

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE (E&A)** held on **THURSDAY, 10 APRIL 2025** at King Edward Hall.

The meeting commenced at 8.00 p.m.

Parish Councillors:	Mr. W. Blunden (Chairman)	Mr. S. Nisbett (Vice-Chair)	Mr. C. Wood
	Mrs. I. Burns	Mr. R. Pickett	Mr D. Woolley
	Mrs. L. Grace	Mrs. V. Upton	
	Mrs. A. Matthews	Mr. I. Wilson	

(*) Denotes absence

In attendance: Mr. A. Funnell (Clerk)
One Member of the Public

208 APOLOGIES

208.1 There were no absences.

209 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

209.1 The following declarations of interest were recorded:

Cllr Blunden declared an interest in item 216.4, as he is a King Edward Hall Committee member and item 216.6, as he is an allotment holder.

Cllr Pickett declared an interest in item 216.4, as he is a member of the King Edward Hall Committee.

Cllr Matthews declared an interest in item 216.6, as she is an allotment holder.

210 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

210.1 There were no questions.

211 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE E&A COMMITTEE HELD ON 6 FEBRUARY 2025.

211.1 The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of the E&A Committee held on Thursday, 6 February 2025. These were **agreed** to be a true record of that meeting. The Chair would sign the minutes at the end of the meeting.

212 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

212.1 The Chair made the following announcements:

Hayward Heath Town Council Civic Service – The Council Chair and Vice Chair had attended the event.

213 ACTION LIST.

213.1 The action list was **NOTED**. The Clerk confirmed that the installation of the swift nesting box would be progressed.

214 ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE BUDGET PROGRESS 2024/25.

214.1 The figures as of 28th February 2025 were:

Expenditure

£ 56,366	had been spent from the open spaces budget of	£ 64,425
£ 923	had been spent from the allotments budget of	£ 2,500
£ 4,380	had been spent from the reserves.	
£ nil	had been spent from the general reserves.	

Income

£ 1,197 had been received for allotment rental.

215 CLIMATE CHANGE

215.1 Cllr Grace provided members with an update on the grass verges project. This included seeking support from WSCC Cllr Garry Wall, considering volunteer management and safety assessments.

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216.2 Climate Change Awards

It was **agreed** to award the following Climate Change Awards:

- Friends of Eastern Road Nature Reserve
- Lindfield Repair Café

216 ASSETS AND MAINTENANCE.

216.1 Streetlights – Members **noted** the proposed changes to unmetered supply billing arrangements with the introduction of half-hourly settlement.

216.2 Wilderness Field Cut – It was **agreed** to delegate authority to the Clerk, in conjunction with the Wilderness Field Working Group, authority to accept a quote for the 2025 field cut. The value of the contract awarded shall not exceed £4,000.

216.3 Signage on the Wilderness Field and bus shelters – It was **agreed** that additional signage should be installed on the assets to help mitigate the issues described in the report.

216.4 Village Clock – It was **agreed** that Cllr Pickett would draft a response to the email received from the clock supplier and installer.

216.5 Festive Lighting – It was **agreed** that the Council will advertise a tender for spark lights. The tender would be presented to the Full Council for consideration.

216.6 Allotment Plot rates – It was **agreed** that the plot rates for 2026/26 would be £8 per rod. This was an increase of £1 and was calculated by inflation plus 5% and rounded up to the nearest pound.

Note - Cllrs Blunden and Matthews did not participate in the discussion or voting on this item.

217 FAIRTRADE LINDFIELD

217.1 Members considered the advice received from West Sussex County Council and discussed whether this matter should be pursued further. Various points were raised, including:

- The cost of the signs.
- Whether Fairtrade Lindfield would pay or contribute towards the cost.
- The effectiveness of the signs in promoting Fairtrade.
- The fact that this was a third-party-led proposal.
- Whether Fairtrade Lindfield could be encouraged to seek a grant to fund the signs.
- The presence of several "Welcome to Lindfield" signs within the Lindfield Rural administrative boundary.

It was agreed that the Committee was not opposed to having the signs installed at the entrances to the village, but Fairtrade Lindfield would need to fund the cost of the signs and their installation.

218 POLICY & STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS

218.1 Members were asked to provide any updates on the Plan 23-27 objectives.

219 EVENTS

219.1 Members **noted** the report regarding upcoming events that the council was either attending or organising. Members were asked to let the office know which events they could attend and assist with.

220 RISK MANAGEMENT

220.1 It was **agreed** to approve the risk assessments for Village Clean Events.

221 CLERK'S REPORT

221.1 There were no items to report.

222 MATTERS ARISING

222.1 There were no matters arising.

The meeting concluded at 20:41

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The date of the next meeting is 12 June 2025.

DISCLAIMER

The attached minutes are DRAFT minutes. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, statements and decisions recorded in them, their status will remain that of a draft until they are confirmed as a correct record at the subsequent meeting.