

Present

Councillors: Cllr Marley, C. Crosdil, Cllr Staff, Cllr Garley B Humphrey, S. Davies, and R. Calvert

In Attendance: Mrs. B. Clayden (Parish Clerk), Cllr Hogben and no members of the public

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Minutes

**1. Apologies for absence.**

**Cllr Kitchen (HDC), R Faith, V Finnegan**

**2. Declarations of Interest by Councillors on any matter on this Agenda.**

Cllr Humphreys declared an interest in agenda point 5 – Grant to Colgate School.

**3. Agree the minutes of Full Council** on 11<sup>th</sup> November and Planning minutes on 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November and 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

Minutes can be found on [www.colgatefaygate.com](http://www.colgatefaygate.com)

***All Councillors agreed that the minutes were a true reflection of the meetings, and the Chair duly signed them off.***

**4. Meeting opened.**

- a) **for members of the public to speak on matters connected to the agenda and other matters which can be noted but no decision can be made.**

No members of the public attended the meeting.

- b) **For District and County Councillors to speak on any matters including updates from the District and County Council.**

Cllr Hogben stated:

The Local Plan had been ‘thrown out’ by the inspector, (despite being pre-checked by the inspector), which came as shock to the HDC officers. HDC are waiting for a full report on the Inspectors reasons.

Water neutrality is no longer a reason to object to planning applications. The application can be agreed subject to it meeting water neutrality in the future.

Devolution is on course to take place which would probably mean HDC will be dissolved and potentially the PC will need to take on more responsibilities or possibly be merged with other PCs. As the process progresses, more information will be available.

## 5. Finance-

### a) Schedule of payment

Bills paid.		£
1178	SLCC subs	190
1179	S Marley gift	98.96
Online		
WSSC Salary Oct		1660.30
WSSC Salary Dec		1270.17

**All Councillors agreed the online payments.**

### b) Bills to be paid Jan/Feb Estimate.

WSSC Clerk Jan	£ 1000*
Clerk's expenses	£200*
Pension/NI	£300*
Litter Warden	£422
*	
Litter warden mileage	£50*
Speed gun calibration	£330*
Repair defib	£200*
Fingerposts	£500*
Website annual cost	£250*
Grant Colgate school	£1000 (reduced to £600)

And any expected payments as per the budget 24/25.

\*Potential online banking payments

**All Councillors agreed the upcoming payments. However, the Colgate School grant was agreed at £600.**

### c) Account Summary

#### Summary

Income                      None

Interest 95 day -interest £25.67

Interest instant -interest £25.13

Total interest = £ 50.80

<b>Balance current account 1.11.2024</b>	<b>£ 19603.78</b>
<b>Balance 95-day Reserve acct 1.11.2024</b>	<b>£ 8216.93</b>
<b>Balance Instant access 1.11.2024</b>	<b>£ 21134.07</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 48954.78</b>

Electronic accounts reconcile to both current and reserve accounts and bank statement.

***Bank statements and electronic accounts reconcile, and all Councillors agreed the accounts summary and were duly signed off.***

d) Grant Application-

Colgate School applied for a £1000 grant to provide a day of science for all pupils. It is to be run by an outside educational group. The council awarded £600 to the school. The total cost was £1150 so the remainder of the costs would be match funded by the school.

A note is to be sent to KWV Primary School informing them of the possibility of an Educational Experience grant of this type and that fact that Colgate School had been successful in applying for one.

***All councillors agreed after discussion that the council would award the school £600 towards the cost of the educational events.***

e) Expenses - None

f) Agree draft budget and Q3 expenditure v expenses-

[Final Budget 25-26](#)

***All councillors agreed the 1i-4k version of the budget to increase the precept to £36,039.80 a 3% increase on last year's band D (£16.86) and 5.5% increase on total precept from last year (£34,160)***

***Q3 expenditure v Expenses reconciled to the electronic accounts and bank statements. All councillors agreed and signed off the Q3 figures.***

[Q3 Expenditure v Expenses](#)

6. Transport/Travel/Highways.

- Vehicle Activated Sign. (SD)  
The batteries in the Colgate Village VAS were changed twice in December.

- Handcross Community Bus Service- Discuss the request for volunteers.

The council was approached by Slaugham PC to request volunteers to help with the running of the community bus service. Colgate gets one visit per week from this bus service. The councillors asked the clerk to advertise the request.

- Road safety consultation-You can have your say via this link: [West Sussex Road Safety Strategy 2025-2036 | Your Voice West Sussex](#).

**Councillors agreed to complete this consultation.**

## **7. External meeting**

**Cllr Crosdil attended the planning committee meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> January.**

## **8. Durrant village**

- Bus service enquiry-Metrobus

Metrobus confirmed they were unable to provide a bus service to Faygate village.

*Reply from Metrobus*

*We have significantly improved the service to Faygate A264 roundabout over the years so that as well as having a 24/7 service there are now 4 buses an hour to Horsham most of the day (1 an hour continuing to Worthing), 2 an hour to Gatwick and 2 an hour to Crawley. Just over 20 years ago there was just one subsidised bus every 90 minutes!*

*It is therefore a shame that many Durrants residents are not able to access this excellent range of bus services serving the main road.*

*It would not be practical to divert a regular bus service away from the main road due to the impact on other users of the bus. We have considered some kind of special bus but cannot see a way of being able to serve Durrants without having to continue on a tour of the countryside via Rusper on a 15-minute detour, which would not be practical. We have undertaken an initial route test around Durrants itself, but this sadly is not suitable for a bus.*

*Unfortunately, we cannot see how a conventional bus could serve the village, even if this could be resourced.*

## **9. Parish Assets**

Next Report on all assets due February 2025. Defibs monthly check.

- Benches located in St Saviours graveyard. Cllr Faith has completed maintenance on the bench(D Stillwell) located in Colgate church yard.
- Bus stops and litter.  
A264 Crawley Road dual carriageway - between the 'Moorhead' / Roffey and the

Faygate B.P roundabouts : WSCC & H.D.C cleansing teams will undertake a litter pick of the central reservation and verges. Scheduled to begin on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January across several days.

Starting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February – new roadside Highway signs will be installed on the A264 by WSCC, replacing existing “old / worn / obsolete” signs and all overgrown vegetation on the verges will be cut back.

Whilst these works will be undertaken during ‘off-peak’ hours, lane closures will be in place in both directions and slight traffic delays may occur, also these dates are subject to change due to any severe adverse weather conditions.

Also fencing around the BP garage bus stop has been completed.

- Fingerpost review-Member of public contacted the PC with regards to 4 finger posts in the Parish requesting shrubbery cutback and maintenance. The Clerk is waiting for two companies to quote for repairs and insurance values.
- Defibrillator Cabinet – Faygate – repair on alarm has been carried out.

#### **10. Climate Change and Sustainability (BH)**

No actions .

Cllr Humphreys advised the councillor that he would be working with Colgate Primary school to understand/audit their energy loss by borrowing the thermal image camera from HDC.

#### **11. Shrubby cut back on Forest Road (SG)**

This item can be removed from the agenda as the shrubbery cut back has been completed.

#### **12. Dates and times of next meeting: Locations and dates may be subject to change.**

**Monday at 7.30pm on**

**2025**

**10<sup>th</sup> February-Durrants Village**

**10<sup>th</sup> March- Colgate VH (Community Meeting)**

**14<sup>th</sup> April- Durrants Village**

**12<sup>th</sup> May- Colgate VH (Council Annual Meeting-Elections)**

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

*Signed by the Chair.....*