ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

[www.alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk)

**CLERK TO THE COUNCIL** 33 Swaines Way

Mrs Victoria Rutt Heathfield  
 East Sussex

Telephone – 07936 904743 TN21 0AN

Email – clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk

Friday 26th May 2023

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Alfriston Parish Council (APC)**

**held in the AWMH on Monday 22nd May 2023 at 19:15**

**Present:**

Cllr J Watkins Cllr S Daw

Cllr F Baker Cllr S Rabagliati

Cllr J Spring Cllr D Monteath-Wilson

Cllr A Harris

**In attendance:**

Mrs Victoria Rutt - Parish Clerk

Approximately 48 members of the public

1. **Chairman’s welcome**

Cllr Watkins welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending and stated it was a fantastic turnout. Cllr Watkins welcomed new Cllr’s; Cllr Baker, Cllr Spring and Cllr Harris. Thanks was expressed to the Cllrs who were retired from the Parish Council on the 9th May; Mr Bell, Mr Beechey and Mrs Cooper. Special thanks to Mr Beechey for being Chair and Vice Chair for so long and his valuable input and knowledge. Cllr Watkins thanked everyone who was involved in the Jubilee and Kings Coronation celebration, both of which were a great success and fantastic for the village. Special thanks to Ms Anna Franklin and her team within Friends of Alfriston Playground for all their hard work on the new playground. Thank you to Mr Larkin for his work as APC’s tree warden. Thank you to Wendy and Gerry for always ensuring the hall is ready and clean each month for our meetings. Thanks to all of APC’s outside bodies and special thanks to AEG for all their hard work especially in times of flooding and gritting.

A final thanks to the Clerk for keeping the Cllrs on track and for all her hard work.

1. **Public Questions**
2. Mrs Elspeth Farrar asked if there was an update on the postbox. The Clerk explained there would be an update under Clerks Correspondence at the meeting following this AGM.
3. Mrs Hilary Rawlins reported that the village sign as you come into the village from Seaford is missing the letter ‘i’. The Clerk confirmed she is aware and this has been reported.
4. Ms Persis Cornet asked for an update on the traffic calming scheme as she and a local resident had some near misses recently. The Clerk explained that there will be an update on this under Highways at the meeting following the AGM and any reports of ‘near misses’ should be sent to the Clerk for evidence.
5. Ms Diana Kelly stated that she has witnessed cars mount the pavement at speed instead of waiting for cars to pass carefully.
6. Mrs Nicky Vassell asked what is happening with the recent road repairs that need repairing yet again as the original repair was undertaken so poorly. The Clerk explained that there will be an update on this under Highways at the meeting following the AGM.
7. **Election of Chairman**

Cllr. Spring proposed and Cllr. Rabagliati seconded a motion to elect Cllr Monteath-Wilson as Chairman.

Councillors resolved that Cllr. Monteath-Wilson is Chair of Alfriston Parish Council.

The Clerk expressed her thanks to Cllr Watkins for all her hard work as Chair over the last 4 year term and for all her support both professionally and personally.

1. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office by newly appointed Chair**

Cllr. Monteath-Wilson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr. Monteath-Wilson thanked Councillors for their vote and is happy to accept the role. She explained that she was the Chair some time ago and she is looking forward to working again with the new Council and wanted to do so now that APC have a qualified Clerk.

1. **Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr. Harris proposed and Cllr. Baker seconded a motion to elect Cllr. Spring as Vice Chairman.

Cllr. Rabagliati proposed and Cllr. Daw seconded a motion to elect Cllr. Watkins as Vice Chairman

A vote took place and the casting vote was required from the Chair as it was a tie. Cllr Monteath-Wilson explained this role is for one year and for continuity her vote went for Cllr Watkins.

Councillors resolved that Cllr. Watkins is Vice Chairman of Alfriston Parish Council.

1. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office by newly appointed Vice Chairman**

Cllr. Watkins signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies.

1. **To agree that Alfriston Parish Council meet the criteria to receive General Power of Competence**

Clerk reported that APC have met the criteria to receive General Power of Competence [GPC] due to having a qualified Clerk and being two thirds elected. APC continue to have GPC.

1. **Written undertakings to observe Code of Conduct**

Written undertakings to observe Code of Conduct were signed and witnessed by the Clerk at the meeting.

1. **Register of Members’ Interests**

Register of Members’ interests were signed and handed to the Clerk.

1. **Consider allocation of Portfolios**

Cllr Monteath-Wilson explained that at the June 2023 meeting the portfolios will be looked into as

Cllr Spring has proposed a restructure, however portfolios as they stand today need to be agreed.

The below was decided by all Councillors:

* 1. Allotments - Cllr Baker
  2. Public Transport and ROW - Cllr Harris
  3. Highways and Twittens - Cllr Rabagliati
  4. Planning - Cllr Watkins
  5. Strategic Planning - Cllr Spring
  6. The Tye & Recreation Ground - Cllr Daw

1. **Consider membership of Committees**
   1. Finance (4 members) - Cllrs Daw, Spring, Rabagliati and Baker.

Cllrs Watkins and Daw will share the role of undertaking the quarterly audit with the Clerk.

* 1. Planning (4 members) - Cllrs Spring, Daw, Rabagliati, Harris.

1. **Appointment of representatives to outside bodies** 
   1. Wealden District Association of Local Councillors (1 Councillor) - Cllr Spring
   2. Sussex Association of Local Councils (1 Councillor for October AGM) - Cllr Daw
   3. Twinning Committee (1 representative) - Mr Michael Anderson
   4. Cuckmere Community Bus (1 representative) - Mr Richard Price
   5. Cuckmere Flood Forum (1 representative) - Mr John Hurwood
   6. Tree Warden (1 representative) - Mr Daniel Larkin
   7. Village Hall Committee (1 representative) - Cllr Daw
   8. Alfriston & Cuckmere Valley Community First Responders - Mr David Watkins
   9. Alfriston Emergency Group - Mr Steve Woodgate
   10. Neighbourhood Watch - Mr Nick Cattell
   11. St Andrew’s - Cllr Daw
   12. Clergy House - Ms Holly Jones
   13. Speedwatch - Clerk
2. **Councilors to consider if they would like to put themselves forward for the National Park election**

No Councillors wished to stand.

*This meeting concluded at 19:45 and the APC monthly meeting commenced.*