

COLDWALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD

ON TUESDAY 13TH MAY 2025 7.30PM

SANDHAM HALL, LONDON ROAD, COLDWALTHAM

Those Present:

**Cllr G Nelson
Cllr J Evans
Cllr O Dudman
Cllr C Dennis
Cllr K Coughtrey
Cllr I Dreger
Cllr J Stevens**

**Chairman
Vice-Chairman**

C Cllr Kenyon

County Councillor

Mrs LD Sherlock-Fuidge

Clerk

25 / 01.00

TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted D Cllrs Ellis Brown and Clarke.

25 / 02.00

TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS, AND ANY CHANGES SINCE THEIR LAST DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members gave the clerk their completed Register of Members' Interest update forms.

25 / 03.00

TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 11th March 2025 was accepted and signed by the Chairman.

25 / 04.00

PARISH COUNCIL YEAR

25 / 04.01

Current Policies: The Council confirmed all current policies: Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Publication Scheme, Members' Code of Conduct.

25 / 04.02

Council Roles: The Council reviewed the current list, members agreed nominations to outside bodies. The clerk will distribute and posted the updated list on the website.

Piscary Bailiffs: Council reviewed the Piscary bailiffs; Owen & Steve Dudman, Paul Hubbard & Colin Smithson.

RESOLVED:

Members confirmed the Current Policies, Councillors Roles and the Piscary Bailiffs.

25 / 05.00

2024-25 YEAR END ACCOUNTS

25 / 05.01

Year 2024/25 Internal Audit Report: The Clerk confirmed that Jen Smith had completed the internal audit, copies of the report had been distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting. This will be posted on the website and in the noticeboards.

25 / 05.02

Year 2024/25 Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement: The Clerk confirmed that she had completed Section 1 of the Local Councils Annual Return and was signed by the Clerk and the Chairman after the meeting. This will be available on the website and in the noticeboards.

25 / 05.03

Year 2024/25 Section 2 - Accounts Statements: The Clerk confirmed that Section 2 of the Local Councils Annual Return was also complete, this was signed by the Clerk and the Chairman after the meeting. This will be available on the website and in the noticeboards.

RESOLVED: Members accepted the Internal Audit Report and approved the Annual Governance Statement Sections 1 & 2 as part of the 2024/25 AGAR for signing.

25 / 06.00 **FINANCE**

25 / 06.01 **Account Summary:** The Clerk distributed the accounts for Parish Council and Alban Head Playing Fields Committee to members prior to the meeting. These are attached as Appendix A & B respectively.

The Clerk advised that the Crowdfunding page has now finished and in the 8 weeks raised £1050, Cllr Evans suggested that the page should be closed as the information is now out of date. Members agreed, as those still wishing to contribute could do so direct to the parish bank account.

25 / 06.02 **Payments:** payments were authorised for:

Cosentino Outreach Ltd	March Post Office Salary	£ 60.00
Andrew Davies	Silverdale Bus Shelter Repairs	£1000.00
Smith & Co Ltd	Annual Audits PC & AH	£420.00
Cosentino Outreach Ltd	April Post Office Salary	£360.00
Sandham Memorial Village Hall	Annual Parish Meeting & May Meeting	£ 60.00
Mrs L D Sherlock-Fuidge	CCTV Equipment for Alban Head PF	£ 122.23

The Clerk recommended that Council agree the payment for WSALC, the annual subscription £354.43, although it had not been included in this year's budget. Cllr Nelson highlighted that the contribution towards The Link, is due to be refunded back to the parish Council. Members confirmed this payment.

WSALC	Annual Subscription	£354.43
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Cllr Nelson noted that at the bank account has a good balance now would be the time to look at funding items cancelled from last year due to PO Funding. In addition, the Clerk is to set up an account for Post Office funding,

25 / 07.00 **ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL / PARISH CLERK**

25 / 07.01 The Clerk updated Council regarding recent applications decisions:

- SDNP/25/00008/HOUS, & SDNP2500033LIS Yew Tree Cottage, London Road, Hardham, Permitted
- SDNP/25/00279/LDP, Willow Brook Old London Road Coldwaltham, Permitted
- SDNP/25/00306/HOUS, Willow Brook Old London Road Coldwaltham, Permitted

25 / 07.02 Cllr Dennis updated Council regarding recent planning applications.

- SDNP/25/00810/FUL – Hillview, Watersfield - Demolition of former agricultural/storage buildings and erection of 3 units of accessible tourist accommodation– Previous application had been approved
- SDNP/25/01111/FUL - Sand Martins, Watersfield – Ground mounted solar arrays – the panels are situated away from the road, and the property is the last in the lane.
- SDNP/25/01375/HOUS - Old Post House, Coldwaltham – driveway and landscaping changes.
- SDNP/25/01544/LIS - Old Post House, Coldwaltham – a revised application to replace the windows on the listed building.
- SDNP/25/01491/HOUS - Besley Farm, Watersfield – making alterations to the previously approved extension. Cllr Nelson noted that this is the property at the end of River Lane where the Permissive Path had been.

25 / 07.03 Cllr Evans advised that following the meeting with the Post Office last week, the Post Office has agreed to fully fund one day a week – and has designated this to be the Mondays. The Community will fund the Thursday each week. Tracy has been notified and the new arrangement started this week. The Clerk will rework the figures to show this change.

25 / 07.04 Cllr Stevens confirmed that his employers have donated a container, which is being cleaned. Cllr Stevens is hoping to have it repainted a green colour so that it will blend in better at the Alban Head. Cllr Nelson welcomed the donation, but that there would need to be clearing work to make the site ready to receive it.

25 / 07.05

C Cllr Kenyon updated members:

- Thakeham PC have discussed traffic calming measures with WSCC and would arrange to have the information shared with members.
- She advised that she is on the Devolution Committee at WSCC and will keep us updated regarding the process. The elections for the new Mayor would be next year, so the process for their nominations would have started for each political party. Following this District and County Councils' activities would be merged, but local parish councils will remain. This will also remove the two-tier financial system.

25 / 07.06

Cllr Nelson noted the Sandham Hall AGM is next week, this is a public meeting, so all are invited.

25 / 07.07

Cllr Nelson highlighted that the Alban Head had welcomed West Chilton Colts Cricket teams which started this week, this is great news for the Alban Head.

25 / 08.00

DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

Next meeting of Council is on Tuesday 15th July 2025, at 7.30pm, in the Sandham Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Chairman:..... **Date:**.....

Distributed to those present and Cllrs Lane and Davies, and D Cllrs Clarke, Campbell and Ellis Brown.