

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Isfield Parish Council held on Monday 22nd May 2023. This meeting was held at Isfield Village Hall.

1. Present

Cllrs G Sambrook, A Keys, A Brooks, S Crammond and T Mitchell-Cobb.

District Councillor C Coleman, Alison Stevens (Clerk) and twelve members of the public were also in attendance.

2. Welcome to and Signing in of new Parish Council

All Councillors signed the Acceptance of Office, Register of Interests and Consent to Receive Electronic Agendas forms.

3. Election of Chairman

Councillor Keys proposed and Councillor Cramond seconded Councillor Sambrook for the role of Chairman to Isfield Parish Council. All were in favour.

4. Election of Vice-Chairman

Councillor Sambrook proposed and Councillor Mitchell-Cobb seconded Councillor Keys for the role of Vice Chairman. All were in favour.

5. Representatives of the Parish Council

Councillors resolved that the list of representation on outside committees is as follows;

Wealden District Association of Local Councils (WDALC)	Cllr Sambrook
ESALC AGM Ltd	tbc
Parish Planning Cluster Meetings	Cllr S Cramond
Wealden Against Over-Development Meetings	Cllr Sambrook

6. Payment of Annual Subscriptions

Councillors resolved unanimously to pay the following subscriptions for 2023-2024;

Wealden District Association of Local Councils
Sussex Association of Local Councils
Information Commissioner's Office

7. Meetings

It was resolved that the Parish Council will meet on the following dates;

2023

24th July
25th September
27th November

2024

22nd January
25th March
27th May
22nd July
23rd September
25th November

These meetings will take place in Isfield Village Hall and start at 7pm.

8. Code of Conduct

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

9. NALC Civility and Respect Pledge

Isfield Parish Council resolved to sign the NALC Civility and Respect Pledge.

10. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Isfield Parish Council resolved to adopt the Standing Orders (2023) and Financial Regulations (2023), as recommended by NALC, for the ensuing year.

11. General Power of Competence

Isfield Parish Council resolved that it meets the prescribed conditions for the General Power of Competence.

12. To approve the Annual Governance Statement (i) and Annual Accounts (ii) for the financial year to 31st March 2023

- i. Councillors resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statement, the Receipts and Payments Account, the Bank Reconciliation, the Asset Schedule, the Annual Return, the Risk Management Document and the Internal Control Arrangements for 2022-2023.
- ii. Councillors resolved to approve the Annual Accounting Statements to the 31st March 2023.
- iii. The dates for the Exercise of Electors Rights were confirmed and will start on the 5th June and end on the 14th July 2023.
- iv. The signatories for the bank accounts will remain Councillor Sambrook, Councillor Keys and the Clerk.
- v. The Internal Auditor for 2023-2024 will be Peter Frost. There were no matters for concern from this year's Internal Audit.
- vi. The Payments List dated 22nd May 2023 was also approved. The payments were as follows;

		£
101632	ESCC - Feasibility Study	600.00
101633	B Ashford - Coronation Expenses	830.65
101634	Isfield VF - Printing	14.72
101635	Lisa Combe - Juggler for the Coronation	200.00
101636	ESALC Ltd - Subscriptions	210.55

101637	ESCC - Verge Cutting	605.05
101638	Isfield VF - Printing	119.10
101639	Narkedesign Ltd - Website Expenses	180.00
101640	Peter Frost - Internal Audit	94.25
101641	A Stevens - Salary - March	530.05
101642	A Stevens - Salary - April	595.05
101643	ESCC - Pension	364.34
101644	Clean Corner - Pavilion	220.00
101645	Isfield VH - Hall Hire	26.00
101646	Cancelled	0.00
101647	St John's Ambulance - Defibrillator	1788.00
vii.	There was no request for a grant from Isfield Village Hall.	
viii.	Councillors resolved to donate a minimum of £1000 towards the cost of a memorial sign at White Bridge for Jim the Fish subject to receiving written permission from the landowner. Ms Ponting will seek further grants from the Ouse Angling Preservation Society and Isfield Village Fete. The Parish Council will pay for the sign, receive any donations and make up the shortfall.	

It was also resolved to donate a raffle prize to the value of £50 at this year's Summer Fete.

The meeting was then suspended.

13. Questions from Members of the Public

Residents asked for the play area to be cut as often as the recreation ground is. The Clerk will instruct the contractors.

Councillor Keys confirmed the Parish Council has asked for;

- i. the grass to be cut back at the A26 exits from Horsted Lane and Lewes Road.
- ii. the verge to be repaired opposite the new housing development in Station Road.

The meeting was then re-opened.

14. To approve the Minutes of the Full Council Meetings held on 27th March 2023

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 27th March 2023 were read, confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

15. Clerk's Report on Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda

All matters arising were covered elsewhere on the agenda.

16. Disclosures of Interest.

There were no disclosures of interests on any items on this agenda.

17. Reports

i: Safety Report – The Parish Council has received a response to its request to find out what the criteria for the Feasibility Study was. ESCC agreed that the existing signs etc that support the 30mph speed limit are either in a poor condition or are hidden by vegetation. As these are a County Council responsibility the Parish Council asked the Clerk to request that these are cleared because it may well solve the problem.

It was also agreed to consider installing flashing speed signs like those in Fairwarp, Maresfield and Five Ashes. The Clerk will find out more about them.

ii: Village Hall Report – The new defibrillator has been ordered and the Parish Council is now awaiting delivery. The defibrillator at the Laughing Fish which is being updated by the First Responder has been tested and will be moved to the Pavilion.

iii: Recreation Ground Report –

- a) The Parish Council has received two prices to treat the damp at the Pavilion. The damp is understood to have been caused by the lack of ventilation over the winter. Councillors resolved to accept the lower of the two prices and Councillor Brooks will now work with the successful contractor to get the problem fixed.
- b) The outside toilet has been vandalised and also needs replacing. Councillor Brooks is waiting for a price from a local plumber and will report back in due course.
- c) The Cricket Club would like to have telephone line installed at the pavilion so they can have broadband installed. Broadband would enable them to broadcast matches. Councillors agreed to the work which will be paid for and arranged by the Club.
- d) Councillors also considered installing an exercise track around the edge of the ground and asked the Clerk to arrange a site meeting with suitable contractors.

18. Questions from Parish Councillors

Councillor Brooks asked if Highways can be asked to reduce the height of the footpaths between the Village Hall and the corner as you head back towards the pub because pedestrians have nowhere to go when faced with oncoming traffic. The Clerk will ask Highways and copy in the County Councillor.

In answer to Councillor Mitchell-Cobb's question, District Councillor confirmed it is not known yet when there will be a Local Plan because the government is still mulling over the results of the NPPF consultation, but she will continue to put pressure on MP's to get the algorithm they use changed.

19. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications for commenting on at this meeting.

There was no further business and this meeting closed at 8.15pm.