

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at Kirdford Village Hall on Monday 18th May 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Mrs A Gillett
Cllr Mr T Brooks
Cllr Mr A Campbell
Cllr Mr A Persson
Cllr Mr T Piedade
Cllr Mr A Vernon

In attendance: Cllr Mr G Evans, Cllr Mrs J Duncton, Cllr C Todhunter

76. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair. Cllr A Gillett was elected Chair and Cllr A Persson was elected Vice-Chair.

77. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Mrs N Goddard

78. Disclosures of Interest: None.

79. Public Participation: There were no members of the public in attendance.

80. Approval of Meeting Minutes

To resolve that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th April 2026 be signed as a correct record.

81. Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Gareth Evans / Cllr Charles Todhunter

Local Updates

Foxbridge – Despite strong opposition to this and representations from Cllr. Gareth Evans, Plaistow and Ifold Parish Council and three residents the application was approved. However, the planning committee were conflicted but ultimately could not find reasonable grounds to refuse that would stand up to appeal.

Grass at Butts Meadow – A resident at Butts Meadow has been in contact regarding the long grass and claims that Hyde have refused to cut this citing it as private property rather than a communal space. This has been challenged by us, and we hope that Hyde will resolve the situation for residents of the 6 bungalows impacted

Planning applications – Charles and I have met with several residents in the recent weeks to discuss ways to object or comment on planning applications with focus on material considerations.

CDC Wide

Elections – The County Council Election will be taking place on 7th May. We wish all candidates the best of luck and recognise that it is important for district council to work closely with our West Sussex counterpart to ensure best outcomes for residents.

Consultation on dogs in public spaces – From Friday 8th May residents will be able to share their views on CDCs proposed public space protection order on dog control in public spaces. The public space and protection order deals with issues such as removal of dog mess, keeping dogs on leads when instructed

and exclusion of dogs from parks and play areas. To comment please go to

<https://app.snapsea.io/p/c/chichester/letstalkdogs>

Surgeries

For personal family reasons Gareth was unable to hold surgeries in April. The summer surgery schedule will be published shortly. In the meantime both Gareth and Charles have been and are available by phone or to visit residents adhoc.

Cllr Mrs J Duncton

Not a large report this time but to assure everyone that business as usual at County with all the Services continuing as normal. We have had our first get together just to sign up the paperwork etc and next week on the 22nd we have the annual Council meeting when all the Political Parties will put their committee decisions before the Council.

Interesting times. I am hoping to get back on Planning and Rights of Way so we shall see. Obviously being the third Party and with the Liberal Democrats joining with the Labour and Independent Councillors we Conservatives only get 14 committee places.

That said of course we all have the chance to air our views at Council and I will be doing that and in my opinion the best thing we do is work with our communities and you don't have to be on a committee to request say road repairs or School issues. You can be assured that I will continue to work with my Parish's as ever. It's the best bit of my work anyway and I also try and get to some Village lunches where I meet others from the Villages.

Please be assured that I will do my best for all my Parish's and look forward to working with you for however long it is that this Government says regarding getting on with Unitary Authority development. You will have seen that the present Minister cast aside all our requests for County wanting one so that everyone had the same Service in West Sussex, the D's and B's wanting 2 which we could live with but would be more expensive and of course 2 different Services and then there was Brighton and Hove that wanted 5 thereby putting us in large debt for many years. Steve Read the Minister has now decided after saying he wanted 4 to go back out to consult everyone again at however many millions so there we are. Watch this space.

Janet Duncton
County Councillor Petworth division

82. Correspondence

Correspondence had been received from representatives of Plaistow and Kirdford School seeking a donation for the purchase of bookmarks and badges for the fete to be held in June. This was agreed in the sum of £85

83. Chairperson's Announcements

The Chair thanked the District and Ward Councillors present for the reception held in Chichester.

The Chair thanked all those who helped with the village Spring clean.

Cllr Persson agreed to complete the Environment Agency survey on the Council's behalf.

Cllr Piedade agreed to complete the SDNP planning policy consultation on the Council's behalf.

84. Finance

- a) Bank Reconciliation – this was approved
- b) Summary of receipts and payments – this was approved
- c) Payments for approval – these were approved
- d) A grant of £425 was agreed for 4Sight Vision Support

- e) A grant of £1,000 was agreed for Kirdford Recreation Ground Committee for maintenance works to the Recreation Ground

85. Insurance Renewal – Clear Councils – It was agreed to accept the renewal quotation provided by Clear Councils in the sum of £1218.23.

86. Appointment of Committees and Working Groups

The following appointments were made:

Finance Committee:	Cllr T Brooks (Chair) Cllr A Gillett, Cllr T Piedade, Cllr A Persson
Planning Committee:	All Councillors
Human Resources:	Cllr A Gillett (Chair), Cllr T Piedade, Cllr N Goddard, Cllr A Persson
Resilience Plan WG	Cllr A Gillett (Chair), Cllr T Brooks, Cllr A Persson, Cllr A Vernon, Cllr T Piedade
Health & Safety WG:	All Councillors
Football Pavilion WG	Cllr A Gillett, Cllr T Brooks, Cllr N Goddard, Cllr A Persson
Village Hall Representative:	Cllr N Goddard
Recreation Ground Rep:	Cllr N Goddard, Cllr A Campbell
Gatwick Rep:	Cllr A Persson
Police Liaison Rep:	Cllr N Goddard, Cllr A Vernon
Local Parishes North Rep:	Cllr T Piedade
Environment Rep:	Cllr A Vernon
Footpaths Rep:	Cllr A Vernon
Drains, Gullies & Grips Rep:	Cllr A Persson
PCC/Church Liaison Rep:	Cllr T Brooks
Play Equipment WG	Cllr T Brooks, Cllr A Persson

87. Planning

Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plan

21/00466/OUT | Outline Application (with all matter reserved except Access) for the development of up to 50 new homes, of which 40% would be affordable, new vehicular access and associated parking and landscaping | Land West Of Cornwood Townfield Kirdford West Sussex. No update. S106 Agreement discussed, to be added to future agenda.

KD/26/00959/PA6ABE Cobfield Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex. Erection of an agricultural building. The Parish Council objected to this application as there was an outstanding Appeal under planning application 24/02900/ELD | Existing lawful development - use of former stables as a dwelling, which it is felt should be resolved prior to further development of the site.

SDNP/25/02224/FUL | New agricultural building for storage use. | Battlehurst Farm A272 Wakestone Lane To Croucham Lane Kirdford West Sussex RH14 0LJ. No objection.

DECISIONS

The following CDC decisions were noted:

KD/26/00508/PA3M 79 Townfield Kirdford Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 0LT. Prior notification for conversion of ground floor commercial unit to 1 no. dwelling (ground floor flat) PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED HEREBY REFUSE

SDNP/26/01310/APNB | Prefabricated building for machinery storage and maintenance, and to store feed and bedding. | Bulchins Farm A272 Croucham Lane To Linfold Road Strood Green Kirdford West Sussex RH14 0HN. REFUSE

Enforcement Notice – none received.

88. Resilience Plan

The draft resilience plan was approved for consideration. The working group to make any refinements.

89. SDNP

Defer to next meeting.

90. Great Common Pavilion Update

Artists impressions and soil report awaited.

91. Drains, Grips, Ditches & Gullies

No update.

92. Footpaths

Cllr Vernon had reported 8 items for repair to the Access Ranger.

93. Speed Limits Plaistow Road

Councillors had met with Oliver King from West Sussex County Council to discuss speed restrictions. Mr King was supportive of reducing limits in the village. Cllr Campbell would resubmit the application.

94. Health & Safety

Dead and damaged trees to be reported to the National Trust.

95. Public Participation

No participation.

96. Date of next meeting: 15 June at 7.30pm at Kirdford Village Hall.

97. Matters for Consideration at the Next Meeting

Townfield Meadows S106 Agreement

98. Confidential Matters

None

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Chairman

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Date