

ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Mrs Suzanna Dry

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Alfriston War Memorial Hall,
Old School House, The Tye,
Alfriston, East Sussex, BN26 5TL

Tuesday 9th July 2024

All members of the Parish Council are summoned to a meeting of Alfriston Parish Council to be held in the Alfriston War Memorial Hall on **Monday 15th July 2024**.

Please note that a digital sound recording is made of all meetings of Alfriston Parish Council including Public Questions sessions. The recording is not for publication and is only used to aid accurate minute taking.

S.C. Dry

Mrs Suzanna Dry - Clerk

61. Chairman's Welcome

62. Public Questions

63. Apologies for absence

64. Update from MP

65. Update from Cllr Stephen Shing – East Sussex County Council

66. Update from Cllr David Greaves - Wealden District Council

67. Declaration of interest

68. Minutes

To agree as a true record the minutes of the APC meeting held on 15th June 2024 and Annual Meeting held on 20th May 2024.

69. Finance

To approve the Statement of Finances for July 2024. ([Appendix A](#))
Confirm sight of the Quarterly Year to Date figures. ([Appendix B](#))

70. Coffeehouse Conversations

To discuss date and topic of next coffeehouse conversation.

71. Update on APC Noticeboard for Market Square – Cllr Daw

72. APC Events

To confirm if the following events will be organised by APC:
August Bank Holiday Dog Show – Tye & August Bank Holiday Car Boot Sale – Recreation Ground

73. Clerk's Attendance at Society of Local Council Clerks Annual Conference

Clerk's report to follow

74. Report on Highways & Twittens – Cllr Rabagliati

75. Report on Allotments & Recreation Ground – Cllr Daw

76. Report on Public Transport – Cllr Harris

77. Report on Environment & Countryside – Cllr Harris

Update on work to the Cuckmere River

78. Report on Strategic Planning – Cllr Spring

To discuss storage of Wealden D.C. sandbags for flooding.

79. Report on Tye – Cllr Parkinson ([Appendix C](#))

80. Report from Planning Committee – Cllr Watkins

80.1 Applications considered by APC Planning Committee since last meeting:

Ref. No: SDNP/24/02380/FUL & SDNP/24/02381/LIS Six Bells, High St, Alfriston, BN26 5TD

No objection.

80.2 Applications notified or awaiting decision from SDNPA

Ref. No: SDNP/24/01901/HOUS & SDNP/24/01902/LIS The Old Vicarage, West Street, Alfriston, BN26 5UY - **Approved.**

Ref. No: SDNP/24/01164/HOUS Rosemary Cottage, High Street, Alfriston, BN26 5TB – **Approved**

Ref. No: SDNP/24/02061/DCOND Saddlers House, High Street, Alfriston, BN26 5SZ - **Application in Progress**

Ref. No: SDNP/24/01355/HOUS Deans Barn Whiteway, Alfriston, BN26 5TP - **Application in Progress**

Ref. No: SDNP/24/02077/NMA Pailin House, 6 Kings Ride, Alfriston, BN26 5XP - **Refused**

80.3 Enforcement updates - None

81. Reports from Outside Bodies

81.1 Heartstart

81.2 Alfriston Emergency Group

81.3 Flood Forum

81.4 Neighbourhood Watch

81.5 Twinning Committee

81.6 St Andrew's Church

81.7 Clergy House

81.8 Cuckmere Buses

81.9 Alfriston War Memorial Hall

81.10 Speedwatch

81.11 Events

82. Correspondence to The Clerk – Asking for permission from the council.

- South Downs Summer Music Festival Banner
- Running Event Saturday 7th December
- Hailsham Artist Event 27th-28th July, APC Noticeboard and banners.

83. Public Questions

84. Date of next meeting – There will be no meeting in August, the next meeting will be held on Monday 16th September 2024 in the AWMH at 7:15pm.

Appendix A

Alfriston Parish Council Finance Report 8th July 2024

Authority is sought to make the following payments:-

BACS	July Payroll	£1,778.40
BACS	Creative Gardening (Gras Allot & Playground Mar-Jun)	£1,365.00
BACS	Wealden District Council (Bins Qtr 1)	£660.00
BACS	Barcombe Landscapes (Grass cutting Tye & Rec May-Jun)	£1,152.00
Total:		£4,955.40

Authority is sought to make the following payments made since last meeting:-

39	CARD	HP Instant Ink - Printer Ink	£11.99
40	DD	Castle Water - Allotments	£125.30
41	BACS	June Payroll	£1,778.60
42	BACS	Meon - Linemarking Paint for Tye Rd	£207.46
43	BACS	UK Power Networks - Disconnection of Meter for Clock	£546.00
44	DD	O2 APC Mobile Phone	£15.31
45	DD	Santander Bank Charges - June	£20.00
46	BACS	Inland Revenue - Tax & NI June	£317.87
47	BACS	Interbiz - Payroll Services	£24.00
48	BACS	Biffa - Allotment Bins Qtr 1	£158.59
49	BACS	AWMH - Hall rent for meetings in June	£72.00
50	DD	Nest Pension - Employee Pension	£152.88
51	BACS	Viking - Office stationery	£59.86
Total:			£3,489.86

Summary of Bank Balances as of 8th July 2024

Business Current Account	£2,385.60
Business Savings Account	£57,427.26
TOTAL:	£59,812.86

Signed by: *S.C. Dry*
Suzanna Dry - Clerk & RFO

Councillor who checked the invoices for the above payments:

RESERVE INFORMATION FOR 2024/25

Project	Closing balance	Budget 24/25	Expenditure	Income	Balance
General Reserves	£10,401.11			£4,763.07	£15,164.18
Tye Rd surface	£20,000.00	£5,000.00	£172.88		£24,827.12
Playground	£763.07	£500.00	£1,263.07		£0.00
NDP	£500.00		£500.00		£0.00
High St Traffic Plan	£10,000.00	£5,000.00	£3,000.00		£12,000.00
Election costs		£500.00			£500.00
CIL money	£502.07				£502.07
TOTAL	£42,166.25	£11,000.00			£52,993.37

Appendix B

APC Quarterly YTD for 2024/25							
INCOME	Actual 2023/24	Budget 2024-25	Actual Q1	Actual Q2	Actual Q3	Actual Q4	Notes
Precept	55,252	56,736	28,368				
ESCC Grass Cutting	0	0	0				
Allotment Rents	505	800	20				
Donations	0	0					
Interest	447	150	130.32				
Pavilion	440	150	140.5				
Benches	0	0					
Other	381	0	17				refund from Annual meeting refreshments
Total receipts excl VAT	56,985	57,836					
VAT on receipts	0	0					
VAT refunds from HMRC	16287.34	0	603.57				
Total receipts	73,273	57,836	29,279				
EXPENDITURE	Actual 2023/24	Budget 2024/25	Actual Q1	Actual Q2	Actual Q3	Actual Q4	
APC Staff costs	24,520	27,500	6328.47				
Administration	1589	1200	348.83				
Grass Cutting (excl Willows)	5318	5500	640				
Allotments	4749	1000	381.66				
Pavilion	500	150	0				
Rec & Playground	438	500	0				
Bins	3898	4346	428.19				
Tye	290	500	0				
Village Amenity Maintenance	1269	1200	160				
Insurance	1001	1100	1092.64				One off annual cost
Jubilee Clock	946	550	765.35				No expenditure after July
S137 Grants	760	800	0				
Courses & Subscriptions	1760	500	275.04				
Rent	523	400	184				
Bank Charges	240	240	60				
Audit	705	750	119.15				
Benches	0	0	0				
Election Expenses	2933	500	0				
Chairman's allowance	223	100	42.5				
Speedwatch	0	0	0				
CIL money	260	0	0				
Other Misc	1552	0	72.13				
Earmarked reserves	11000	11,000	11,000.00				No more expenditure after Q1
Total payments excl VAT	64474	57,836	21897.96				
VAT on payments	2340	0	561.46				
VAT paid to HMRC	0	0	0				
Total payments	66813	57,836	22459.42				
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Election costs		£500.00				£500.00	
CIL money	£502.07					£502.07	
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Appendix C

Alfriston Parish Council

The Tye Portfolio: Monthly Update July 2024.

Neil Parkinson.

The Tye

General Maintenance

- I am very grateful to the members of the Tye Team who turned out to clear a lot of Ivy from the churchyard wall, revealing another bench and improving the vista of the Tye. There is another section that could be cleared, just outside the WMH.
- Following further conversations with Rager and Roberts, their prominent For Sale sign has been removed from the village flower bed.
- The damaged drain cover near the WMH remains an issue. Am hoping that AEG will have time to fix this soon.

The Tye Road

1) Double Yellow Lines at the Turning Circle Section

- As agreed at last month's meeting, I have ordered 2 more tins of yellow paint. These have been delivered. I am in discussion with Cllr Spring about when this can be applied; hopefully in the next few weekends.

2) Re-Edging

- We are still awaiting a) permission for this work from SDNPA and b) information about some subsurface services, before we can further the process with Hailsham Roadways. The Clerk has tried to push this forward.

3) Potholes

- I have bottomed out the costing for the materials needed to start work and hope to order them very soon. The costs currently fall within the approved budget.
- I have also written a draft work plan and circulated it to volunteers (many of whom know more about roadbuilding than I do) for comment. All seems positive so far.
- As previously, my aim is to get this work completed as soon as is practicable, and we are aiming for the 2nd half of July if people and materials are available. We are likely to stage the work rather than attempting it all at once.
- Exact dates will need to be agreed with all those who have volunteered to help. Also, we will need to inform Tye Road users that the road will be closed intermittently. Assistance from other Councillors, especially anyone with experience, would be very welcome.

4) Disabled Parking

Declaration of Interest: I have a relative who lives in the village who has recently acquired a Blue Badge. (To my knowledge she has not used it in the village and is unlikely to do so.)

- I noted last month that a resident has emailed the Clerk to complain about a car which persistently parks in one of the Tye Road disabled bays at the Wingrove end and I undertook to leaflet cars who park in these bays without permission when I am around. I also noted that as with the High Street, the Market Square, and Star Lane, I find the level of antisocial and illegal parking around the village by a minority of road users depressing, and request that everyone has consideration for others in the village.
- This resident has provided many more emails this month with photographic evidence of the offenders. The ongoing behaviour is understandably irritating and inconvenient. He would like the cars towed away, and a fine levied for recovery. In addition, he has requested that APC grants him the dedicated right to use one of the parking bays opposite the Wingrove car park for a reasonable fee.
- Conversely, another resident who is not disabled has written to say they feel it is reasonable to use the disabled bays since residents should be able to park in the road and they do not wish to

drive further along it due to the condition of the road surface. This resident wants APC to make parking “residents only” in the Tye Road and has written again to say this, having previously made the point to the Tye Coffeehouse Conversation.

- In addition to leafleting, I have been recording usage of parking spaces when I visit. I will report on the latest figures at the meeting but the use of disabled spaces is low – they are often vacant – and whilst I want disabled drivers to be fully supported, if the spaces are not used it is likely to lead to other drivers being frustrated.
- The Clerk has written to The George, The Six Bells, and The Wingrove to ask them to remind their staff not to park in disabled bays. The Clerk’s initial advice is that if APC wanted to consider instructing a company to either clamp or remove vehicles at a later stage, in theory this could be done, but would be at APC’s cost and we would need to consult a solicitor to take legal advice first (again at cost).
- I would also have concerns about towing cars from disabled spaces on several grounds – so far, nine cars have been recorded, not just one; possible need for signage / urbanisation; APC resource and the Clerk’s time; proportionality in comparison to the rest of the village; and the need for access and turning of large vehicles on the Tye Road.
- Instead, I propose that *on a trial basis* we reconfigure the disabled bays on the Tye Road.
 - We move the two disabled bays from the side of the Wingrove to the two bays opposite the car park.
 - These would be chained with a combination lock and the code given to local Blue Badge holders.
 - This should mean that these two disabled bays are not abused.
 - At the OCC end of the Tye, we reduce the number of bays from two to one. That bay remains available for Church / OCC users and those who do not have the code.
 - If the single bay continues to be abused we would need to look at reinstating the second bay.
 - In any case, we monitor feedback and consider the results as needed.
- This is of course not a perfect solution. But the current position is clearly not satisfactory.

5) General Parking

- As noted above a request that the Tye Road becomes resident parking only has again been received.
- This could be looked at if Councillors wish; I can see arguments both for and against. However, as fundamentals I believe we should remember that:
 - the Tye is primarily an historic place that “provides an open space for recreational purposes” for the village and the Tye Road is part of it; and
 - all villagers (and I assume businesses) who contribute to the precept are paying a substantial sum for the current repairs to the Tye Road, whether they use it or not.
- I therefore believe that any changes should be subject to a wide village consultation.