



Minutes of the Annual Assembly of Hadlow Down Parish Council

Held in the Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7.00pm on Tuesday April 16th 2013
*Note – this is a draft copy to be agreed and amended
at the next Annual Assembly*

Present: Cllrs Sandra Richards (SR)(Chair), Graham Terry (GT), Clare Emsden (CR) Damon Wellman (DW), Nathan James (NJ) and Michael Lunn (ML)

In attendance: Cllr Tony Reid (TR)(ESCC), Cllr Ken Ogden (KO)(WDC), Cllr. Roy Galley (RG)(WDC), PCSO David Davies (DD), Helen Simpson-Wells (Clerk) and members of the public.

Sandra Richards welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 1. Presentation by Rachel Lewis, Sound Architect and ENGage charities:** Rachel Lewis gave an excellent presentation on the work of the Sound Architect and ENGage charities, including the TN22 Club in Hadlow Down. She confirmed that they had applied to ESCC and WDC for funding but had been declined. *Cllr. Roy Galley was disappointed that WDC hadn't given them a grant, especially as the council had money available. Janet Tourell (Village Hall Committee Chair) stressed the importance of volunteers and that her committee needs more of them. A member of the police requested details of the TN22 club in order that they can do a presentation on crime prevention.*
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Apologies had been received from villagers Steve Godfrey and David and Lindsey Waddington.
- 3. The minutes of the 2012 Annual Assembly:** the minutes were approved and signed as a true record.
- 4. PCSO David Davies:** DD advised that there hadn't been much crime in Hadlow Down in the last year. There had been serious burglaries in Buxted and Maresfield and they had caught two people in relation to these. There had also been oil thefts in the Fletching area. To prevent oil theft he suggested that the tank is placed out of sight, i.e. surrounded by bushes or fencing, that a padlock is used, an alarm and CCTV signs are installed. A member of the public raised about sheep worrying, DD advised that by the time they visit the dog and their owner are no longer present. He will look into a case highlighted by the member of the public. DD was asked about silencers on motorbikes, however this would fall under traffic division.
- 5. ESCC and WDC Reports:** Cllr. Tony Reid (ESCC) –
In 2013 we have an ESCC performing near the top of our league and with clear, positive plans to manage local and national pressures while keeping Council Tax unchanged for 2011/2012 and 2012/13.
What are we doing to manage the unprecedented funding pressures? As across all the UK public sector ESCC is working to manage the Governments focus on deficit reduction, facing the reality of what the country can afford. ESCC is planning service provision around a revenue reduction of some £60 million to year end 2014/15. The savings reflect both planned income reduction and inflation, the latter from both broad inflation and increased demand for services. Much of the necessary savings relate to managing both elements of inflation, rather than actual cash reduction.
To accommodate the necessary savings is requiring a root and branch reappraisal of service provision and with two thirds of our revenue spent on Elderly Care and Looking After Children and Families these two major service areas are undergoing fundamental transformations.
At the heart of changes to Elderly Care is a shift to care at home and away from nursing homes. Clients are being funded to purchase the care they find most appropriate.
In the case of management of "At Risk Children", emphasis is now on early recognition and intervention with struggling families, thereby preventing the major traumas so destructive to the individuals, their communities and very expensive for society to address.
Similarly, highway maintenance is now focusing on prevention of serious road deterioration by a planned assessment of the structural state of the roads and applying a maintenance program appropriate to the need. At the heart of this preventative maintenance program is reduction of water damage by both resurfacing and improved adjacent verge drainage.
So called "back office" services, accounting for some 8% of revenue cost, are not being overlooked. Through restructuring they are contributing savings at double the level of the "outward facing" service departments. National Government is striving to move the country to a sustainable future, by both reducing the public deficit, in the short term, and encouraging economic growth in the medium and longer term. ESCC is doing the same locally. In addition to managing our annual spending level we are driving a program of capital investment we believe will improve economic circumstances across the County.
A capital budget of near £420 million has been assembled for investment over the next five years. Major investment themes are; £25.5 million towards ensuring high speed broadband service is available to rural communities, along with the urban centres directly served by commercial providers. This program is estimated to ensure 90% of homes and businesses are able to access this vitally important infrastructure within the next two/three years.
A further £50 plus million (together with a similar grant from Central Government) is committed to allow construction of the Bexhill Hastings Link Road. This will open up vitally needed development land for business and housing growth in this deeply deprived community, together with greatly improved access to specialist services provided by the Conquest Hospital and improved air quality for Hastings residents. The road will open in

2014.

Newhaven Port will benefit from investment in improved road access allowing the proposed offshore wind farm to be serviced by the port, both for the construction phase and the following long term maintenance period. Jobs and opportunities for further port activity will result.

There is funding to assist business in rural areas to grow and create jobs with a specific fund to encourage small and medium sized business, the "backbone" of East Sussex business numbers.

As you would expect School and Library building is not overlooked, with an allocated £93 million and £13.5 million respectively, the latter in contrast to savage contraction by most authorities.

TR was asked whether ESCC promoted mobile phone coverage in rural areas, he advised that the communities need to support any mobile phone planning applications.

SR confirmed that TR was retiring as an ESCC Councillor in May and thanked him for his support of the village and the Parish Council (PC) over the years. A donation was given to the school PTA by the PC for the refurbishment of the school butterfly on TR's behalf.

Cllr. Ken Ogden (WDC) - I have noticed a greater understanding towards Hadlow Down PC by officers at Wealden brought about by your councillors' involvement in attending seminars and meetings and turning up in full strength with regards to the village hall, which at the moment carries constants but could involve change in Wealden policy in the not too distant future. This year has seen changes to Wealden moving down to Hailsham, although we run planning appraisals at Uckfield every week for residents by appointment.

We are in the waste contract change over to Kier with some items still to be agreed, hopefully the correct contact number has now been installed for queries.

Only last week Wealden Core Strategy has been challenged in the High Court as to its correctness, as certain items of the documents could be less than 100%, this includes the Ashdown Forest 7km zone - why is land needed for dog walking when the majority of people don't walk their dogs there. We need houses for young people and for businesses to develop.

Lastly Wealden members have been informed that there will be greater debates and cohesion in policy with all members rather than just through cabinet.

A member of the public commented on the very professional and efficient service provided by the WDC cesspit emptiers, he hoped that WDC would provide as good a service. KO advised a consortium of local councils had been formed and this had reduced the overall cost of the waste service.

- 6. Financial Report:** The Clerk presented the attached report. A member of the public questioned about the funds that hadn't been spent, the Chair confirmed that in April the PC had paid for the work in Hut Lane, unfortunately due to the timing of receipt of the invoice, it was paid in the 2013/14 financial year. It had been agreed that some of the funds for this would come out of reserves.

7. Reports from Representatives:

a. Mayfield Charities: Fiona Bickerton gave the following report - We have been able to help three families in Hadlow Down this year. Also the Open Door facility in Mayfield, which also houses the CAB. With only 42 enquiries we did query the high cost of running this facility for so few people to use it. We have helped with the cost of the elderly folks' outing, the materials for decorating an autistic man's flat and various emergency situations and help with the cost of getting people to hospital appointments - so a varied range of needs. Please contact me or the Clerk if you hear of anyone who could do with a little financial help - the range is usually between £50.00 and £250.00 - not huge amounts, but often gets people out of a tight situation. Fiona asked that people spread the word about the work of the Trust.

b. St Mark's School: Claire Rivers presented the following report:

i) We have been delighted, over the last few weeks, to be able to announce that St Mark's has become the first Teaching School in East Sussex. We know that many schools in East Sussex, including some secondary schools have applied to become Teaching Schools and have not been successful, so this gives us even more pride in our very special village school. Following a very rigorous application process with a visit from Professor Peter Matthews, the founder of Ofsted, we have been made a full Teaching School with no need for a 'building capacity' year. This pays tribute to the very strong and genuine links that we have developed with a range of partners over the last 6 years. St Mark's will be the teaching school with strategic partners: High Hurstwood, Buxted, Mark Cross and Manor School in Uckfield and we will have as our networks the Village Schools Association and the Local partnership for Children in Uckfield. The Universities of Sussex and Brighton, as well as the Diocese of Chichester will also be represented on our strategic board.

The status of National Teaching School is a privileged one which generates a range of substantial pockets of funding, which will, of course, benefit the children of St Mark's. The work we will be expected to undertake is linked to activities that we have previously done without funding, for example, supporting other schools, taking on the school based initial training of teachers, leading continuing professional development, leading research in ways to close the learning gap for children. I am about to go up to the National College in Nottingham next week for an Induction course but already we have an action plan outlined that just needs fine tuning.

ii) At this moment in time rural schools are rather vulnerable with severe cuts to their budgets as a result of the new formula funding system which uses the IDAKI index as a post code indicator of deprivation. The TN22 postcode immediately deletes all IDAKI funding for St Mark's and we already receive less pupil premium which is based on the number of children having free school meals.

Unfortunately, the factors I have just outlined do not acknowledge the emotional deprivation of children, of which we have a great deal, and we have a list of children waiting for support from the COPEs rural family worker, a counselling and support service for children and their families.

iii) The school's solid academic record of attainment and achievement continues to be maintained with the Local Authority grading us as a Category 1 school, which is Outstanding, based on our current data and self evaluation

documents. We were delighted that children made at the end of KS2, age 11, 100% progress in English and 85.9% in Maths, which was one child that joined the school later with rather inflated KS1 results. We had one child achieve a L6 in maths and one in writing - secondary level expectations. These results do not make us complacent and we are always looking for ways in which to improve the teaching and learning of the school through research projects, the way in which we support children with SENs through intervention strategies and by remaining forward sighted and thinking ahead. One of our staff is currently looking at the new Maths curriculum and new ways of developing an understanding of place value through the National Centre for Excellence in Maths.

iv) Finally, St Mark's continues to enjoy its village links through the church, the Variety Club and other organisations. We benefit from the support of villagers who offer to run clubs for the children at no charge and for this we are very grateful. We are able to undertake exciting projects, such as, our Heritage lottery Stoolball project which helps to bring learning alive giving the children a real context and purpose and we appreciate the constant support and enrichment projects that are possible with support from Rachel Lewis and Sound Architect.

v) We are about to apply for the Bishop's Commendation which is based on our Christian values work that has been developing since 2008. The school has a sense of caring and calm that is built on those values which have impacted on all areas of school life. We have recently held a joint Ethos Committee meeting with other schools to discuss and share ideas regarding the distinctiveness of church schools. Although a small village school we have big ideas and our 'Wings to Fly' have led us to build excellent partnerships with other schools and groups, considerably extending the capacity of our very special small village school.

8. Reports from Councillors:

a. Community Strategies, Sustainable Development, Environment Matters and Wealden District Association of Local Councils - Cllr. Michael Lunn :

Cllr. Lunn gave a presentation on the impacts of the Ashdown Forest 7km zone of influence and EU Habitat Regulations, how this impacted on Hadlow Down and what the next steps were. *Members of the public asked questions on what work had been done in other areas and whether the prevailing wind is taken into account, it was also queried why the Forest was being kept and promoted as a tourist destination and what impact a further runway at Gatwick would have? A member of the public felt that both young and old people were being penalised as they are not able to have new sports clubs and parents are therefore having to travel further to use facilities, also the village isn't able to have a larger hall. A Parish Councillor questioned whether people wanted more traffic in the village and encouraged members of the public to use the bus service, he also advised that not everyone wanted development.*

b. Planning, Newsletter and Public Transport – Cllr. Sandra Richards:

Planning - As explained, the introduction of the 7km restrictions of the Ashdown Forest has restricted the number of planning applications that have been made during the last year. One thing that parishioners should be aware of is that there is no longer a 'village envelope' which had previously been in place and it was theoretically easier to develop homes & land within this envelope (the centre of the village) than outside it. As there is no 'envelope', it means that in future any significant development within the village could be difficult (and almost impossible if the 7km zone remains). When applying for planning permission or making comments on an application, it is much easier for the Parish Council if people attend the relevant meeting as if there is further clarification on issues required, they can then be addressed directly. We try to do as much background research on an application as we can and, if necessary, will request a site visit but sometimes it is not easy to understand all of the implications purely from the application paperwork. We welcome parishioners attendance at any PC meeting but, in particular, if there is something that affects them on the agenda. We put the planning items at the beginning of the agenda so you may only have to attend for a maximum of about 30 minutes!

Public Transport - We now have two buses per day running directly between Hadlow Down and Uckfield (the bus no longer goes via every conceivable village in East Sussex) and it runs from Dog Kennel Lane to the Uckfield Bus station in 20 minutes and then continues to Uckfield Hospital/Bird-in-eye Surgery. We really would like to encourage villagers to use these bus services as if they are not used by enough people they will stop and it will mean that Hadlow Down is again isolated from Public Transport.

Newsletter – Through the last year, we have been issuing a Newsletter on a quarterly-ish basis!! We hope these are useful to parishioners to let them know what we are trying to do and what is happening. If there are areas that you would like us to cover, then please let us know – any feedback (whether good or bad) is gratefully received.

A member of the public asked that a copy of the bus timetable go in every copy of the newsletter. SR to speak to the editor of the Parish Magazine to see if a copy can go in every edition.

SR

c. New Community Centre, Burial Ground, Village Hall and Playing Field Committees – Cllr. Graham Terry

Playing Field Committee - This has been a torrid 12 months for the Playing Field Committee. The weather for most of the year was very poor and the field frequently too wet to use. The poor weather early on meant that the field could not be mown and special equipment was then needed to cope with the long grass. The Summer Fayre was cancelled after an initial postponement and the junior football have ceased to use the field because of the extremely wet surface. These cancellations dramatically reduced the income at a time of vastly increased cost. The Parish Council will have to help with the cost of mowing and have budgeted for the need to help in this year. Add to this the fact that the Committee were short of people as the Chair resigned due to work commitments and you can see the task facing the trustees who are all volunteers. We had also hoped to carry out a ground survey for the new Community Centre which would also have given us the information needed to decide what additional drainage could be put in on the field – unfortunately the underlying ground conditions are still so bad that the equipment necessary cannot get on to the Field. The good news is that despite the weather families are still coming to use the play area which, for some strange reason, does not suffer from the wetness that the rest of the Field experiences.

Village Hall Management Committee - In contrast to the Playing Field, the Village Hall Committee have been able to carry out many of the improvements planned. Grant Funding and donations from a number of people and organisations enabled them to put in the new kitchen which has used equipment that can be re-sited at the new Community Centre.

Most of the work, except the specialist work needed to plumb in a new gas supply, was done by volunteers and we are very grateful to them. In addition to the kitchen there has been further woodworm treatment in the roof and under the floor and various other small improvements including upgrading some of the electrics which did not meet *current* standards. You may also have noticed the clearance of the south side of the road outside and we can now see a kerb there! Despite everything the Hall continues to be well used which highlights how much more we could do with an up to date Hall with modern facilities. Let us hope that we will be successful soon. I cannot end without mentioning the TN22 Club. The new kitchen meant that the facilities existed to provide a lunch for the older people locally and the first lunch was very successful, with over 20 guests. Apart from lunch, the guests were entertained by children from St Mark's and the feedback has been very positive with more people expected at future events.

Now, the unscripted part. All the village organisations are run by volunteers and need more help. In particular, Lisa Scott who has been the booking clerk and treasurer of the Hall for a number of years needs to give up and we need to replace her. We are prepared to split the 2 roles. Who here can help or get others to help? If people do not come forward we could lose the means to support these facilities.

The Burial Ground - This also suffered at the beginning of the year as it was too wet to use conventional grass cutting equipment and had to be done by strimming and removing the cuttings which was additional expense. We also had to have new contractors as the old ones declined to continue. We needed to have a major cutback of the hedges which had been allowed to grow over the pathways. However, on the good side we planted an English oak there in April to celebrate the Jubilee and we were helped by the children from St Mark's School who each put some soil into the hole! A plaque has been put there and we hope that in years to come the pupils will remember the day and come and see the oak tree as it grows.

New Community Centre Committee - A fraught year for this Committee as well! Just as it seemed that everything was moving along smoothly, Wealden District Council's Plan was approved. This plan places a heavy restriction on ANY new building within 7kms of the Ashdown Forest in order to preserve the Forest for the future. And, yes, the majority of Hadlow Down is within the 7km limit. The Committee have spent much of the time meeting with the planners from Wealden to see how we can best proceed to give the Village the new facility it needs whilst staying within the planning rules. Councillor Galley has been helping us to understand how we go forward. The team were expecting to be able to put initial plans to Wealden by the end of June. As I mentioned earlier, the survey due to take place cannot until the ground conditions improve and this is needed for the plans to be produced. Let us hope that the weather improves soon. It may seem that a new Hall is a costly option but as part of their work the team also investigated what the work needed and cost would be if we stayed on the existing site and utilised the current building as much as possible. The cost of staying is not far short of the cost of moving so this option looks a non-starter. It also has the 7 km issue to be dealt with.

d. Youth and Emergency Planning – Cllr. Nathan James

Youth - As you may be aware the Parish Council are planning to erect a youth shelter to be located at the Playing Field. The idea is the youth (and older members) of Hadlow Down have somewhere to meet up, or rest down at the Playing Field. I have been working closely with the Playing Field committee on this subject and I hope on many more items to come. Unfortunately we had to dismantle the push bike track due to it being deemed too unsafe to use.

Emergency Planning - There are a couple of problems with the database. The master disc has been misplaced this means we are having to recreate a new one. The second problem we are facing is some of the plan is out of date and needs updating. I'm looking forward to working with old and I hope some new members of the Emergency Plan team closely this year and for many years to come. *Eddie Westfield advised that he had managed to locate the original database and will be able to retrieve it.*

Hut Lane - As some of you know the lane from the New Inn down to the Village Hall was being eroded by a lot of water, because of this the Parish Council took on the job of putting it right. This was done with a new 6 inch pipe running down the side of the lane with 2 new sediment traps placed at the top and bottom of Hut Lane. We, the Parish Council are very pleased with the finished work, the contractors did a superb job.

e. Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Policing Rural Panel and Joint Action Group – Cllr. Damon Wellman

Neighbourhood Watch - The Hadlow Down website is a registered Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and Eddie Westfield has done a great job this year of keeping anyone registered on the site updated with Neighbourhood Watch issues, as well as posting them on the latest news section of the site for all to see. On the site is also posted updates from the Neighbourhood policing team listing recent crime events within the area. This year we have seen the role of our PCSO change over to a new officer, David Davies.

Neighbourhood Policing Rural Panel - Nothing to report.

Joint Action Group - The Joint Action Group meets every month to discuss local issues and priorities for Wealden District Council, Sussex Police, East Sussex County Council, NHS East Sussex Downs & Weald, Surrey & Sussex Probation Trust & East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service. Wealden Parish Councils are also in attendance and are able to see current risks, trends and forthcoming events from the various groups, as well as performance of the authorities, budgeting updates and publicity opportunities.

Tranquillity in the Village - There has been some increased activity in the village over the last 12 months that has led to concerns over noise and disturbance for Hadlow Down residents both current and in the future. This is something that I as a councillor and a resident, want to make sure is kept to a minimum and that our peaceful environment that we all enjoy is maintained. The next edition of the Parish Council newsletter will contain contact details for complaints regarding noise etc.

f. Highways, Footpaths, Rights of Way and Strengthening Local Relationships meetings – Cllr. Clare Emsden

As the newest member of the PC and the last to speak, I will keep my report to an overview of items as shown on the screen.

Strengthening Local Relationship Meetings - These meetings, which are held with ESCC Highways Department at Ringmer, were started in May 2009. They take place twice a year, in March and September. The PC does

the agenda, chairs the meeting and takes the minutes. It gives us an opportunity to meet face-to-face, agree proposals, dates for implementation and who is responsible for action points. Although we mostly discuss highways we also include footpaths and bridleways. The PC feels this improves our contact with ESCC and gets issues resolved.

Highways

School Lane - There are two aspects the PC is considering at the moment. These are speeding and the extension of the double yellow lines at the junction of the A272. The 30 mph signs are now in place and the zigzag lines extended outside the school. However, although the general speed levels in School Lane fall within accepted levels there are a few drivers who continue to speed and we are looking at what other measures can be taken to raise awareness of the limit.

The extension of the double yellow lines has now reached the stage of being discussed at an ESCC Planning Meeting. Sandra, who has been instrumental in getting action taken on this item has put together the PC submission and Damon who has taken a keen interest, will be attending the meeting.

Potholes - ESCC has been inundated with repair work. Please continue to report potholes to Helen so ESCC resources can be directed towards getting these repaired as soon as possible and the scoring system for resurfacing work can be done. We want to escalate as many of these repairs as possible.

Bollards - There seem to have been a profusion of these over the last few years, in different styles and seemingly installed for no apparent reason. The PC is now reviewing the need to replace bollards when they have been damaged with ESCC Highways. This will improve the look of the Parish and particularly what is described as the "street scene" along the A272 in the centre of the village.

Footpaths and Bridleways - It is early days in walking all of these in the Parish as mentioned in the January Newsletter. Thank you to the parishioners who have told me about the circular walks they take. Recently along with members of my family we did a four and half hour round walk. While we found some stiles very easy, many of them were very difficult and unless assisted there is no hope of getting over them. It should not be such an obstacle course and as a PC we will continue working on getting this situation changed. This also applies to the surface and width of some of the Bridleways.

- 9 **Chairman's Report – Cllr. Sandra Richards** - This is the first time I have spoken to the Parish Assembly as Chairman of the PC after the resignation of David Walker last year. As a relatively new Councillor, it has been a steep learning curve!!

As a Council, I believe that we all wish to try to represent the village as best we can and make decisions on how to spend your money to improve facilities and activities with the parishioners in mind. I am particularly proud of the work done in Hut Lane where everyone else (ESCC, Wealden District Council, the developers) would not take any responsibility, the PC took positive action. I also hope that we are going to see the long awaited double yellow lines at the top of School Lane in the near future and we will try to address the continued problems of speeding in the village. We would welcome feedback on our activities and areas where you think we should help in the future – bearing in mind we have limited funds.

Firstly, I would like to thank all of my fellow Councillors for their help and support over the last year. I am not sure people realise how much work is involved with being a Parish Councillor as I suspect people think that it is 'just' attending one meeting a month in the evening. There are quite a few emails to read to keep up-to-date with what is happening and there are also training events to attend and this is before taking on the additional correspondence/meetings required for the special responsibilities such as attending committee meetings, highways, planning etc. I am not sure you are aware, but the Councillors again voted this year not to take the allowance to which they are entitled in order to keep the precept at the same level as before – therefore it is a completely voluntary role. In addition, I suspect that as budgets tighten at County and District levels, there will be attempts to make the PCs responsible for more activities that previously were not our responsibilities.

I believe that we have a very good balance of Councillors at the PC and we manage to have lively discussions on issues but generally find that we can come to a consensus. I would like to thank all of my fellow Councillors for their continued help and support last year and, hopefully, for the coming year.

Secondly, I would like to thank Helen our Clerk – whilst we all appreciate her cheerful, professional and efficient support at all times. However, it was only when I went on a Chairmanship course that I realised how extremely professional she really was!! All of the other Chairmen were taking notes constantly about things that their Councils were doing wrong or were not doing at all – whereas I just sat with a blank sheet of paper as our Council seemed to be doing everything 'correctly' and this is down to the guidance and expertise of Helen. I am sure my fellow Councillors will all support me in saying a very large thank you to Helen for her help and support.

Thirdly, I would like to thank all of the other villagers who give their time and money (literally) to supporting the various committees and organisations in the village. It is a lot of work being the Chairman or committee member and, largely, goes 'unthanked or appreciated' and it is only in the last couple of years since being on the Parish Council that I have really understood and appreciated the very large amount of work and responsibility these volunteers take on – I would spend a long time if I had to list out these people but I hope you understand how much we all appreciate the work that you do to support the village.

My final thanks is to yourselves for attending this meeting and giving us the feedback and support that we need in order to continue the work of the Parish Council and please continue to give us this support for as long as possible.

10. **Questions from the floor** – TR advised that the Hadlow Down PC meetings were always enjoyable, positive, relaxed yet remaining business like. He advised that ESCC isn't so involved with the school, they are a lot more independent and it is a very good community asset which should be cherished and supported.
11. **Closure of business** – John Eliot thanked the PC for all their work.

The meeting ended at 8.55pm when those present enjoyed refreshments provided by the Council.

HADLOW DOWN PARISH COUNCIL	Precept 2012-13	Expenditure 2012-13	% of precept spent
PRECEPT 2012-2013			
ITEM			
CLERK'S SALARY, TRAINING, EXPENSES + ADMIN			
Clerk's Salary	10,972	9,686	88%
Clerk's Training	651	22	3%
Administration	1,177	1,097	93%
PC insurance	565	471	83%
SUBSCRIPTIONS:	532	418	79%
DONATIONS:	2,550	1,625	64%
MISC.			
Hire of Hall	450	400	89%
Audit	417	416	100%
Councillor's Travelling Expenses	50	19	38%
Maintenance of Burial Ground	1,400	2,331	167%
Maintenance of Playing Field	150	0	0%
Litter & Dog Bin emptying	1,055	1,038	98%
Rent to St Mark's School House Trust	15	15	100%
Parish Projects Plan (Includes the Emergency Plan)	500	1,226	245%
Finger Post Maintenance	200	340	170%
Chairman's expenses	100	49	49%
Parish Magazine	250	250	100%
Councillors' Training	400	408	102%
Chair and Councillor's allowance	510	216	42%
Election expenses	500	500	100%
Website	200	180	90%
IT	500	360	72%
Maintenance of play area + annual inspection	900	628	70%
Legal Fees	2,483	1,310	53%
TOTAL	26,527	23,005	87%
INCOME TO DATE			
Barclays compensation		200	
Burials		286	
Payt from Arlington PC for tel. & internet usage & LCR subs		168	
TOTAL		654	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE LESS INCOME		22,351	84.26%

Notes to accompany 2012/13 figures

Salary: it was anticipated that the Clerk's workload would increase due to the new Community Centre however due to the Ashdown Forest 7km zone this hasn't moved on as quickly as expected. Also the Clerk's hours were reduced during the year.

Training: the Clerk now works for two Parish Councils and her training costs are covered by the other Parish Council.

Administration: the internet and phone charges are now shared with the other Parish Council and a credit therefore appears under the income figures.

Subscriptions: two of the subscriptions are now shared between the two Parish Councils.

Donations: Donations have been given to the Hadlow Down Bowls Club, to Wealden CAB, Sussex Air Ambulance and to the Village Hall for electrical work. We were expecting to give a donation to the new Community Centre towards the cost of the Geotech survey, however due to weather conditions at the Playing Field, this has been delayed. We have also recently paid out £6060.00 (of which £1010.00 tax can be reclaimed) for the drainage work in Hut Lane, this will appear in the 2013/14 accounts.

Maintenance of Burial Ground: due to the contract being cancelled we had to go out for tender and pay an increased cost, extra maintenance work also had to be undertaken at the Burial Ground. To commemorate the Queen's diamond jubilee we also paid for an oak tree and plaque to be planted.

Parish Projects Plan: this includes expenses incurred in a representative from Action in Rural Sussex attending a meeting, land registry searches, planning fees and the bus shelter costs.

Finger post maintenance: we have paid for work to be undertaken on three fingerposts, this was a cost that used to be shared with ESCC.

Chair and Councillor's allowance: This is currently not claimed by any of the present Councillors.

Legal fees: we were expecting that the new lease for the entrance to the playing field would be paid in 2012/13, this will now appear in the 2013/14 accounts.

EARMARKED RESERVES:

Burial Ground Landscaping Reserve	2,500
Property Maintenance	1,000
New Village Hall Fund	6,500
Road Safety Improvements	3,500
Election Fund	2,932
Finger post costs	2,580
IT	1,000
Community Plan	3,000
	23,012
Unearmarked reserves	1,154
Total reserves	24,166