# Meeting of
# **Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council**

Venue Colkins Mill Church, Station Road, Mayfield, TN20 6BT
Date Monday 13 July 2026
Time 19:30

# Minutes

C13JUL26
2026/27 Meeting 03
Chairman Approved

Chairman Cllr Ian Parker

**Councillors Present and Voting**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Paul Amans | Howard Blakebrough | Tommy Buck | Andrew Burnett |
| Chris Dines | Jo Eates | Paul Jarvis | Martin Lawson |
| Chris Lilly | Ian Parker | Andrew Ratcliffe | Sally Ann Tibbles |
| Rodney Warren | | | |

**Also in attendance:**
One member of the public, Cllr Brian Redman (WDC) and Janna Todd (Parish Clerk).

**Public questions**

- There were no public questions.

**1. Apologies for absence**

1.1. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Marlow, Cllr Sharma, Cllr Woolley (ESCC) and Cllr Lunn (ESCC),

**2. Declarations of interests**

2.1. There were no declarations of interests.

**3. Chairman's announcements**

3.1. Councillors were requested to note that a letter has been circulated confirming a change in law from 29 June 2026 for the default position to be that a member's usual residential address will be excluded from public registers of interests unless a member specifically requests otherwise.

3.2. Information has been received that fundraising is in hand to purchase Mayfield Fire Station to provide a permanent arts venue.

3.3. The office will be closed on Friday 17July 2026.

**4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 08 June 2026 (previously circulated)**

4.1. No matters were raised from the minutes.

4.2. It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 08 June 2026 as a true record.

**5. Reports from East Sussex County Council (ESCC) (for information only)**

5.1. The report from Cllr Lunn has been circulated and is available on the Council website.

**6. Reports from Wealden District Council (WDC) (for information only)**

6.1. A list of WDC assets that can be sold off to councils has been issued. Assets that are valued at under £10k will be provided with a 75% discount and valuations are based on current use. Questions were raised on the value of the South Street car park that does not create an income and whether potential income increases the valuation of the asset.

6.2. County and District Councillors are concerned about personal safety as there has been an increase in unpleasant and abusive emails.

Draft minutes subject to adoption as a true record

6.3. An additional £10k has been provided to Ward Members to be used as grants on local worthwhile causes, the maximum award being £5k. The Mayfieldians have applied for a grant for tools for the volunteer maintenance team that clears vegetation and repairs assets in the Parish.

6.4. Financial requirements for the pre-school building improvements was raised.

**7. Finance (information previously circulated)**

7.1. The following financial reports were previously circulated:
- Full Council General Operations Finance Report to 31 May 2026
- Mayfield Community Centre Finance Report to 31 May 2026

7.2. There were no matters raised from the reports.

7.3. It was **resolved** to approve all financial reports and expenditure to 31 May 2026.

7.4. It was **resolved** to approve the transfer of £884,184.47 plus accumulated interest from the MCC reserves account to the MCC current account.

7.5. The latest MCC invoice from WDC was considered. It was **resolved** to approve the payment of £285,637.94 inc VAT for Mayfield Community Centre construction work.

**8. Minutes for adoption (previously circulated)**

8.1. The Post Office robbery of £360 last week was discussed. It was a "sleight of hand" robbery where a criminal uses distraction or manipulation to trick staff into handing over cash. The Council passed on their concerns to staff and thanked them for the service they provide for the community.

8.2. It was **resolved** to adopt the following minutes and they were signed by the Chairman:

- Planning Executive 08 June 2026
- Planning Executive 29 June 2026
- Rights of Ways & Trees Advisory 17 June 2026
- Finance and General Purposes Executive 22 June 2026
- Community Safety and Traffic Advisory 06 July 2026

**9. Mayfield Community Centre (MCC) (information previously circulated)**

9.1. Document MCC3602 Monthly PC update July 2026 v1.3 was previously circulated for consideration and no matters were raised.

9.2. It was acknowledged that construction workers on site are doing an excellent job, are proactive, responsive and friendly to residents.

**10. National Lottery Community Fund Grant (information previously circulated)**

10.1. Background information and the draft Deed of Dedication required to draw down the National Lottery Community Fund grant was considered.

10.2. It was **resolved** to approve a National Lottery Community Fund Deed of Dedication for five years for Mayfield Community Centre

10.3. It was **resolved** to authorise the Finance and General Purposes Executive to finalise the terms of the Deed of Dedication and to delegate authority to sign the deed, on behalf of the Council, when in final form to any two members of the Committee, to be witnessed by the Clerk. **Action JT/AR**

**11. A267 Five Ashes to Mayfield speed reduction consultation (information circulated)**

11.1. An update on the consultation for a speed reduction to 40mph between Five Ashes and Mayfield roundabout was previously circulated. If objections are not removed in writing the ESCC Planning Committee will need consider whether to implement the 40mph speed limit.

11.2. It was **resolved** to approve the response to the Five Ashes to Cross-in Hand speed reduction consultation recommended by the Community Safety & Traffic Committee. **Action JT**

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**12. Appointment of Executive Committee Chairs**

12.1. It was **resolved** to ratify the election of Cllr Blakebrough as Planning Executive Chairman.

12.2. It was **resolved** to ratify the election of Cllr Ratcliffe as the Finance and General Purposes Executive Committee Chairman.

**13. Council nominated trustee for the Mayfield Trust (information previously circulated)**

13.1. It was **resolved** to ratify the appointment of Mary Pennington as Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council's nominated trustee from 13 May 2002 to 13 July 2026.

13.2. It was **resolved** to approve the appointment of Geoff Gregory as Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council's nominated trustee from 14 July 2026 for a term of four years. **Action JT**

**14. Updates from Committees (for information only)**

14.1. Planning Executive:

- Planning approval for the development at the House of Plants site continues to be pursued.
- The Committee is supporting the appeal for the application for a safety roller shutter at Londis in Mayfield High Street.
- Planning Enforcement has been alerted to concerns on activity on land adjacent to the A267 towards Five Ashes.

14.2. Finance and General Purposes Executive:

- A lease between the Parish Council and MCC CIO is being drafted. It will mirror that between WDC and the GP Practice.

14.3. Mayfield Community Centre Advisory - Nothing further to report.

14.4. Community Development Advisory:

- Construction for the development on land adjacent to Erleigh has commenced but problems with traffic at the top of West Street have been reported. Construction traffic should exit Mayfield to the west of the village.

14.5. Rights of Way and Trees Advisory - Nothing to report.

14.6. Community Safety and Traffic Advisory:

- The following documents were previously circulated:
  - ⇒ Draft minutes of SLR held on 15 June 2026
  - ⇒ East Sussex Member's 'Guide Who to Contact'
- The frustration of uncoordinated road closures was discussed. The Director of WDC has been provided with a list of concerns due to the A267 road closure in fEbruary/ March to raise in a letter to East Sussex Highways. Uncoordinated road closures has been included as a complaint.
- An update on the Fletching Street road closure due to gas infrastructure replacement will be requested from SGN. **Action JT**

14.7. Governance and Risk Advisory - Nothing to report.

**15. Reports from representatives and organisations (for information only)**

15.1. The following information was previously circulated:

- MAYFACS e-Newsletter 07/26
- WDALC AGM 07.2026 Minutes

**16. Other items of information and next agenda items**

16.1. Setting up a network of volunteer Street Wardens to act as a contact point to raise problems with highways and parish assets is in hand. Suggestions of who to approach are welcomed.

16.2. ESCC will be requested to consider the possibility of local volunteer teams repairing small potholes which occurs in other areas of England. **Action IP**

16.3. Mr Rait was thanked for coordinating the Community Speed Watch Team and for managing the speed indicating devices.

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16.4. Financial assistance for pre-school building repairs was discussed, A proposal would need to be submitted to the Finance and General Purposes Committee to consider any financial assistance. The maximum PC grant award however is £500. SCC may be able to assist with the building work as it is a local project for which their time could be allocated as part of the social value element that must be provided for a public build project.

16.5. Users of the football pitch have been informed that they are not allowed to drive vehicles on to Court Meadow and they have agreed not to do so in the future. If this reoccurs the padlock code will be changed.

**The meeting ended at 20:30**

**The next meeting of Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council will be:**

**Venue:** Colkins Mill Church
**Date:** Monday 14 September 2026
**Time:** 19:30 hours

***……..Chairman's Signature*** ***……..Date***

**Actions in Progress:**

| MINUTE | DESCRIPTION | STATUS | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Actions from meeting C11MAY26** | | | |
| 16.6 | Investigate interest in Youth Hub from Mayfield School | JE | Open |
| 18.1 | Research the 2027 election timetable | JT | Closed |
| **Actions from meting C08JUN26** | | | |
| 10.3 | Submit AGAR and External Auditor Forms to PKF Littlejohn | JT | Closed |
| 15.3 | Submit suggestion for SCC to clean dirty road signs | IP | Open |
| **Actions from meeting C13JUL26** | | | |
| 10.3 | Finalise Deed of Dedication and convene meeting to sign | JT/AR | Open |
| 11.2 | Submit A267 speed reduction consultation response | JT | Closed |
| 13.2 | Forward adopted minutes to Mayfield Trust | JT | On hold |
| 14.6 | Request update on road closure of Fletching Street from SGN | JT | Closed |
| 16.2 | Raise possibility of volunteer teams repairing small potholes | IP | Open |

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