Minutes of meeting of

Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council

Community Safety and Traffic Advisory

Venue: Old Manor House, High Street, Mayfield, TN20 6AL
Date: Monday 06 July 2026
Time: 19:30

S06JUL26
2026/27 Meeting 01
Adopted

Chairman: Joel Marlow

Councillors in attendance:
Joel Marlow, Sally Ann Tibbles and Rodney Warren

Also present: One member of the public, Jim Rait and Melvyn Butcher (Lay members) & Janna Todd (Parish Clerk)

MINUTES

Public questions

- Mr Wicker informed that he was stepping down from the Committee.
- The overgrown hedgerow verges in Rotherfield Lane will be reported. It was acknowledged that they cannot be cut back until August due to the nesting season. **Action JT**

1. Election of Committee Chairman

1.1. Cllr Marlow was unanimously elected as Committee Chairman

2. Appointment of lay members

2.1. It was unanimously agreed to reappoint the following lay members:
- Jim Rait (SID & CSW Coordinator)
- Melvyn Butcher (A267 Road Safety Group)

3. Apologies for absence

3.1. Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr Dines, Cllr Lawson and Cllr Eates

3.2. Cllr Buck was not in attendance.

4. Declarations of Substitute Members

4.1. There were no substitute members.

5. Declaration of interests

5.1. Cllr Marlow and Cllr Tibbles declared that they reside on Wellbrook Hill - see agenda item 7.

6. Minutes of meeting 30 March 2026 previously adopted.

6.1. No matters were raised from the minutes.

7. Local traffic and speed issues (information previously circulated)

7.1. Information from the New A267 Road Safety Group (A267RSG) was received and discussed. It is hoped that the lack of housekeeping for general road maintenance (dirty signage, overgrown vegetation etc) will improve with the change in leadership at ESCC. A meeting will be requested to discuss A267 issues with the new Lead Member for Transport and Environment. Cllr Marlow agreed to attend the meeting with Mr Butcher.

7.2. The A267RSG will be raising a complaint that road diversion signage is not removed after work is completed. There is also a need for permanent deer warning signs over a specified distances rather than the usual ‘Deer Crossing’ signs.

7.3. The A267RSG will investigate provision of a solar powered mobile Speed Indicating Device on a trial basis.

7.4. An update on the consultation to lower the A267 speed limit to 40mph on Wellbrook Hill was received. The consultation period was extended to 3 July 2026 due to a technicality. Before the closing date the ESCC Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) Team had already received two objections. If these are not removed in writing, a report will need to be presented to their Planning Committee to consider the objections and decide whether to proceed.

7.5. Attendance at the ESCC Planning Committee meeting will be considered when the date is announced. There was a discussion on the sightlines required for the proposed development at House of Plants on Wellbrook Hill.

7.6. The Committee considered the consultation proposing to extend the existing 40mph speed limit at Five Ashes further to the south of the A272 Summer Hill junction and introduce a 50mph speed limit between the extended 40mph speed limit and the existing 40mph speed limit at Cross-In-Hand. A267 accident statistics within the length of road with proposed speed limit reductions were received and considered. The Committee agreed to fully support the proposal and will request approval from full Council to submit its response. **Action JM**

7.7. An update from the Community Speed Watch team (CSW) and the report on statistics from the Speed Indicating Devices (SIDs) was received. (This has been made available on the PC website with meeting papers.) Speeds appear to have reduced over the last two years as has the volume of traffic, presumably due to the A267 road closure at Argos Hill.

7.8. There are now nine members of Five Ashes and Mayfield Community Speedwatch (CSW). The percentage of speeding drivers is typically round 3% during a session. The most recent session at Five Ashes during the evening rush hour however was unusually high at 5.25% (32 vehicles travelling over at 34mph and over.)

8. Community safety (information previously circulated)

8.1. The robbery on 06 July 2026 at Mayfield Post Office was discussed. The committee was pleased that no one was physically hurt during the incident but acknowledged how frightening it must have been. A suggestion was made to install a very loud panic alarm to draw attention to residents in the High Street of an incident taking place.

9. Highways issues (information previously circulated)

9.1. Fletching Street is closed again due to SGN work. No alerts on this were received from Causeway One Network – the East Sussex Highways' recommended system to receive road work and road closure notices.

9.2. Following a request from a resident to instal a traffic mirror in Mayfield High Street opposite the junction of West Street, the following response was received from ESCC Road Safety Team:

East Sussex County Council does not permit the use of traffic mirrors within the limits of the public highway unless there is an identified crash problem. The reason is because a driver can misinterpret what they see and assume it is safe to proceed when it is not. The reflections in the mirror may also be affected by poor weather conditions and reflected headlights or low sunlight that may dazzle approaching drivers.

It might be advisable to try and resolve the issue with the parking on double yellow lines, which is causing an obstruction to other drivers being able to see. However, the enforcement of parking restrictions in Wealden District is the responsibility of Sussex Police. Civil Parking Enforcement does not operate in Wealden. Sussex Police will not enforce parking restrictions unless there is an immediate safety concern or a problem with an obstruction, which this could qualify for.

9.3. The East Sussex Members Guide - Who to Contact was circulated is available with meeting papers on the PC website.

10. Parking Issues

10.1. The lack of negative impact that the closure of the Court Meadow car park has had during the construction of the MCC was acknowledged.

11. Strengthening Local Relationship (SLR) meetings (information previously circulated)

11.1. The minutes and an update from the SLR meeting held on 15 June 2026 were received. There was a discussion on the value of the meetings now the only issues that can be raised are solely highways maintenance matters. The ESCC Road Safety Team will no longer attend SLR meetings due to lack of resources.

11.2. A request has been submitted for the next SLR meeting to be scheduled on 13 January 2027 at 10am at The Broyle in Ringmer.

12. Items of information and next agenda items

12.1. The impact of the SGN road closure at Argos Hill was discussed: SGN communication was excellent; their classification of emergency and urgent work requiring overnight maintenance was disappointing; East Sussex Highways not agreeing to assess and repair damage to the lanes used by drivers not following the diversion route was frustrating and the diversion route signage was confusing.

12.2. Updates on the speed reduction on Wellbrook Hill and possible SID trials will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 20:50 hours.

The next meeting of the Mayfield and Five Ashes Community Safety and Traffic Advisory will be:
Venue: Old Manor House, High Street, Mayfield, TN20 6AL
Date: Monday 05 October 2026
Time: 19:30 hours

……..Chairman's Signature ……..Date

Actions in Progress

Actions from meeting S12JAN26			
5.7	Determine available sites to relocate the SIDs in Five Ashes	JR	In hand
Actions from meeting S30MAR26			
6.3	Request residents to report antisocial behaviour in Newsletter	JT	Closed
Actions from meeting S06JUL26			
PQT	Report overgrown hedgerows in Rotherfield Lane	JT	Open
7.6	Forward response to A267 speed reduction consultation	JM	Closed