



Parish Clerk – Stephanie Dubas Email: chalvingtonwithripeclerk@gmail.com Phone: 07353990253

**The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council (CWRPC)
Hayton Baker Hall, Ripe
Monday 12th May 2025 commencing 7.05 pm.**

Present: Cllr S Flint (Chair), Cllr J Ruddock-West (Vice Chair), Cllr W Farrer, Cllr N Hamblin, Cllr A. Harvey, Cllr M Lonsdale-Cleeve

In attendance: Cllr Alison Wilson (WDC), Stephanie Dubas (Parish Clerk), Brian Hill Village Hall, David Turner & Paul Griffiths RACCA, Beverley Lawrence Flower Show

Members of the public: 11

1. Welcome by the Chair	The Chair welcomed everyone to the Parishioners community meeting.
2. Apologies for absence	Cllr Hallworth
3. Reports from Councillors	<p>Cllr Ruddock-West provided a verbal report on Speedwatch. There is a training event available to become able to use the speed gun. The Parishioners were asked to volunteer. Notice will be placed on the Notice Boards. £2500 is available on the budget for the community field. 20MPH Ripe speed limit is progressing and a survey is the next step in the process. If average speed is - 24mph we have met the criteria.</p> <p>Cllr Hamblin explained planning permission was available and needed for cutting trees down.</p>
4. Reports from outside groups and associations	<p>The Chair expressed thanks to the volunteers for the work they do on behalf of the villages. It was resolved to note the reports at Appendix A & B.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Report 2025051201 Litter Watch Annual Report Appendix A Report 2025051202 Village Hall Annual Report Appendix B Report 2025051202 RACCA Appendix C Sussex Police Rural Crime – Street Surgeries: Verbal Update Parish Clerk: There is no further update from Sussex other than to say they will be in touch with their proposal.
5. Public session	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Was there any grant available for the maintenance of the Village hall? Yes there was £373.45 allocated Did anyone have a digger to loan RACCA for the planting phase? Please let David know or contact the Parish Clerk. Let the community know of the Summer Fete on 21/06/25 in the Community Field from 2pm. Flower Show Update: Thanks to RACCA for the support over the last 2 years. The committee will now revert back to their members running the show themselves. The Flower Show is on 19/07/25 at the Yew Tree.

Closure: The Chair thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the Annual Parish Meeting.
Meeting closed at 19:45



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Appendix A

Report Number	2025051201
Committee	Chalvington with Ripe Annual Parish Meeting
Agenda Item Number	4a
Title	Litter Watch Group Annual Report 2025
Meeting Date	12 th May 2025
Completed By	Brian Hill
Purpose Of Report	To provide a summary to the Council of the litter collection 24/25
Action	To consider the report and move on the motion below
Recommendation	To note the contents of the report

This year marks our 21st year of picking litter from our lanes and verges. Some 26 families regularly patrol with litter pickers and plastic bags at the ready. It is interesting that the large majority of this group have been picking regularly since our inception in 2004! Heaven knows how many bags of rubbish have been collected over that period, but a rough estimate suggests we pick up at least 300 bags a year, which translates into around 6000 over the time we've been working.

The staple rubbish is still beer cans, wine bottles (whose quality fluctuates with the seasons), crisp packets, sandwich wrappings, Costa Coffee cups, Kleenex tissues and cigarette packing). Not infrequently, more challenging rubbish appears. Dog poo in black bags embellishing the hawthorn blossom, king-size mattresses, full catheters, flowery underwear and other detritus hinting at lovers' trysts.

Your Litter Watch Group has vowed to carry on as long as we are needed, so, if you notice us on the job, give us a cheery wave or beep your horn. Finally, a word of praise for Wealden council who have helped with the provision of equipment and whose fly-tipping collection team is always prompt and efficient.

Brian Hill (convenor)



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Appendix B

Report Number	2025051202
Committee	Chalvington with Ripe Annual Parish Meeting
Agenda Item Number	4a
Title	Village Hall Report Annual Report 2025
Meeting Date	12 th May 2025
Completed By	Brian Hill
Purpose Of Report	To provide a summary to the Council on the Village Hall 24/25
Action	To consider the report and move on the motion below
Recommendation	To note the contents of the report

All members of the Committee remain aware of the key role played by the Village Hall and are determined to ensure that the Hall continues to serve the communities of Ripe and Chalvington.

During the year, the composition of the Committee has changed somewhat. Jules Jackson and Gill Ross have resigned after many years of loyal and valuable service. At the Annual General Meeting next week, it is planned to welcome three new members- Fran Wood, Emma Blackwell and Simon Sluter.

One of the principal tasks of the Committee is to keep the facility in a good state of repair. Indeed, since 1985, when the Hall was inaugurated, there have been some 70 major improvements. Each year, many thousands of pounds are invested in painting, cleaning, upgrading facilities such as the kitchen and toilets and meeting the various official regulations regarding fire hazards, fire extinguishers, electrical testing and heating. It is a great compliment to those running the nursery school, one of our main users, that OFSTED have awarded the school and its facilities an OUTSTANDING grade.

The Hall plays host to a variety of Parish organisations, including official meetings, sports clubs, flower shows and film evenings. In addition, a programme of events such as an annual quiz, clothes sales, race nights and recreational activities are offered.

Obviously, these activities and the fact that we host a nursery school are crucial in ensuring we meet our financial obligations, the cost of which (oil, electricity, water, wages) continue to spiral. Without donations from private individuals, from the Flower Shows, the Music Festival and the Parish Council, it would be difficult to survive.

Looking to the future, we are proposing to change our charitable status to provide more flexibility and security for trustees and to become a CIO.

In conclusion, I would like to add that it has been a great pleasure to have worked with the committee members during the year, always in a positive and convivial atmosphere. My thanks go to them for all the dedication they have shown in keeping the Hall running for the benefit of our local community.

Brian Hill (Chair)



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Appendix C RACCA REPORT

Report Number	2025051203
Committee	Chalvington with Ripe Annual Parish Meeting
Agenda Item Number	4a
Title	RACCA Report Annual Report 2025
Meeting Date	12 th May 2025
Completed By	David Turner & Paul Griffiths
Purpose Of Report	To provide a summary to the Council
Action	To consider the report and move on the motion below
Recommendation	To note the contents of the report

RACCA: Community field achievements to date:

Since 2023 operated as a community interest company consisting of an 8 person board and provides services for the community.

The field was purchased and work to create a shelter is complete, including picnic benches and tables, a professional standard pétanque pitch with a mobility friendly footpath and yoga area.

More volunteers are needed however to help continue the work into phase 2 which will include a play area for children and exercise equipment for adults together with a community garden, hedge planting with wild flowering and tree planting.

Issues have been mainly regarding planning with funding constraints although orchard planting has progressed and now in blossom. Simon Sunter was praised for his support and leadership on the field shelter.

Fundraising, grants and private donations has enabled progress. Donated labour, including the Eco group, the Paddock Boys with special mention to Simon and together with services valued at £10,000 meant the shelter was completed together with the Wealden grant. Total estimated cost is £100,000 and £20,000 has been raised so far. Planning consent will be submitted once the bio-diversity report and an ecological gain report are completed for phase 2.