



## Minutes of the Annual Assembly of Hadlow Down Parish Council

Held in the Village Hall, Hadlow Down  
at 7.00pm on Tuesday April 21st 2015  
*Note – this is a draft copy to be agreed and amended  
at the next Annual Assembly*

**Present:** Cllrs Sandra Richards (SR)(Chair), Clare Emsden (CE), Damon Wellman (DW), Nathan James (NJ), Julian Michaelson-Yeates (JMY) and Michael Lunn (ML)

**In attendance:** Cllr Ken Ogden (KO)(WDC), Helen Simpson-Wells (Clerk) and members of the public.

Sandra Richards welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 1. Presentation:** A presentation was given by Mrs Katy Bourne (KB), Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner. She introduced Superintendent Taylor (LT) who was available to answer questions.  
KB updated the meeting on their budget and the cuts that are being made. They have recently produced a local policing model and have engaged with the public over this. Over the next 5 years there will be 1000 job losses, some from Sussex Police and some from their collaborative work. They are trying not to have compulsory redundancies. This will have some impact on PCSOs and it was suggested that Parish Councils possibly part fund a warden.  
From 1<sup>st</sup> April Police Commissioners will be responsible for funding support for victims of crime. Sussex, Surrey and Thames Valley are working collaboratively on this and have offered a procuring framework to all Police and Crime Commissioners, because of this work they have gained an extra £300k to spend within their area.  
KB updated the meeting on restorative justice where the victim and criminal are brought together.  
A question was asked about the cuts over the last few years and whether there is any correlation between this and crime figures, KB and LT updated the meeting on crime figures some of which have improved and some haven't. Emphasis was given to the change in crime and that some isn't reported such as cybercrime. They are trying to shape their force to deal with changing crime. They confirmed that cuts in budget haven't so far affected frontline services.  
A member of the public highlighted that there was dissatisfaction in the village with the response they got from the police to Speedwatch reports. KB confirmed that they had made a huge investment in Speedwatch and that if people were interested in being involved in Speedwatch they should give their details to the Clerk who will pass them onto KB's office.  
A question was asked about Intelligence Led Policing. LT updated the meeting on what this meant.  
The Chair confirmed that having a PCSO works well for the village and if changes are going to affect this then the PC would like to be involved before a decision is made. KB confirmed that the Chief Constable will decide what happens with the PCSOs and reiterated about part funding by the Parish Council.  
LT confirmed that they need to concentrate on their core responsibilities and how they can remain accessible and visible.  
A member of the public expressed concern that the police were expecting taxpayers to pay through the Parish Council precept for a police service, due to cuts that have been made to the police budget.  
The Chair thanked KB and LT for attending the Parish Assembly and for their presentation and answering questions.
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Apologies had been received from villagers Jo Dummer, Rachel Lewis, Vicky Richards, Cllrs. Graham Terry and Roy Galley (RG) (ESCC) .
- 3. The minutes of the 2014 Annual Assembly:** the minutes were approved and signed as a true record.
- 4. WDC Report:** Cllr. Ken Ogden (WDC) – confirmed that in the last year he has asked over 300 questions at WDC. "Over the last year it has been a delight to work with and for your council with many issues good and not so good before us but we have been united, we have stood firm in endeavouring to achieve what we have felt would benefit our parishioners through all subjects.  
Sometimes I feel times in the past, like before the habitats regulations arrived from Europe, were easier. I also feel it is unfair that WDC is the only council making donations for the Ashdown Forest nitrogen testing when many others use it.  
To conclude working with your council over the last 10 years has been a delight and an experience. Thank you. The Chair thanked KO for all his work.
- 5. Reports from Representatives:**
  - a. Mayfield Charities: Fiona Bickerton advised that 8 families have been helped this year – 2 from Hadlow Down. We have a new treasurer Graham Holland and a new Chairman, Joy Pettit, who owns the general stores and has great knowledge of Mayfield residents. Most of my information comes from Mrs Rivers but I would welcome information from anyone who has reason to know of people who might be in need of a little financial help, Please tell me or the Parish Council Clerk, and any information is strictly confidential.
  - b. St Mark's School: Claire Rivers presented the following report:  
Introduction - We are living through challenging, but interesting times, in the world of education. The DFE has given schools huge new freedoms and of course, we can see all sorts of new organisational structures springing up: federations, academies, free schools, collaborations and multi- academy trusts, known as MATs. There is a limited future for schools trying to go it alone, particularly in terms of funding, and we have the huge benefit of being in a very trusted partnership, as a Teaching School with a range of strategic partners to work with us: 3 universities, 6 primary schools, 35 schools in the Wealden Improvement Partnership, Sound Architect and the Diocese of Chichester. The Local Authority is clearly in demise and Teaching Schools are beginning to take over many of the roles once run by East Sussex. Schools that are 'Good' and 'Outstanding' are now expected to support less successful schools and this is now built into the new standards for Headship. As a Local leader of Education I support another local school that has gone into Special measures.

So, interesting times!!

Standards - St Mark's has managed to maintain high standards of attainment and achievement with 100% of the Y6 pupils making expected or more than expected progress. One pupil with a high statement of SENs was unable to access the SATs tests so that when you look at the league tables, you will see we are shown as 88%, as each pupil represents 12.5% in a cohort of 8. I am afraid the league tables are highly misleading.

In September, we will begin testing 4 year olds with a new statutory baseline test and we have selected the most user friendly for the children from a government approved selection. The DFE have decided to abandon levels and there will be aptly named AWOL (Assessment without levels) which schools have been left to organise for themselves. As a Teaching School we have gathered our Assessment leaders together to develop new strategies which will be shared at a conference at the AMEX stadium with other schools.

In October, we were the first school to be inspected under the new, and far more rigorous, framework for Church school inspections known as a SIAMs inspection (Statutory Inspection for Anglican and Methodist Schools). The inspector spent the day gathering evidence: scrutinising books, observing lessons, looking at data, speaking to parents and governors. I am delighted that the school was given 'Outstanding' in all areas.

With a new DFE focus on 'British values', following the radicalisation of pupils in some schools, we are still focusing on a termly Christian value but linking it with British Values e.g. forgiveness with reconciliation, endurance with tenacity. The key message is that whatever anyone's faith or beliefs, British law will always supersede. The Ofsted inspection framework also has a key focus on this dimension.

New Developments - As part of a Teaching School Maths Hub (1 of only 32 in the country) we have been given funding by the DFE to use the Singapore maths Textbooks and have received 5 days training and the materials. The Y1 children are the first group to use this 'mastery' approach which develops in depth learning and already we can see amazing progress by all of the children involved.

St Mark's has received a generous government grant via the Diocese towards building a new class area. As with all building work, nothing runs smoothly, but we will get there. We are delighted to have re-recruited John Eliot to act as our project manager- bribery and corruption in the form of cake does work. We have taken an exciting decision to re-structure to 4 classes in order to cater for the bulges of children we have moving through the school. There will not be a change in the number of children at the school but they will be organised differently, so there is no additional problem regarding parking in School Lane. One big advantage of being a Teaching School is that we can appoint our own graduate teacher trainees through 'School Direct' and they spend 4 days in school learning on the job and 1 day at University. We have had a fantastic trainee since October and Miss Harmer has applied for and was successful in becoming our reception teacher for September. We will now have a reception class, Y1/2 Caterpillars, Y3/4 Cocoons, Y5/6-Red Admirals- so what do we call our new class-Egglets?? Chrysalis?? Or another butterfly?? All ideas gratefully received.

Our Friends, are a terrific support and we appreciate all their endeavours on behalf of the school.

Going the Extra Mile - St Mark's is lucky to have staff that will always go the extra mile. Our staff arrive early at school, often before their paid hours, and work with children who come into school early for additional support with reading, writing and maths. Other classes are also held for the gifted and talented pupils who might achieve L6 (usually attained by 14 year olds). We had a L6 mathematician last year.

All of the St Mark's staff are participating, or have participated in leadership courses and we have a staff of 'leaders and learners'.

We have a special intervention service called 'Talkspace' that works with children who have a range of needs: child protection cases; and emotional needs resulting from a variety of causes. Children that are disturbed emotionally will not be able to learn.

Safeguarding - Safe children are happy children and we always set out to provide a safe and caring environment. Our main concern is now the world of technology and the internet, where, although accessing some fantastic resources for learning, children are also extremely vulnerable.

We run e-safety workshops and teach e-safety lessons, but we are still concerned that at home some families may not have got the necessary safeguards on their computers to protect their children and that some children are accessing social networking sites, games and DVDs that are inappropriate for their age.

Conclusion - If it happens in the village we like to be involved and these events are really enjoyable occasions: the Variety Club panto, the Village Fayre, singing at the TN22 Club lunches, church events, such as, Mothering Sunday. The school is always made to feel welcome at village functions.

As a school I know we are trusted by our partners to behave in a moral and honest fashion and we have many schools, from East Sussex and beyond, that look to us for help and support. I am proud to say that the work and sharing that is done by St Mark's is for the good of all children and not to build any mini empires. I know I could be a St Mark's bore because there are so many exciting developments I could share with you but time is limited. We may be a small school but we have big ideas and try very hard to anticipate what will be needed for the future. What we can't provide we can access from our many partners.

The Chair thanked Mrs Rivers for all the work she undertakes at the School.

## 6. Reports from Councillors:

### a. Wealden District Association of Local Councils – Cllr. Michael Lunn.

Wealden District Association of Local Councils:

- A Committee Grouping of all local Parish and Town Council elected representatives with Wealden District Council and East Sussex County Council, Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire and Rescue, Sussex Ambulance.
- Meets 4 times a year and enables smaller Councils to come together over common themes / issues and raise concerns to WDC and ESCC.
- Has a sub-committee on planning policy

Issues raised over the last twelve months:

- Concerns over front line Policing in rural areas being scaled back due to restructuring.

- The lack of consultation of removal of car parking in Uckfield High Street which impacts on rural residents shopping in Uckfield
- Safety of our rural roads, and specifically dangerous pot holes in country lanes and speed of traffic in lanes (rat runs).
- Internet speed and mobile phone coverage in rural areas.

Other issues:

- Proposals for Gatwick expansion
- Localised flooding
- Parish funding and ESCC budget cuts
- Sale of Pine Grove, Crowborough
- WW1 anniversary / war graves in Wealden
- Gritting during winter months of rural villages

Going forward:

- To recommend that the Parish continues to attend this forum because it's a useful platform for Parishes to raise common issues, and for Hadlow Down issues to be raised at a larger forum where multiple stakeholders are present.
- Overall Hadlow Down Parish Council has 'punched well above our weight' with getting various lanes resurfaced, and pot holes fixed, drains repaired etc.
- We have challenged the removal of car parking in Uckfield High Street, along with other Parishes.
- We have also given evidence to the Gatwick consultation for future expansion and written to local County and Parliamentary representatives.

**b. Burial Ground, Village Hall and New Community Centre – Cllr. Graham Terry – read by Cllr Julian Michaelson-Yeates.**

**Burial Ground** - Our burial ground, by the church graveyard, is looking particularly trim at the moment. The contractors have been doing an excellent job in keeping the grass cut, the hedges trimmed, the paths swept and the overhanging branches pruned as necessary. Often when I visit there I find a gentleman, a resident of Marlowe House, sitting on the bench and enjoying the peace and quiet. I highly recommend you visit at some time.

**Village Hall** - We are sitting in it now and I hope you appreciate all the work that has been put in by the Village Hall trustees over the last few years to keep the building going until the new one is built. In the last few years, additional insulation, new heaters, a complete new kitchen and in the last year a complete overhaul of the toilet facilities so that disabled can be accommodated. The latest ventures are the completion of a website giving details of the hall and allowing on-line booking and the replacement of the ceiling tiles which are well past their best. On behalf of us all I thank all the volunteers who give up their time to run the facility and help in such things as the fund raising, coffee and tea events and the deep cleaning that are needed.

**New Community Centre** - It often seems that this project grinds slowly but a large part of the current work has involved the playing field work which has been highly successful. The reason that this forms part of the Community Centre project is that when we come to raise the main funding, having a sports facility that is well used will give us access to sports funding for the pavilion part of the project. So what has happened? The local lottery is now just over 12 months old and has raised income of over £1,300 so far and is well into renewals for the next 12 months. Two further surveys have been conducted – and, yes, we do have bats locally! – and two grants have been obtained to repair and drain the sports area of the field. A huge amount of work went into these grants, led by Bob Lake, and their success will mean that once the work is completed we can encourage back the football we lost because of the unusable surface. Two Lawful Development Certificates have been obtained. These mean that despite the current ban on building within 7 kilometres of the Ashdown Forest we can use the existing pavilion and hall as a base point and get a new building 25% bigger than their combined area. The committee also achieved charitable status as a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation), which will again allow access to funding streams that non-charitable status would not. Finally, a public meeting was held and those attending fully supported the various measures being taken.

**c. Youth, Emergency Planning and Playing Field – Cllr. Nathan James**

**Playing Field** - There has been a lot of work behind the scenes at the playing field in the last year. Bob Lake and the Playing Field Committee have worked very hard to get grants for the drainage work that will be undertaken this summer. This will make a large improvement to the top half of the playing field. As well as the drainage the committee has worked tirelessly on maintenance and the upkeep of the play area and the playing field itself. The last year has once again seen two wonderful events happen at the playing field, first there was the village fayre which was well attended and the bonfire night celebration which was a great success. I would like to personally thank everyone who was involved with both events and a massive thank you to the Playing Field Committee for all their hard work. Last of all I would like to thank Bob Lake for all his hard work for the playing field.

**Emergency Plan** - Even though we have not had many meetings in the past year the meetings we have had, have been very successful. The committee has started work on a new updated leaflet that will contain important information on what to do in case of an emergency and we hope that the leaflet will also contain some useful guidance as well. I would like to personally thank the Emergency Plan Committee for all their hard work in the last year.

**Youth** - There has not been much to do in the last year on this subject, but I hope that with the new drainage on the playing field we can start to maybe get the younger members of Hadlow Down interested in some of the activities that will be held on the newly drained field.

I would like to just add a little bit about the work the Parish Council has undertaken on the fingerposts in and around Hadlow Down. We feel the fingerposts are an important part of the village and have started to repair, and in some cases, renew the posts. The Parish Council have started a 6 monthly check on the fingerposts to make sure we can look after these icons of the village to the best of our ability.

**d. Planning – Cllr. Damon Wellman**

Planning has seen further changes over the last 12 months and there seems to be new planning legislation and further relaxation of rules on a monthly basis.

As the economy starts to slowly recover from the last 5 years, we are now seeing more developments, mainly

residential, being started or continued from previous planning consents.

The Uckfield regeneration project has been back and forth for consultation and has proved to be another controversial subject, mainly due to the removal of high street parking spaces, as well as the additional 1000 houses to be built in Uckfield out near the bypass, putting further pressure on local resources, infrastructure, transport and local authority. The Ashdown Forest 7km zone continues to be a challenge to various parties and is still a policy that has strong feelings on both sides, although the policy withstood several challenges last year, the use of SANGS now seems likely to be at the forefront of many development discussions.

Suitable Alternative Natural Green Spaces (SANGS) this is the name given to green space that is of a quality and type suitable to be used as mitigation for residential and where necessary tourism development likely to affect the Ashdown Forest Special Protection Area. It is considered that the provision of SANGS together with a range of on-site and other management measures at Ashdown Forest has the potential to provide an effective means of avoiding or mitigating harm from the effects of recreational pressure from new development.

The pressure from central government to build more houses and the need for so called affordable & social housing will continue to put pressure on many communities in the south east, along with the added stresses and strains that this brings.

We have seen several further changes available commercially under planning and this again has further relaxed permissions required to convert to residential, shops for example. Not something that is likely to assist our high streets but will go towards the much talked about housing quotas.

Planning for village halls and new community centres in Wealden is under constant discussion due to the restrictions of the Ashdown Forest 7km zone, and Hadlow Down Parish Council are keeping a very close eye on this for obvious reasons regarding the proposed new village hall at the playing field.

DW confirmed that he attends the Wealden Parish Planning Panel meeting with WDC planners.

#### **e. Highways, Strengthening Local Relationships meetings, Footways and Bridleways – Cllr. Clare Emsden**

##### **Highways:**

Potholes and road surface problems – These continue to be an issue with repairs taking a long time in some instances but the Parish Council continues to press for action, raising it at every opportunity and to the most senior officers of ESCC.

Gully clearance – In an effort to encourage ESCC to prioritise the gully clearance programme Councillors took on the task of checking gullies in the Parish, including the A272, using maps from the ESCC website. We used a “traffic light” system. Red for urgent work, amber for those needing some attention and green for OK, to get some consistency in our reporting methods. Some notes were also made of road surface issues. Helen collated the results and the report was sent to ESCC Highways.

Drainage work is currently being carried out on the A272 and patch repairs are due to take place at Shepherds Hill from 8 May for three days between 7 am and 5pm when the road will be closed. Please continue to report potholes and blocked gullies to Highways and also to Helen.

Speeding vehicles - the Parish Council is looking into various options for monitoring speed as can be seen in the Parish Council Minutes.

Wilderness Lane - remedial work has been done but we are aware some issues have not been resolved and these are being looked at again.

Hastingford Lane - complete resurfacing was carried out last May but this May ESCC will be carrying out surface dressing work. The work is expected to take up to three hours, during which time the road will be closed. An information postcard will be delivered to the affected residents.

Fingerposts - Nathan and I surveyed the Fingerposts in the Parish. Scoring them to a system devised by Nathan. We looked at the state of the paintwork, woodwork and lettering. We have a great variety of designs in the Parish in particular the crowns. It is hoped to have a rolling programme of renovation which will be monitored closely by the Parish Council. ESCC has also contributed towards the costs. Councillors have been contacted when Fingerposts appear to have gone missing or parts gone for repair. This has underlined how much these features are valued in the Parish.

##### **Strengthening Local Relationship Meetings:**

We have had two meetings with ESCC Highways since the last Parish Assembly. Both parties value these opportunities to have face to face discussions. There is a new Highways Steward who has been taken round the Parish by Graham and he is due to come and do this again in the next few months, so again we can highlight problems to him and press for action.

##### **Footpaths and Bridleways:**

I attended the ESCC “Shaping the future of our countryside access meeting” on Tuesday 24 February. This involved joining in the discussions about exploring the needs of the Parish and looking into the future with regards to footpaths and bridleways. Progress on this initiative can be monitored at [www.eastsussex.gov.uk/futurecountrysideaccess](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/futurecountrysideaccess)

Byway 24, A272 to Dog Kennel Lane: Works on this although delayed were completed last summer.

Byway 25a and 25b, A272 through Gillhope Bank Wood to Brick Kiln Lane: These have not yet scored highly enough to be included in the draft surfacing list for 2015/16. Please report any further deterioration in these Byways to Helen so they can be moved up the priority list.

#### **f. Community Plan – Cllr. Sandra Richards**

For those of you who are new to the village, approx. 4-5 years ago now, the villagers got together and produced a Community Plan. This identified the priorities for the future of the community up to 2026 in order to improve the quality of life for everyone in Hadlow Down.

We formed a committee to review the plan and to try to take forward some of the aims and targets. The key areas were;

- To establish some circular walks of different lengths for different capabilities (e.g. adults & children) to try to allow people to see parts of Hadlow Down that they were unaware of
- To establish some links between bridlepaths to help the many equestrians in our community cross over the A272

The meetings were making great progress and walks had been identified – unfortunately, one of the key footpaths that we wanted to use is a ‘licensed’ path and, although it is still being used as a footpath, we are not sure that it will be continued to be used and therefore the plans stalled somewhat. However, after the elections, we will re-establish the meetings and try to take this project forward.

**7. Chairman’s Report – Cllr. Sandra Richards** - I feel that Hadlow Down is extremely lucky that 7 people (our full quota) have volunteered their time to be on the Parish Council (PC). Parishioners who have sat on the Parish Council know that it involves a lot more than ‘just’ attending meetings once a month. It requires you to have excellent broadband coverage!! as the number of documents that we are required to read on behalf of the village is amazing – some of them, I can officially inform you, appear to be ‘gobbledygook’ (we believe it is done on purpose!) and therefore require reading and re-reading by the Councillors and Clerk a number of times to ensure that we have not missed anything that is important to the village. Therefore, I am extremely grateful to all the Councillors who spend a lot of their time in doing their jobs so well. I know I speak on behalf of us all, that we are also extremely lucky to have Helen as our Clerk. She is always extremely professional, knowledgeable and efficient in the work that she does on behalf of the village but manages to do the job with a sense of humour as well and we are extremely grateful to her for all of her help.

I also have to thank all of the parishioners who volunteer their time on the various village committees such as the Village Hall, HDCC, Playing Field, etc. The progress that these committees have made over the last year is staggering and is only maintained by the extremely hard work of all those involved. Particular thanks has to go the chairmen/women: Bob Lake, Janet Tourell and Fiona Shafer and many congratulations to them for all of the achievements in particular for the awards of grants that they have received.

Finally, for those who actually read the PC agendas over the last year, you will have seen a number of ‘closed session’ parts of our PC meetings which are related to the entrance to the Playing Field. Although this has not been formally resolved, we have been given permission to explain what has been going on as it seriously affects the financial figures that are going to be explained in the next part of the agenda.

Many of you will know that the PC owns the Playing Field itself but the access land to the Playing Field (which has the children’s play area on it) is owned by the St Marks School Trust which is part of the Church. The PC have been leasing this land for a large number of years. The lease was due for renewal last year and we were in negotiations with the Church about this renewal as it was especially important taking into account the new Community Centre. The Church offered the PC the option of buying the land which we agreed to do (but were requested to keep this confidential) and we have been trying to move this forward for more than a year. The main problem was that the land had not been registered on the Land Registry and it has taken some time for the Diocese to get this resolved. As we did not think it would take so long (more than one year) we allocated funds in the precept for 14/15 to allow for the purchase of this land and, as it has not yet taken place, these funds have now been transferred into reserves but will be used as soon as the solicitors have finalised the purchase contracts.

I hope you will agree with the Parish Council that the purchasing of this land as an asset for the village is important as it ensures access to the Playing Field and that the land continues to be used for the benefit of the community. It will also mean that the land on which a new Community Centre will be built will be owned by the Parish Council itself, on behalf of the village.

**8. Financial Report** – The Clerk presented the attached report. A question was asked about donations.

**9. Questions from the floor**

A member of the public commented that it was a shame that Cllr. Roy Galley wasn’t attending the meeting as he is the village’s ESCC representative and that there had been a lot of work undertaken by ESCC Highways in the village in the last year.

Janet Tourell (Chair Village Hall Committee) thanked the Parish Council for their work, especially the amount of time they have spent on the Village Hall.

**10. Closure of business**

The meeting closed at 8:35pm when those present enjoyed refreshments provided by the Council.

DRAFT FINAL ACCOUNTS  
2014-15

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2013-14</b>		<b>2014-15</b>	
Balance brought forward	6,766.13		5,372.07	
Precept	26,527.00		27,887.00	
Arlington PC broadband & tel. use	243.38		235.88	
Arlington PC LCR subs & stationery	24.05		9.55	
Burial ground	505.00		710.00	
VAT reclaimed	2,385.92		1,332.26	
Refund of planning fee	192.50			
Refund of overpayment from WDC			142.56	
Transfer from reserves			556.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,643.98</b>	<b>36,643.98</b>	<b>36,245.32</b>	<b>36,245.32</b>

**EXPENDITURE**

Clerk's salary	10,029.69		10,232.90	
Clerk's training	151.63		68.38	
Administration	1,143.07		1,299.33	
PC insurance	491.50		289.43	
Subscriptions	400.97		415.58	
Donations	3,696.19		2,010.00	
s.137 donations	200.00		150.00	
Hire of hall	320.00		400.00	
Audit	326.05		311.30	
Maintenance of Burial Ground	1,733.00		1,598.00	
Litter & dog bin emptying	1,090.80		1,329.95	
Rent to St Mark's School House Trust	15.00			
Parish Projects Plan	5,459.17		66.65	
Fingerpost maintenance	200.00		660.00	
Chairmen's expenses	43.67		130.82	
Parish Magazine	250.00		250.00	
Councillor's training	290.00		120.00	
Chair and Councillor's allowance	-		-	
Election expenses	500.00			
Website	-		-	
IT	498.46		308.70	
Maintenance of play area & inspection	943.00		1,153.00	
Legal fees	533.70		997.67	
Entrance to playing field			555.87	
Contingencies			155.00	
Transfer into reserves	613.75		9,076.35	
VAT paid	2,342.26		1,294.32	
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,271.91</b>	<b>31,271.91</b>	<b>32,873.25</b>	<b>32,873.25</b>
<b>Balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>		<b>5,372.07</b>		<b>3,372.07</b>
Plus cheques drawn but not presented		110.00		695.00
<b>Current account balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>		<b>5,482.07</b>		<b>4,067.07</b>
<b>Earmarked reserves:</b>				
Burial Ground Landscaping	1,200.00		1,200.00	
Property Maintenance	1,680.00		7,527.00	
New Village Hall Fund	6,500.00		5,944.00	
Road Safety Improvements	2,100.00		2,100.00	
Election Fund	3,432.00		3,432.00	
Fingerpost costs	2,780.00		2,780.00	
IT	1,604.00		1,814.00	
Community Plan	1,700.00		1,700.00	
Highways			1,345.00	
<b>Total earmarked reserves:</b>	<b>20,996.00</b>		<b>27,842.00</b>	
Unearmarked reserves	5,372.10		7,141.00	
<b>Total reserves &amp; Active Saver balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March:</b>	<b>26,368.10</b>		<b>34,983.00</b>	

Notes to accompany 2014-15 figures

The income from Arlington Parish Council is due to the Clerk also being employed as Clerk for that Parish Council, they share the broadband and telephone costs and some subscription charges with us. It has also resulted in lower training costs than if the Clerk had just been employed by Hadlow Down Parish Council.

The donations include £1200 for grass cutting at the playing field, a grant of £560.00 for loft insulation at the Village Hall and grants to the Citizens Advice Bureau, Sussex Air Ambulance and the TN22 Club.

The expenditure included an increase in the dog bin emptying charge due to a new bin being installed near the Village Hall. The Chair's expenses also covered payment towards wreaths for the World War I memorial event.

In her talk the Chair will have explained about the amount transferred into reserves, this also included contingency funds we had allowed for Highways work and legal fees that will be required for the drainage work at the playing field, which we expected to have paid in the 2014-15 financial year.

Councillors continue to not claim the allowance to which they are entitled.