



Hailsham
TOWN COUNCIL

Hailsham Town Council

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HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



CC/26/1/1

REPORT (Minutes) of the Communities Committee relating to the organisation of festivities and events held at the Fleur de Lys Meeting Room, Town Council Offices, Hailsham, on Monday 1st June 2026 at 6.00 pm.

Election of Chair

A Blake Coggins nominated A. Ricketts, Seconded by K. Nicholls

C. Bryant nominated D. Chapman, seconded by B. Carpenter

C. Bryant, D. Chapman, B. Carpenter voted for D. Chapman

A Blake Coggins, G Blake Coggins, K. Nicholls voted for A. Ricketts

As the vote was a tie it was agreed to appoint a temporary Chair for the current meeting and to take nominations again at the next meeting in July

C. Bryant nominated D. Chapman as Chair for the meeting, seconded by B. Carpenter

All members voted in favour

2

Public Forum

To deal with any questions or brief representations from members of the public relevant to the remit of the committee, in accordance with Standing Order 1. and Hailsham Town Council policy. (15 Minutes)

None were present

3

Committee members present

Councillors: C. Bryant, D. Chapman, B. Carpenter, A. Blake Coggins (substituting for F. Clarke), G. Blake Coggins, K. Nicholls

Other members present

G. Constable (Hailsham Lions), T. Biggin (Hailsham Festival), C. Musk (Hailsham Bonfire and 2nd Hailsham Scouts), B. Sandalls (Hailsham Bonfire Society), B. Pratt (Hailsham Farmers'

Market)

Officers in attendance: K. Giddings

4 **Apologies were noted and accepted for:**

Councillor F. Clarke and A. Ricketts

J. Golding (Hailsham Forward), D. Sinden (Hailsham Parish Church), J. Seale

5 **Declarations of Interest**

C. Bryant and D. Chapman declared personal interests in the agenda item for the Bonfire Society, as they are members of the Bonfire Society.

Councillor K. Nicholls declared a personal interest in the agenda item for Hailsham Run, as she is involved in organising the event

Councillor B. Carpenter declared a personal interest in Sussex Day, as he is a Hailsham taxi driver

A Blake Coggins declared a personal interest in the Railway Club and Youth Club

6 **Confirmation of Minutes**

To resolve that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communities Committee held on Monday 11th May 2026 be amended, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Proposer C. Bryant, Seconder D. Chapman

7 **To receive an update about progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Communities Committee on 11th May 2026**

There was no update

8 **Friday Trial Markets**

K. Giddings updated the Committee on the Friday trial markets.

She advised that all trial markets have now taken place.

K. Giddings reported that although the trials went well in relation to bookings with traders, Blackman's Yard did not receive enough footfall to be able to create a successful market here.

The Committee discussed the feedback received on the markets and decided against holding any further markets in Blackman's Yard. It was agreed that the footfall to Blackman's Yard is too low to warrant holding a market here. It was agreed that K. Giddings approach Wealden Council to see if it will be possible to move the markets back to Vicarage Field, on a Friday,

Members discussed timings and it was agreed to suggest the markets are held once a month, from around 10.00 am to 2.00 pm and to run from March to end September.

K. Giddings advised that she and the Operations Manager are due to meet with Wealden Council the following week and she advised she will approach Wealden Council to ask for permission to hold the markets on Vicarage Field, on a Friday.

She further advised she would speak to Wealden about the restrictions they have placed on traders in the past and to ascertain whether Wealden Council and the Town Council can work

together to remove these restrictions, to allow more freedom with the booking of traders.

Members noted that up to 22 gazebos can be placed on vicarage field for a market and it was suggested that a charge of £10 per gazebo is made.

It was agreed that if Wealden Council are agreeable to this, the Town Council will approach local organisations to ask if they want to be involved in these markets.

A Blake Coggins advised she would speak to Hailsham Forward at their meeting on Friday to see if they would like to be involved in the markets.

K. Giddings stated she would email every trader on her list, to advise them of the decision to hold the markets on Vicarage Field, on a Friday, once confirmation has been received from Wealden Council

8.1 **RESOLVED to:**

- i) Approach Wealden Council to propose the Town Council hold markets once a month on Vicarage Field, on a Friday
- ii) To ask Wealden Council to work with the Town Council to lower the previous restrictions on traders
- iii) If Wealden Council are agreeable, to contact local organisations to see if they wish to be involved in attending the markets

Proposer D. Chapman, seconder B. Carpenter

All voted in favour of the resolution

9 **Hailsham Forward and Hailsham Chamber of Commerce**

There was no further update

10 **Youth Service**

K. Giddings read out an update from A. Joyes :

April, May numbers are high in the youth centre, PGL trip in April went well, finalising planning for the summer holidays and Loren should be putting the bid in for the climbing wall this month.

We are waiting for a start date for the mezzanine to be installed in the upper hall, for Emmanuel Preschool who start in September, all going to plan so far.

11 **Sussex Day**

K. Giddings advised that everything is ready for the event.

B. Carpenter asked for a location to made available for taxis to park, near to the High Street.

K. Giddings was requested to contact the Quintins Centre Manager to ask the Manager if it would be possible to use the loading bay by the Quintins, to locate the taxis on the day. This will allow the public to have easy access to the taxis on the day of the event

12 **Prom in the Park**

K. Giddings advised that Councillor Laxton had provided an update for the Committee:

*I have contacted Kayleigh at St Wilfred's and I am collecting items Monday afternoon
Plus a local company are going to coin count the donations not quite sure on the process and if I'll need to bag up etc
I'll also enquire what process the hospice follow on donations when I meet them on Monday*

- 13 **Community Forum**
- There was no update
- 14 **Hailsham Bonfire Society**
- There was no update
- 15 **2nd Hailsham Scouts**
- C. Musk advised that the Scouts were preparing for their summer camp, which is in Maidstone this year, for 10 days.
- 16 **Girlguiding Heathfield and Hailsham District**
- There was no update.
- 17 **Hailsham Lions**
- The Lions will be attending both Sussex Day and the Flaming Fun Day.
- G. Constable advised that the Lions will be leaving the book shop soon and that they need to find other premises.
- B. Carpenter asked G Constable to let him know the amount of rent the Lions currently pay.
- 18 **Hailsham Festival**
- T. Biggins advised that Hailsham Festival went live at 1.00 pm that day.
- The Festival has 35-40 events planned, many are £5 or less
- This year they are focusing more on families and young children.
- The Festival have organised a road closure for the event .
- 19 **Hailsham Farmers' Market**
- B. Pratt advised that the next market is on 13th June. The Farmers' Market now has a new trader.
- 20 **Hailsham FM**
- Members noted that the Hailsham Heroes nominations have begun.
- 21 **Hailsham Parish Church**
- There was no update.
- 22 **Hailsham Community Run**
- The Community Run had been cancelled due to road works which affected the route of the Run. Members were advised that the Run had been re-arranged for Sunday 12th July 2026
- 23 **Remembrance Sunday**
- Members noted that Remembrance Sunday this year is 8th November. The first meeting of the year had been held prior to the Communities Committee meeting.

The Bonfire Society are booked in again to man the road closure for the day.

D. Chapman advised that a letter had been sent to Katy Bourne of Sussex Police, in relation to concerns over antisocial behaviour at the Hailsham War Memorial and Parish Churchyard.

The Bonfire Society will also organise the put up and take down of the large poppies in Hailsham .

24 **Stand Proud 3**

Members noted that everything was in place for the event

25 **Hailsham Railway Club**

A Blake Coggins reported that the Club are looking into organising a Memory Café.

She advised that the running of the Club and attendance, is going well.

26 **Twinning Association**

C. Bryant advised that it is the 25th Anniversary of the twinning with Gournay en Bray.

The Council is currently looking into purchasing a gift to give to the Gournay en Bray Council

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.00 pm

The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 6th July 2026 Global/Minutes & Agendas/Communities