

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
TAKING PLACE ON 12th MAY, STARTING AT 6.30PM
THE AGENDA IS AS FOLLOWS:

48/26 To Record those Present and list any Apologies

Those Present. Councillors: S Parish, K Gipson, S Instance, G Worthy and N Fursdon; also present were Cllr J Hollingsbee & E Martin F&HDC, 3 members of the public. And the Proper Officer (PO)

Apologies were received from Cllr J Tritton and these were accepted.

49/26 To Elect the following

- a) Chairman – being the only nominee Cllr Parish was re-elected
- b) Vice Chairman – being the only nominee, Cllr Fursdon was elected

50/26 To agree membership of the following committees

- a) Planning
- b) Finance & General Purposes
- c) Staffing
- d) Events

It was agreed that all committee members would remain as the same from last year.

Cllr Fursdon, highlighted that there was no item on the agenda for the representative for the KALC, and he would be happy to continue. No second representative was agreed at this time.

51/26 To agree to have meeting summons and any additional papers sent by email

All Councillors agreed to receive any and all documents by email

52/26 To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other Significant Interests (OSI's) or a Voluntary interest relating to items on the agenda.

There were none declared.

53/26 Minutes

- a) To note, agree and sign the minutes of the April 2026 meeting
Having been previously circulated, these were **agreed** as a true record.
- b) To note the Minutes of previous committee meetings:
(Please be aware that Committees agree their own minutes, these for information only)
 - F&GP – noted.
 - Planning – noted.

It was further agreed that the following application be considered

25/1394/FH, Land adjacent to the Mount

A debate took place It was agreed to make the following comments:

As there is no CIL or section 106 attached to the application, members would like to see the 30mph speed limit extended from the current position by Meadow Grove towards the traffic light lights at the junction of Otterpool Lane.

Plus a crossing point somewhere within Barrow Hill.

These two items will see the mitigation of the general increase in traffic and the extra traffic being generated by the proposed development

54/26 District and County Councillors reports

- a) Elaine Martin
Highlighted from her report, that now milk cartons can go in with the plastic recycling and that the Ward Member grants have been increased.
- b) Jenny Hollingsbee
Highlighted from her report that Homes England have purchased extra land for the Otterpool Town Development
Both reports will be placed on the website as normal
- c) Christopher Hespe – no report

55/26 Public questions on items on the agenda only

A member of the public asked if there was a way in which the benches could be repaired rather than being removed as was agreed at the last meeting.

Another member of the public asked about encouraging more people to keep their dogs on leads when on the Lees. This causes issues when groups of children are taken out for games from various organisation’s in the village.
And wished for the Council to remind dog owners that they to pick up after their dogs.

56/26 Finance

- a) To ratify payments as listed (See Report 2026.03.01)
Having been previously circulated these were agreed.

Name	Reason	Gross Amount	Payment details
Direct365	Inv. 002430197 Fuel surcharge	£4.80	DD 03/06/2026
	Inv. 0002420577 19/5 to 18/6	131.54	DD 31/05/2026
Allstar	Inv. E2021975108 Fuel for van	£20.00	DD 31/05/2026
Rialtas	Inv. 33842 End of year check	£162.00	Bacs 13/05/2026 54181476
L Hedley	Reimbursement	£5.71	Bacs 13/05/2026 54181517
Sellindge V/H	Invoice 26/067 Electric	£93.35	Bac 13/05/2026 54181577
	Invoice 26/068	£22.00	Bacs 13/05/2026 54181685

- b) To consider quotes to replace the A20/Swan lane junction notice board
The PO had obtained 2 quotes for both oak and manmade timber from both companies. After a brief debate it was agreed to accept the quote from Greenbarnes, although the PO did point out that there may be some slight extras as these prices did not include a header board.
- c) To consider the quote for the fencing at the New BG.
The PO explained that she had only requested one quote from a local company, but if Members felt it excessive she would obtain others. As per standing orders the council

tries to use local village companies where available. Members felt that the quote was fair and agreed to accept it.

57/26 Correspondence

See report since the last meeting

a) To note the letter for the 2026/27 Audit and the changes

58/26 Annual Parish Meeting

To finalise any outstanding issues, if any

59/26 To adopt the following

Equality & Diversity Policy

Having been previously circulated this policy was adopted

60/26 Matters of General Interest

There were none

61/26 To note the Date of Next Meeting as the 9th June and close

The date for June Council meeting was noted and there being no further business the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Agenda Item 43/26 Correspondence

1. Emails from KALC, NALC, F&HDC District and County Council, and other round robin emails have been forwarded as they arrived.
Noted.

2. Emails regarding the following;
 - a. Meeting with MP Sojan Joseph being arranged by the Councillor Stephen Scoffham FHDC
The meeting will be on Friday 19th June 10-12am in the Peggy Pike room, Elham Village Hall.

 - b. Email asking for some-where to put Beehives in the village
This was discussed, however the PC does not have any land that would be suitable.

 - c. Worknest. Training event for updates on new employment regulations that are due soon, Is on 19th May at 2.00 to 3.00pm. is anyone wishing to attend. Or can register and then get a link to the webinar to watch at a later date.

Register here: <https://utmtracking.worknest.com/go/from-challenge-to-action-10-hr-kalc>

Councillors can register from their own devices, if they wish.

3. Phone calls regarding;
 - o Quotes for noticeboard
 - o Quotes for fencing
 - o To invite people to the Annual Parish Meeting on 26th May
 - o Various calls to Vision ICT and Microshade for IT support
 - o Rialtas for account programme support
 - o Cleverly and Spencer regarding headstone
 - o Private call regarding ashes