Highways, Verges:** through the clerk to ESCC /Cllr.Milligan

9. Correspondence received since last meeting - to note all and agree any actions required.

10. TECT – (The East Chiltington Trust) – Report from Cllr.Symes/Cllr. David

11. Update on the purchase of a secure storage unit to house the parish marquees, etc.
To note that the council has been offered a grant of £2000 from the SDNPA sustainable communities fund

12. To discuss any plans for the village day – July 6th

13 Any update on community use of the Church at East Chiltington – Cllr.Medvei

14. Items for noting or inclusion on a future agenda.
To note the new PCSO for the area is Chris Marchant

15. The 2024 meetings of the Parish Council : 16th July, 10th September, 12th November – all at Beechwood Hall, Cooksbridge 7.00pm

signed.....Mrs J.Toomey, Clerk to East Chiltington Parish Council

Agenda Item no.9. Correspondence received since last meeting

Note: The rural bulletin is an online publication received every week if councillors wish to see a copy.

Note: A weekly bulletin from NALC and SSALC is available if councillors wish to see a copy

- 1.3.24 ESALC nominations for SDNP rep. - emailed to all
- 1.3.24 Community energy event in Lewes 18th May – passed to cllr.Elms for magazine
- 3.3.24 Cllr.Shefras (Plumpton) details of Weald to Waves project – emailed to all
- 9.3.24 CPRE update – emailed to all
- 11.3.24 ESALC re.SDNP hustings – emailed to all
- 11.3.24 Cllr.Saunders re: SDNP nomination – emailed to all
- 12.3.24 LDC teams meeting April 17th – clerk to attend if possible
- 14.3.24 SDNP newsletter – emailed to all
- 14.3.24 Transport for SE event – question raised re:Flexibus
- 18.3.24 Cllr.Saunders re: SDNP nomination – emailed to all
- 20.3.24 ESCC re:Novington verge – sent to chair
- 20.3.24 ESALC re: phone switch to digital – emailed to all
- 20.3.24 Ovesco details of Eco Home event in Lewes 18th May – emailed to all
- 22.3.24 SDNPA recording of the parish meeting 13th March – emailed to all
- 26.3.24 SDNPA renewable energy study – clerk has replied
- 27.3.24 Cllr. A.Ross re: SDNPA vacancy – emailed to all
- 28.3.24 Maria Caulfield April report
- 2.4.24 Toby Collins, LDC re: enforcement of refused planning application
- 2.4.24 Rupert Clubb, ESCC re: future of the Flexibus and compass services
- 3.4.24 SDNPA last call for CIL projects
- 3.4.24 SDNPA Changing Chalk grants – sent to Vice chair
- 3.4.24 Cllr.Milligan. Monthly report – emailed to all
- 4.4.24 LDC re: Digital phone switch over – emailed to all
- 5.4.24 CPA newsletter – emailed to all
- 5.4.24 SDNP newsletter – emailed to all
- 8.4.24 LDC energy event 18th May
- 8.4.24 ESALC details of 3 tier conference – emailed to all for topics to raise (no replies)
- 9.4.24 ESCC Waste & minerals plan Inspectors report
- 15.4.24 SDNPA Update on Local Plan Review – emailed to all
- 15.4.24 CPA Green Defenders on Zoom – emailed to all
- 15.4.24 ESCC re: Potholes in Beechwood Lane
- 15.4.24 Estates Planning community talk offer
- 16.4.24 LDC Peacehaven & Telscombe plan – emailed to all
- 18.4.24 Support for continued Biosphere designation – emailed to all – clerk has replied
- 22.4.24 Living Coast newsletter
- 22.4.24 SDNP Newsletter – emailed to all
- 23.4.24 SDNP Planning news
- 23.4.24 LDC Grants for rural fuel poverty – for newsletter?
- 26.4.24 CPRE newsletter - emailed to all
- 8.5.24 Weald to Waves newsletter
- 8.5.24 Offer of Legacy talk for communities – clerk has replied, no venue available
- 9.5.24 LDC Town planning designation measures – emailed to all
- 11.5.24 CPRE newsletter – emailed to all
- 11.5.24 ESALC details of 3 tier conference in Newhaven – emailed to all
- 11.5.24 Details of tree warden event – sent to James Otway

Correspondence received from residents:

- 5.4.24 Request to borrow the parish marquees – passed to council for consideration
- 2.5.24 Inquiry re: parish allotments – passed to TECT
- 9.5.24 Re: Poor postal service

Report from East Sussex County Councillor Matthew Milligan May 2024

During April I continued to regularly report potholes and other road defects and undertook various casework from local residents.

The updates from county are: [East Sussex County Council to restore heritage Sussex rail bridge](#)

Campaigners have welcomed the news that the Church Road Bridge in Barcombe near Lewes has been saved. The bridge was built in the 19th century as part of the line connecting Lewes and East Grinstead but closed in the 1950s. National Highways had planned to fill it with concrete to improve its safety but has now deferred ownership to East Sussex County Council, who have said they will sympathetically restore it. Campaigners have maintained that the area is vital to the local ecosystem.

[East Sussex County Council approves plan to distribute financial support to local residents](#)

On 25 April 2024, the Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health agreed to approve a plan for the use of the funds East Sussex has been allocated as part of the Household Support Fund 2024. On 6 March 2024, national government announced that the Fund would be extended for a further six months, from 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2024. East Sussex County Council has been allocated £3,896,783.88 for the six-month extension period.

[Views sought to shape future Autism services](#)

Autistic people and their support networks in East Sussex are being encouraged to share their views on the range of services, facilities, and opportunities available across the county. To mark World Autism Acceptance Week, which runs from 2 to 8 April, East Sussex County Council has launched a public consultation on behalf of the East Sussex Autism Partnership Board. This will help to develop an All Age Autism Action Plan which will support Autistic people of all age groups in East Sussex, from childhood to adulthood.

Autistic people who live and work in East Sussex are encouraged to have their say about their experiences of health and care services, as well as transport, housing and education, and the availability and scope of employment and volunteering opportunities.

Find out more and take part in the consultation by visiting the county council's consultations website. Residents can also give their feedback via email at apb@eastsussex.gov.uk, over the phone by calling 07745 106 727, or by writing to Bernadette van Gaalen, Autism Project and Engagement Manager, East Sussex County Council, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, BN7 1UE. Paper copies of the survey can also be requested via email or phone, and completed surveys can be returned using the pre-paid envelope provided.

[South Downs National Park at forefront of wellbeing scheme](#)

A new scheme has been launched to help more people from urban areas access the South Downs National Park. Health and wellbeing grants have been created for residents in parts of Sussex and Surrey who might not have visited before and who may struggle with transport costs. The scheme is run in partnership with Community Transport Sussex, which is able to provide a minibus service to and from the park.

[New app to help residents prepare for the future](#)

A new app designed to help residents lead a full and healthy life in older age has been officially launched. Residents are being encouraged to download the Life Transitions app to support them to prepare and plan for their future life, including events such as retirement, moving home, changes in health and mobility, finding new roles and purpose, becoming a carer, or experiencing bereavement. The app is part of a pilot scheme supported by UK Research and Innovation funding as part of the Healthy Ageing Challenge. It will help people think about what's important to them, what resources they have, and what they will need to feel prepared for significant changes. It has been developed based on feedback from residents about the kind of help and support they might benefit from.

For support with the app, information about volunteering or getting support from a volunteer email LifeTransitions@eastsussex.gov.uk or call 07724 287034.

[Sussex residents asked to get involved to help nature and wildlife](#)

People are being asked to share their experiences and observations of nature and wildlife in Sussex as part of a nationwide initiative to address declining habitats and species. Residents are being asked for feedback about what aspects of nature and wildlife are important to them and what changes they have noticed locally, which will help inform Local Nature Recovery Strategies.

The easiest way for residents to get involved is to complete the survey which asks questions about how and where they connect with nature, the habitats or species they value, any changes they've noticed, and any wider benefits they'd like to see in their local area. It should take around 5-10 minutes to complete.

The survey can be found here and will close on 30 June. For more information about the strategies and how local people can get involved, visit www.sussexnaturerecovery.org.uk.

[Community groups urged to apply for Crowdfunder campaign](#)

Projects enhancing the lives of residents are invited to apply to the Crowdfund East Sussex campaign, which will match fund public donations from the county council's Community Wellbeing Fund up to a total of £25,000. Projects that promote cultural vitality, economic prosperity, social equity, and environmental sustainability across East Sussex are encouraged to apply and up to 10 projects will be chosen to receive a share of the match funding. Applications for

Crowdfund East Sussex 2024 opened on 29 April and will close at midnight on 23 May. The fundraising campaign will start on 27 May.

More information about the council's Community Wellbeing Fund and the Crowdfunder campaign, including how to apply, can be found at [here](#).

Update for East Chiltington Parish Council May 2024 Maria Caulfield MP.

Please accept my apologies that I am unable to join you at your upcoming meeting. I do however have the following updates for the parish.

Government Funding for Roads

I welcome East Sussex County Council's plan for utilising the initial £52 million government funding to resurface local roads. This funding, sourced from savings due to the cancellation of Phase 2 of the HS2 project, underscores the government's commitment to improving transportation networks. With £5.9 million allocated for pothole repairs and a projected increase in road investment from £34,650,000 to £56,496,000, there's a clear dedication to enhancing road infrastructure. Overall, these efforts signify a promising step toward visibly better roads in our community.

Lewes Delivery Office Update

I've been continuing to liaise with Royal Mail and the Minister responsible for Postal Services regarding service levels in Lewes and surrounding villages. The Universal Postal Obligation, set by Ofcom under the Postal Services Act, remains unchanged since 2011, with no plans for alteration by the government. Royal Mail is obligated to meet delivery standards set by Ofcom, with the regulator having enforcement powers. I have been informed that recent disruptions in mail deliveries in Lewes were due to high sickness rates and vacancies among staff, but the situation has improved with new hires and reduced sickness levels. David Gold, Director of External Affairs and Policy for Royal Mail, visited the Lewes Delivery Office unannounced to assess performance and address challenges. Recruitment efforts are underway to further improve service. I'll continue monitoring closely and provide updates as needed. Thanks to our local posties for their hard work, and feel free to reach out if any residents are concerned over their deliveries or if further assistance is required.

Waspi Update

The WASPI Campaign seeks justice for women affected by changes in the state pension age, advocating for those born between April 6, 1950, and April 5, 1960. Since 1995, when the government announced equalising the pension age, concerns have arisen regarding the lack of adequate notice and information provided. As an MP since 2015, I've supported the campaign, submitting one of the initial test cases. Recently, the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman ruled that the Department for Work and Pensions failed to provide sufficient information, recommending a compensation scheme with payments ranging from £1,000 to £2,950. While constituents welcome the acknowledgment of the need for compensation, there are concerns about the proposed levels. I've been urging ministerial colleagues for a swift establishment of the scheme. Your input on this matter would be valuable and can be shared with me at maria.caulfield.mp@parliament.uk.

Renter's Reform Bill Progressing

In the ongoing progress of the Renters Reform Bill, significant amendments have been introduced during Commons Committee and Report Stages. The Government has proposed measures to introduce a Decent Homes standard in the private rented sector, create a new ground for possession allowing landlords renting to students to seek possession before each new academic year, and prohibit discrimination against potential tenants based on benefits status or having children. Additionally, amendments have been tabled to establish a six-month period for tenants between tenancies, preventing short-term lets, and requiring an assessment on barriers to possession before abolishing Section 21 for existing tenancies.