



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday 2nd September 2025**

Present: Councillors: Michael Lunn (ML) Chair (+WDC), Peter Weston (PW) Vice-Chair, Ben Floyd (BF), David Munday (DM) and Alan Hobbs (AH).

In attendance: Vicki Rutt (Clerk), Cllr Bob Standley (ESCC) and four members of the public.

117. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – Two residents raised questions of the Parish Poll being a decision to dispose of the Village Hall. ML explained it is not and as stated at the Parish Meeting in July, any disposal of the village hall will be down to a further Parish Meeting and workshop and a further Parish Poll. A resident asked whether the ID being brought to the Parish Poll next week needs to be valid, the Clerk confirmed it does. A resident remarked that there has been a lot of disappointing and unsavoury comments made on Facebook recently. The chair agreed that it was disappointing some untruths had been told, but all Parish residents on the electoral roll can have their say through the Parish Poll on 9th September.

118. APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Stephen Lester.

119. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – BF declared a personal interest on agenda item 126c.

120. MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on the 5th August 2025 were recommended for approval and signed as a true record (previously circulated).

121. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

a. Action Log - Clerk reported from the action log which is available on the village website.

b. Clerks report - This was noted (previously circulated).

122. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. WD/2025/1708/F for HUGGETTS FARM, STONEHURST LANE, HADLOW DOWN, TN20 6LL
Cart lodge style private residential garage. Amended plans received.

PC commented – All Councillors were in favour of supporting the application due to recent amendments.

123. REPORTS FROM CLLR.BOB STANDLEY, ESCC & CLLR MICHAEL LUNN, WDC

ESCC - Cllr Standley reported communication has improved with ESH recently, the Clerk agreed. Devolution work is continuing and the local government reorganisation needs to be submitted by the 25th September. Congratulations to the students who received their GCSE's they were incredible results across the County.

WDC - Cllr Lunn reported that no meetings have been held in WDC recently. Nus Ghani MP was in the village recently and met with some local residents. Cllr Lunn reported that Rachel Millward has received a promotion, she has been appointed as the Deputy Leader of the Green party at National level. She will continue to be the Deputy Leader of Wealden District Council.

124. HIGHWAYS:

a. Agenda items for upcoming SLR meeting – The following agenda items to be added; Vegetation at road signs, drain issues, outstanding issues from previous SLR, the sunken bumps need Five Chimneys, update on the speed limit change and the non-slip road texture proposal.

125. COMMUNITY CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE – There is nothing to update. Next meeting will be after the Parish Poll so likely end of September.

126. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

a. Upcoming works - A272 Main Road, Hadlow Down. 8th – 10th September 2025 – This was noted.

b. Essential repair work in Hadlow Down 25th – 28th November 2025 – This was noted.

c. Email regarding Tinkers Park noise and air pollution – This was noted.

127. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES):

PW will go and look at the electric fences on a reported footpath. BF has looked at the drain, it is clear. BF has checked the bus shelter, roof is not leaking. The benches have not been checked yet. The play area equipment requires a new handrail around the top, and a bracket underneath.

RESOLVED: All Cllrs agreed that BF will liaise with the Clerk about the costs and this can be actioned. **Action 1.**

ML has had dialogue with the Rural Crime Police team, there is potential for another crime wave so all residents to remain vigilant and report any concerns.

128. BURIAL GROUND:

a. Approve memorial headstone for L. Williams – This was noted and approved.

129. RISK ASSESSMENTS:

- a. Receive tree assessment report – Report is pending.

130. CLERKS MATTERS:

- a. Clerks hours August 2025 – These were agreed.
 b. Arrange date for Clerks 2-year appraisal meeting – A date at the end of September will be arranged.

131. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS:

- a. Agree Finance Report for September 2025 - The finance report was noted and approved by PW and DM. The detail can be found in [Appendix A](#).
 b. Agree and sign Bank Reconciliation for August 2025 - Approved and signed by PW and DM.
 c. Note receipt of section 3, 2024-25 AGAR by the external auditor – This was noted. Congratulations were given to the Clerk for a successful audit
 d. Note the publication of the Notice of Conclusion of Audit – This was noted.

132. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY – this was checked on the 2nd September 2025.**133. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA:** Parish Poll results.

The meeting closed at 19:39

The next PC meeting date is Tuesday 7th October 2025 at 19:00

Appendix A

Finance report for 2nd September 2025 PC meeting

<u>Payments by Bank Transfer paid pending authorisation</u>			
Payment Date	Payee	Payment Details	Amount
None			

<u>Payments by Bank Transfer pending authorisation</u>			
Payment Date	Payee	Payment Details	Amount

28.09.25	Vicki Rutt	Standing Order September 2025	£1,216.02
02.09.25	Vicki Rutt	July OT + NALC pay increase + backpay	£734.23
02.09.25	HMRC	Tax + NI Aug 2025	£654.57
02.09.25	East Sussex Pension Fund	Pension Aug 2025	£616.47
02.09.25	PKF Littlejohn	External audit 2024-25	£378.00
02.09.25	R A Waters	Verge cutting	£120.00
02.09.25	D M Payroll Services	Payroll Q1 & Q2 for 2025/26	£163.20
02.09.25	Mrs Lucy McConachie	Play area inspection August 2025	£40.00
02.09.25	Viking	Blank ink cartridge and printer paper	£137.72
02.09.25	Hadlow Down Village Hall	Hall hire x 2 in Sept 2025	£134.50

<u>Payments by direct debit for authorisation</u>			
Date	Payee	Payment Details	Amount

31.08.25	Unity Trust	Service charge August 2025	£6.00
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<u>Acknowledge receipt of monies</u>			
Date	Payee	Payment Details	Amount

06.08.25	Mrs Deeks	Purchase of grave and interment for Deeks	£2,035.00
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