

# SLAUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL



## Parish Council Annual Meeting AGENDA

The Council Members are summoned to a Meeting to be held on  
**Thursday 15th May at 7.00pm – Sports Pavilion, High Street, Handcross**

Sally Mclean - Clerk to the Council Email [clerk@slaughampc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@slaughampc.co.uk) Website: <http://www.slaughampc.co.uk>

Press and Public are welcome to attend - Public attendance at Parish Council meetings - The Parish Council is an open and transparent local authority and encourages public attendance at meetings.

The current Chairman of Council will be Chairman of the Meeting until the conclusion of Item 1. If there is no current Chair, then the Clerk will take the meeting until Item 1

### Present:

### Others Present:

- 1 To elect the Chairman of the Parish Council and receive declarations of office:
- 2 To elect the Vice Chairman of the Parish Council and receive declarations of office:
- 3 To report any changes to Councillor Register of Interests:
- 4 Apologies for absence and declaration of interest from members in respect of any items on the agenda.
- 5 **Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** Parish Council Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 previously distributed.
- 7 **Adjournment for questions from the public:** Council to consider adjournment of the meeting in accordance with Council's Standing Orders, to receive questions from members of the public in attendance in respect of items on the agenda.
- 8 **To appoint Standing Committees for the Year 2024/25** The Council is asked to confirm the membership of the standing Committees.
- 9 **Appointment of representatives to Committees for 2024/25** The Council is asked to confirm the appointment of its representatives on other organisations, the current list of members below are based on 2023/24 the minutes for this meeting will resolve those allocated for 2024/25
  - 9.1 **Planning** – considers planning applications deals with Street Lighting, Highways (incorporating traffic calming, pedestrian safety, traffic management and highway lighting) and Emergency Planning:  
**Current Members:** Cllrs Eric Prescott (Chair), Bob St George, Lesley Read, James Keating, Jane MacNaughton and co-opted Member Ken Boyle
  - 9.2 **Neighbourhood Planning Committee** - To develop a Neighbourhood Plan, for a sustainable and vibrant thriving rural community, driven by the needs and aspirations of the people in Slaugham Parish  
**Current Members:** Cllrs Eric Prescott (Chair), Bob St George, David Dunn, Lesley Read, Jane MacNaughton, Debbie Beckinsale, Gary Marsh and Julia Elliott.
  - 9.3 **Finance & Policy** – deals with finance matters, proposals for budgets, projects, communications financial policy matters etc:  
**Current Members:** Cllrs Gary Marsh (Chair), David Dunn, Bob St George, Jane MacNaughton, Jane MacNaughton Julia Elliott, Debbie Beckinsale and Eric Prescott
  - 9.4 **Recreation** – deals with all matters concerning the Recreation grounds, Playgrounds and Allotments:  
**Current Members:** Cllr's Lesley Read (Chair), Julia Elliott, Jane MacNaughton and co-opted members Ken Boyle, Lorette Holborn.
  - 9.6 **Appointment of representatives to other organisations for 2024/25:** The Council is asked to confirm the appointment of its representatives on other organisations. Members each take a subject as their special interest and report to Council, currently we have the following:
    - Disabled, Care in the Community: VACANT
    - Children and Youth Matters: VACANT
    - Footpaths: Cllr Lesley Read
    - Highways to Inc Bus Services: VACANT
    - Charities /Funding: Finance & Policy Committee
    - Community Centres: Recreation Committee
    - Allotments: Cllr Lesley Read
    - Trees: Recreation Committee - Appointed Tree Warden
    - Emergency Resilience Planning: Cllr Debbie Beckinsale
    - Crime Prevention: Cllr Debbie Beckinsale

**9.7 Parish Council Representatives with Outside Bodies** Council representatives on outside bodies will receive notice of meetings by email and may take forward any relevant comments from the Parish to those meetings and report back to Council.

**WSALC - Sussex Association of Local Councils** Protect and promote the interests, rights, functions and privileges of member councils. Assist Councils in the performance of their duties and to promote and develop the social, cultural and recreational life of towns, parishes and villages. Promote widespread and well-informed interest in Local Government. **The Clerk, Cllr Prescott**

**Mid Sussex Association of Local Councils (MSALC)** - The MSALC is a group forum for all Local Authorities in Mid Sussex to enable the pooling of ideas, discussing items of mutual interest and where necessary, making representations to District and County Authorities). **Cllr Eric Prescott, Julia Elliott**

**Action in Rural Sussex (AiRS)** Provides help and advice to Local Authorities and Residents Associations on Local Action Plans, Village Appraisals and surveys. It highlights problems specific to rural areas and will try to create a climate in which rural businesses and communities can prosper). **Cllr Bob St George**

**Council for the Protection of Rural England** – Protects and concerns itself with inappropriate, or any, development of sensitive areas of the rural countryside. Campaigns inside and outside Parliament in the cause of Rural Conservation. Local Branches seek to influence planning and development control policies of public authorities and private developers. **VACANT**

**10. Matters from District & County Councillors:** to receive verbal reports from representatives of other authorities:

10.1. **Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC):** Press Release/s *cc'd in advance*

10.2. **West Sussex County Council County Local Committee (WCC)** – Press Release/s updates *cc'd in advance*

**11. Committee Reports:** to receive and approve committee and advisory group reports/updates

The Committee Chairmen will provide an update, Council to consider the RECOMMENDATIONS:

11.1. **Finance & Policy Committee:** To update members on current activities: RECOMMENDATION: Council approve the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025

11.2. **Members are asked to review and ratify the recommendation/s made at Committee:**

11.2.1. To review and adopt 2024/25 Finances to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 (*previously issued*)

11.2.2. To review and note the Internal Auditors Report: RECOMMENDATION The Council approve the Internal Auditors Report 2024/25:

11.2.3. **Annual Governance Accountability Return (AGAR) 2024/25:** The Council to consider and agree that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ending 31 March 2025 accurately presents the financial management of the Council as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

11.2.4. **To ratify and approve Section 1: The Annual Governance Statement 2024/25** RECOMMENDATION: The Council approve the adoption of Section 1: Annual Governance Statement **2024/25**.

11.2.5. **To ratify and approve Section 2: The Accounting Statement 2024/25** RECOMMENDATION: The Council approve the adoption of Section 2: The Annual Governance Statement **2024/25**

11.2.6. **To agree the period of the public's right of inspection** (the Regulations require the period to include 30 working days and the first ten working days of July) RECOMMENDATION: The Committee recommends the period of public inspection of the accounts.

11.2.7. **Members are to agree the Annual Governance Accountability Return (AGAR) 2024/25 proceed to external Audit** – RECOMMENDATION: The Council approve the AGAR for external audit

11.3. **Recreation:** To update members on current activities: To approve meeting/note minutes

11.4. **Neighbourhood Planning:** To update members on current activities: To approve meeting/note minutes

11.5. **Planning Committee:** Members to consider updates and to approve meeting/notes minutes

**12. Chairman's Report:** to receive verbal updates

**13. Clerks Report** – To receive verbal updates

**14. Finance Matters Payments and receipts** The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve:

**15. Correspondence/Information Items/Publications/Consultations:** (*Correspondence cc'd in advance to members*)

**16. Highways/Footpaths:** to review highways projects/items

**17. Police / NHW Report / Resilience Group Reports**

17.1. Crime Reports cc'd members – Updates issued to members in advance

**18. Any other matters that the Chairman wishes to raise for future discussion:** None

**Date of next meeting/s –**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_