



**Easebourne Parish Council
Community & Environment Committee
Minutes of a Meeting Held at
6.00pm on Wednesday 5th August 2026
At Easebourne CE Primary School**

Present – M Noble (MN) - chairman, J Macdonald-Lawson (JML), D Pack (DP), I Milne (IM), D Kilty (DK)

In attendance – E Tremaine (ET) – Parish Clerk, Julie Green (JG) - potential Councillor

- 1. Public Question Time** – JG introduced herself and her experience.
- 2. Apologies and Reasons for Absence** – F Davies (FD) for personal reasons.
- 3. Code of Conduct**
 - a. No declarations of interest
 - b. No dispensation requests
- 4. Minutes of Last Meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd June were agreed as a correct record and signed. Proposed by IM, seconded by DK.
 - a. MN to ask the shop about removal of signs now that they have the new one – **CARRY OVER**
 - b. ET to arrange session for free advice from VAT specialists re the Hub – complete, to be discussed under item 5b.
 - c. IM to speak to WSCC about overlapping works on the Hub roof – **CARRY OVER**
 - d. IM to change park padlocks to combination locks – complete
 - e. DK to speak to Climate Action Network for suggestions of alternatives to weed killer – complete, a suggested policy has been proposed by IM which **DK will run by the Climate Action Network – ACTION**
 - f. JML to follow up with Cowdray about Community Allotment – complete. JML met Jonathan Russell (Cowdray CEO) this morning, looked at the proposed area, he is happy to arrange a lease for the allotments to the PC or Greenheal. Greenheal have agreed to take this on, subject to trustee approval. There was a discussion about how EGAS will be involved, this will be discussed and managed by Greenheal.
 - g. ET to report overgrown footpath from Kings Drive to Budgenor Lodge – complete. Also reported the A286 pavement following a community complaint.
- 5. Verbal/Written Panel & Project Group Reports –**
 - a. **Communications (Volunteers and Staffing)**
 - i. Nothing to report.
 - b. **Community Hub Project**
 - i. The planning application has been delayed due to an administration problem, this has now been resolved with the 2 missing documents issued. Bike racks are being added to the plans as requested. The 21 days expire on 23rd August and a determination date should follow shortly after. Anticipating conditions.
 - ii. The Project Manager has been given permission to begin engaging with designers, architects etc to look at more detailed plans and specs.
 - iii. Fundraising list being refined and trigger will be pulled once planning consent is obtained. JG offered to assist with pulling financial information

together. MN has spoken to a Parishioner who is looking into sponsorship, materials etc. It was also suggested to begin looking at a public works loan. ET will make some preliminary enquiries with SALC – **ACTION**.

- iv. Advice meeting with Cubed Tax (organised by ACRE), which has helped to refine the plan for the Charity/PC relationship during the refurb. The proposal is that the PC will undertake the refurbishment and then hand the finished building to the Charity for a peppercorn rent. Many benefits to this structure re trustees, timings, fundraising, also means that the VAT can be reclaimed on the refurbishment. JML is now taking over the charity set up. There was also a discussion about the end uses of the hall and the charity set up going forward.
 - v. DK suggested contacting VAAC as they can advise on charities and voluntary activities etc.
 - vi. JG asked when works can be started with a funding gap, phasing was discussed. Nothing to happen until the planning consent is obtained.
- c. **Easebourne Park**
- i. Rospa inspection came up with recommendations. Wildwood have been sent the report to look at the dens and trails.
 - ii. Bark – **ET to get quotes – ACTION**, large amounts needed. MN to chase Wildwood to confirm the actions for the dens and trails as this may impact timelines – **ACTION**.
 - iii. Roundhouse gutters – IM looking at suggestions from Artizans for the gutters and drainage/soakaway.
 - iv. Swift tower location (Greenheal) – happy with the suggested location, subject to approval by the swift expert.
- d. **Emergencies and Winter Planning**
- i. Audit done. Suggested notices for bins when the weather turns to remind residents that it is for use on pavements and public highways, not private property.
- e. **Footpaths**
- i. Need 2 more footpath wardens – **JML will draft something for ET to put on website – ACTION**
 - ii. Lots of dog mess noted, **JML will ask WSCC for notices – ACTION**.
- f. **Highways**
- i. The TRO for Wheelbarrow Castle has been rejected again. MN has responded and asked Tom Richardson and Francis Hobbs for assistance.
 - ii. Kings Drive TRO – waiting for traffic assessment results. IM has also complained that the centre line has faded, WSCC to send a survey team to assess.
- g. **Greenheal**
- i. Still recruiting trustees and members.
 - ii. Swift boxes at the Church have been installed.
 - iii. Talks and events are being discussed.
 - iv. Himalayan balsam pulling project paused as the season is over.
 - v. Future projects – insect hotels, bird talk, community garden/allotments, solar panels,
 - vi. Climate Action Network meetings – carbon literacy training (making sure people understand CO2 etc), sustainability and schools.

6. Resident Request for a Bench at Dodsley Lane Bus Stop

- a. Need to check with Highways. Need some photographs of the area first to assess. DK will investigate – **ACTION.**

7. Midhurst & Easebourne FC Community Day

- a. IM to do 12-3, MN will then do 3pm onwards. MN to email for more volunteers - **ACTION.**

8. Proposals to Full Council – that the PC will undertake the refurbishment of the Hub and then pass to the charity for a peppercorn rent.

9. Matters of Report – none.

10. Date of Next Meeting – 6.00pm Wednesday 7th October 2026.

Meeting Closed at 19.07

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Chairman