

RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 at 19.00

In the Parish Rooms, Old School Close, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5RA

Present:		
Cllr Nick Chaloner (NC)	Cllr Margaret Crompton (MC)	Cllr Andrew Day (AD)
Cllr Linda Grange (LG)	Cllr John Kay (JK)	Cllr Gordon Sims (GS) Chair
Cllr Jonathan Spencer (JS)	Cllr Alan West (AW)	Cllr John Whitlock (JW) – Charing Planning
Other Attendees:		
District/County Cllr	Cllr Johnny Denis	
Other	Annie Hazzard (AH) – Clerk	Carol Hodgson (CH) - Admin
Members of Public	3	
Agenda Items		
1.	To receive and accept apologies for absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr David Duke (DD) and Cllr Marcia Morgan (MM).	
2.	Declarations of Interest: Disclosure by Councillors of their personal interests regarding matters on the agenda, and whether the councillor regards their interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct. None received.	
3.	Dispensation requests None received.	
4.	Minutes of previous meeting To agree the Full Council minutes of the meeting held on 9 th December 2025. RESOLVED: To approve and sign the minutes of the full council meeting held on 9th December 2025.	
5.	Public questions or comments: Up to 15 minutes (3 minutes per person) will be available for the public to make representations or questions. Please note that under Data protection regulations we ask members of the public to only state their name if they agree to their name being recorded. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A member of the public spoke in relation to their planning application – items 12.8 & 12.9 • A member of the public spoke in relation to Lewes District Council Local Plan Consultation – item 11.1 and how the Parish Council plans to protect the future of the Village. 	
6.	If the Committee wishes to exclude the public for a particular agenda item, the following resolution must be passed: ‘That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.’ None received.	
7.	Reports (Up to 15 mins) – To receive and accept any reports submitted i. Clerk ii. MP iii. East Sussex County Councillor iv. Lewes District Councillor(s) v. PCSO Reports from The Clerk, James MacCleary MP, Cllr Emily O’Brien and PCSO Alan Ash had been previously circulated and were noted.	
8.	Co-Option of Councillors To consider any expressions of interest in accordance with Parish Council’s Standing Orders. One expression of interest had been received. The candidate’s application form had been previously circulated. RESOLVED: Andrew Day was voted onto the Council by a unanimous vote, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting as a Councillor thereafter.	
9.	Finance Matters	
9.1	To receive the latest Financial Reports. Received and noted.	
9.2	To approve and sign the latest bank reconciliation. RESOLVED: The latest bank reconciliation was approved and signed.	
9.3	To approve and sign the list of payments. RESOLVED: The list of payments was approved and signed.	
10.	Open Spaces and Related Matters	
10.1	Annual Safety Inspection of play areas – Village Green, Fingerpost Field and Broyle Close To review and consider any action necessary – see Clerk’s report	

	<p>The items highlighted in the Clerk's Report were acknowledged and agreed. Cllrs did not identify any other action required.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To replace the broken bench at Fingerpost Field with a 6 seater recycled plastic bench with disabled access from Benchuk at a cost of £499.99 + VAT</p> <p>To replace the broken Fisher Rocker at Broyle Close Park through Cosmo Construction at a cost of £1868 + VAT. Funding from Broyle Lane / Broyle Close Maintenance Other budget - £1400 and EMR – Community Asset Renewal and Repair - £468</p> <p>ACTION: To carry out the above.</p>	OFF
11.	General	
11.1	<p>Lewes District Council Local Plan Consultation.</p> <p>To consider a response</p> <p>Details of LDC's Local Plan had previously been circulated.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To hold an informal meeting on January 27th to prepare a draft response.</p> <p>ACTION: GS & JW to prepare an agenda for the meeting.</p>	ALL GS/JW
11.2	<p>Christmas Tree</p> <p>To consider where to site the Christmas Tree for 2026 – see Clerk's report</p> <p>RESOLVED: To have 2 Christmas Trees – one in the existing position at the War Memorial and one at Springett Avenue Shopping Precinct.</p> <p>To obtain a quote to isolate the electricity supply from Ringmer Village Hall to the War Memorial.</p> <p>To obtain a quote for installing a concrete pit at the War Memorial to create a sturdier base for the Christmas tree.</p> <p>ACTION: To carry out the above.</p> <p>ACTION: To seek permission from Strutt and Parker</p>	OFF OFF
11.3	<p>Ringmer Neighbourhood Plan Review Steering Group</p> <p>To review and extend the duration of the group's terms of reference – see Clerk's report.</p> <p>RESOLVED: The group's term shall be extended until May 2027, aligning with the PC's annual review of all Terms of Reference.</p> <p>ACTION: To update the TOR and publish.</p>	OFF
12.	Planning Matters – To consider responses to Planning Applications:	
12.1	<p>LW/25/0392/CD - Land North of Lewes Road, Ringmer</p> <p>Discharge of Condition 29 (Highway Drainage) in relation to the approval of LW/23/0752 (Response by 03/02/06)</p> <p>RPC previously objected due to insufficient information - additional information now provided.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: No objection subject to updated response from ESCC.</p>	
12.2	<p>LW/25/0400/CD - Land North Of Lewes Road, Ringmer</p> <p>Discharge of Condition 4 (Drainage Maintenance and Management) in relation to the approval of LW/23/0752 (Response by 03/02/26)</p> <p>RPC previously objected due to insufficient information - additional information now provided.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: No objection subject to updated response from ESCC.</p>	
12.3	<p>LW/25/0408/CD - Land North of Lewes Road, Ringmer</p> <p>Discharge of Condition 3 (Surface Water Drainage) in relation to the approval of LW/23/0752 (Response by 03/02/26)</p> <p>RPC previously objected due to insufficient information - additional information now provided.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: No objection subject to updated response from ESCC.</p>	
12.4	<p>LW/25/0626 - Coban, Lewes Road, Ringmer. BN8 5QD</p> <p>Single and two storey rear extension and front porch extension. (Response by 02/01/26)</p> <p>Application determined. LDC approved 13/01/2026 with materials & construction works hours conditions</p>	
12.5	<p>LW/25/0669 - Rest Harrow, Gote Lane, Ringmer. BN8 5HU</p> <p>Erection of single-storey side/rear extensions, replacement of existing single garage with double garage, addition of first floor and front porch to the existing dwelling and associated alterations. (Response by 08/01/26)</p> <p>RPC previously objected to LW/25/0463.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: This scheme differs slightly as no detached car port proposed however Ringmer Parish Council still strongly objects to planning application LW/25/0669. The reasons are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site lies immediately opposite the South Downs National Park and is highly visible from various viewpoints within the Park and surrounding countryside. The prominence of the 	

	<p>location demands a carefully considered design that respects both the setting and the vernacular character of the area - something the current proposal fails to achieve.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed design detracts from the traditional architectural character supported by both the Lewes Local Plan and the Ringmer Neighbourhood Plan. It demonstrates limited, if any, consideration for the surrounding built environment, which is characterised by vertical clay tile elevations, barn-end or hipped roof forms, and traditional small casement windows. • In contrast, the proposal features a large full-height atrium window which is uncharacteristic of local or vernacular architecture. <p>For these reasons, we urge Lewes District Council to refuse this application.</p>	
12.6	<p>LW/25/0670 - Clayhill House, Uckfield Road, Ringmer. BN8 5RU Variation of Condition 1 (approved plans) in relation to approval LW/22/0849 to enable minor material amendments to the landscape and outbuilding refurbishment. (Response by 15/01/26) RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: Supports this application.</p>	
12.7	<p>LW/25/0671 - Clayhill House, Uckfield Road, Ringmer. BN8 5RU Variation of Condition 1 (approved plans) in relation to approval LW/22/0850 to enable minor material amendments to the landscape and outbuilding refurbishment. (Response By 15/01/26) RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: Supports this application.</p>	
12.8	<p>LW/25/0678 - Orchard House, Neaves Lane, Ringmer. BN8 5UA Demolition of existing workshop, single storey barn extension and erection of new storage building (Response by 12/01/26) Scale of new storage building is quite dominant RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: No objection.</p>	
12.9	<p>LW/25/0680 - Orchard House, Neaves Lane, Ringmer. BN8 5UA Erection of 2no. holiday pods with access. Response by 13/01/26) RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: Supports this application.</p>	
12.10	<p>LW/25/0691/CD - Land North of Lewes Road, Ringmer Discharge of conditions 6 (Foul Drainage), 10 (Biodiversity Method Statement), 15 (Archaeological Works), 16 (Contaminated Land), 20 (CMP), 27 (Construction Access) and 31 (Condition Survey) relating to approval LW/25/0411. (Response by 15/01/26). ESCC Highways - no objection, Southern Water happy to discharge Condition 6 (foul drainage), ESCC flood no objection. RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: No objection.</p>	
12.11	<p>LW/25/0700 - 11 Shepherds Way, Ringmer. BN8 5LT Construction of a single story front porch. (Response by 16/01/26) RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: No objection.</p>	
13.	<p>Reports, Correspondence, Questions and Future Agenda Items To consider any correspondence received after this agenda has been published for noting or action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JK reported that the planning inspectorate dismissed Akehurst Homes' appeal for Merlins (LW/24/0216), stating the site remains unsustainable even with proposed highway improvements. 	
14.	<p>Urgent items at the Chairman's discretion requiring decisions which cannot be held over until the next meeting. To consider methods of effectively communicating information regarding the Lewes District Council Local Plan Consultation to residents. Following an informal meeting, it was proposed that a leaflet be distributed to encourage residents to provide feedback on LDC's proposed Local Plan. A draft leaflet had been prepared and circulated for review. Councillors would also be available to assist residents wanting to respond to the consultation. RESOLVED: JW was delegated the responsibility of finalising the leaflet. ACTION: Arrange for the printing of the leaflet and coordinate its distribution throughout Ringmer with the assistance of volunteers.</p>	JW OFF
	Meeting closed at 8.50pm	

THE PUBLIC AND PRESS HAVE A RIGHT AND ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Date of Next Council Meeting in Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room - on Date 10th February 2026 at 19.00

Chairman		Date: 10-Feb-26
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30/12/2025

Ringmer Parish Council

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Balance Sheet as at 30/12/2025

31st March 2025

31st March 2026

31st March 2025		31st March 2026	
Current Assets			
3,514	VAT Control A/c	2,083	
128,638	Barclay's Current	199,579	
51,862	Barclays Premium	344,992	
94,728	Public Sector Deposit Fund	97,458	
114,564	Redwood Bank 35 Day CIL Funds	119,030	
104,482	Redwood Bank 95 Day CIL Funds	104,482	
497,788			867,625
497,788 Total Assets		867,625	
Current Liabilities			
0			0
497,788 Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		867,625	
Represented By			
155,875	General Reserves	194,522	
99,044	EMR - CIL - unallocated	30,981	
12,469	EMR - Comm Asset Rnl & Repair	12,372	
9,500	EMR - Elections	10,300	
389	EMR - Office Equipment Replace	1,832	
500	EMR - Speed Reduction	5,500	
1,440	EMR - Old Church	7,682	
18,406	EMR - Lucy Stone Precinct proj	18,406	
0	EMR - Play Equipment Replaceme	10,000	
7,895	EMR - Open Spaces Maintenance	11,657	
24,747	EMR - CIL - Ringmer NHP	24,747	
7,592	EMR - CIL - Bus Shelters	0	
9,526	EMR - CIL - Skatepark	17,777	
32,000	EMR - CIL - Shopping Precinct	32,000	
50,000	EMR - CIL - Cyclepath Extn	50,000	
13,000	EMR - CIL - Village Gateway	13,000	
35,000	EMR - CIL - Ringmer Rifle Club	0	
0	EMR - CIL - Affordable Housing	100,000	
0	EMR - CIL - Infrastructure Pro	300,000	
13,565	EMR -Lightsource Grant Funds	6,556	
6,842	EMR - Almond Field	13,294	
0	EMR - Devolution Costs	5,000	
0	EMR - Public Toilets	2,000	

30/12/2025

Ringmer Parish Council

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Balance Sheet as at 30/12/2025**31st March 2025**497,788**31st March 2026**867,625

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the authority as at 30/12/2025 and reflects its Income and Expenditure during the year.

Signed :

Chairman

Date : _____

Signed :

Responsible
Financial
Officer

Date : _____

30/12/2025

Ringmer Parish Council

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Summary Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/12/2025

Cost Centre Report

		Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
100 Council	Income	463,427	165,450	(297,977)			280.1%
	Expenditure	687	1,800	1,113		1,113	38.1%
	Net Income over Expenditure	<u>462,740</u>	<u>163,650</u>	<u>(299,090)</u>			
	plus Transfer from EMR	0	0	0			
	less Transfer to EMR	293,130	0	(293,130)			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(123,521)</u>	<u>163,650</u>	<u>(5,960)</u>			
110 Staffing	Expenditure	50,045	73,783	23,738		23,738	67.8%
120 Office & General	Income	10	0	(10)			0.0%
	Expenditure	21,710	41,921	20,211		20,211	51.8%
	Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(21,700)</u>	<u>(41,921)</u>	<u>(20,221)</u>			
	plus Transfer from EMR	-243	0	243			
	less Transfer to EMR	0	0	0			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(21,943)</u>	<u>(41,921)</u>	<u>(19,978)</u>			
200 Allotments	Income	483	1,014	531			47.6%
	Expenditure	776	950	174		174	81.6%
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(292)</u>					
210 Amenities	Expenditure	1,006	6,921	5,915		5,915	14.5%
	plus Transfer from EMR	0	0	0			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(1,006)</u>	<u>(6,921)</u>	<u>(5,915)</u>			
300 Village Green	Expenditure	1,985	2,260	275		275	87.8%
	plus Transfer from EMR	693	0	(693)			
	less Transfer to EMR	0	0	0			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(1,292)</u>	<u>(2,260)</u>	<u>(968)</u>			
310 Jubilee Rose Garden	Expenditure	455	1,000	545		545	45.5%
	plus Transfer from EMR	240	0	(240)			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(215)</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>(785)</u>			
315 Sadlers Way/Middleham Close	Expenditure	0	600	600		600	0.0%
320 Anchor Field	Expenditure	0	1,100	1,100		1,100	0.0%
330 Fingerpost Field	Expenditure	2,336	4,000	1,664		1,664	58.4%
	plus Transfer from EMR	97	0	(97)			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(2,239)</u>	<u>(4,000)</u>	<u>(1,761)</u>			
337 Almond Field	Expenditure	48	250	202		202	19.2%
	plus Transfer from EMR	48	0	(48)			
	less Transfer to EMR	0	0	0			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>0</u>	<u>(250)</u>	<u>(250)</u>			
340 Broyle Lane / Broyle Close	Expenditure	156	2,365	2,209		2,209	6.6%
	plus Transfer from EMR	0	0	0			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(156)</u>	<u>(2,365)</u>	<u>(2,209)</u>			

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Ringmer Parish Council

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Summary Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/12/2025

Cost Centre Report

		Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
355	Pond						
	Expenditure	519	10	(509)		(509)	5185.0%
	plus Transfer from EMR	509	0	(509)			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(10)</u>	<u>(10)</u>	<u>0</u>			
360	Play Area Inspections						
	Expenditure	1,755	3,600	1,845		1,845	48.8%
370	Waste						
	Expenditure	2,362	5,000	2,638		2,638	47.2%
	plus Transfer from EMR	0	0	0			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(2,362)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>(2,638)</u>			
380	Open Spaces						
	Expenditure	6,182	14,835	8,653		8,653	41.7%
	plus Transfer from EMR	305	0	(305)			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(5,876)</u>	<u>(14,835)</u>	<u>(8,959)</u>			
390	Other Areas						
	Expenditure	4,063	8,819	4,756		4,756	46.1%
	plus Transfer from EMR	0	0	0			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(4,063)</u>	<u>(8,819)</u>	<u>(4,756)</u>			
	Grand Totals:- Income	463,920	166,464	(297,456)			278.7%
	Expenditure	94,083	169,214	75,131	0	75,131	55.6%
	Net Income over Expenditure	<u>369,837</u>	<u>(2,750)</u>	<u>(372,587)</u>			
	plus Transfer from EMR	1,649	0	(1,649)			
	less Transfer to EMR	293,130	0	(293,130)			
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>78,356</u>	<u>(2,750)</u>	<u>(81,106)</u>			

Ringmer Parish Council

Bank - Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 30 December 2025

	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>Bank Statement Balances</u>		
1	30/12/2025 Barclays Current	199,579.19
2	30/12/2025 Barclays Premium	344,992.44
6	30/11/2025 Redwood Bank 95 Day CIL Funds	104,482.14
7	26/11/2025 Redwood Bank 35 Day CIL Funds	119,030.15
		768,083.92
<u>Other Cash & Bank Balances</u>		
	Public Sector Deposit Fund	97,457.90
		97,457.90
<u>Receipts not on Bank Statement</u>		
0	30/12/2025 All Receipts Cleared	0.00
		0.00
Closing Balance		865,541.82
<u>All Cash & Bank Accounts</u>		
1	Barclay's Current	199,579.19
2	Barclays Premium	344,992.44
6	Redwood Bank 95 Day CIL Funds	104,482.14
7	Redwood Bank 35 Day CIL Funds	119,030.15
	Other Cash & Bank Balances	97,457.90
	Total Cash & Bank Balances	865,541.82

Chairman: _____

Date: 13.01.2026

Date: 30/12/2025

Ringmer Parish Council

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Time: 11:57

Barclay's Current

List of Payments made between 01/12/2025 and 30/12/2025

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
01/12/2025	Lewes District Council	189	234.00		Play Inspections
01/12/2025	AVS Fencing	190	535.94		FPF gate
04/12/2025	Ringmer Parish Magazine	191	100.00		Parish Mag Advert
04/12/2025	Ringmer Dramatic Society	192	300.00		Dramatic Society S137 grant
04/12/2025	Ringmer Village Hall	193	300.00		RVH S138 grant
04/12/2025	Love Our Ouse CIC	194	482.85		Love our Ouse Lightsource Gran
04/12/2025	E Winney	195	220.00		Soldier Graves maintenance
04/12/2025	Ash Towner Ltd	196	156.12		IT services
04/12/2025	Bonny's Wood	197	1,512.00		Memorial Tree Bob May
04/12/2025	St Peter & St James Hospice	198	500.00		St Peter & St James S137 grant
10/12/2025	Post Office	199	25.70		Stamps
12/12/2025	Printerval	200	15.98		King Charles III photo
15/12/2025	Adobe Systems Ltd	201	19.97		Adobe Licence
16/12/2025	O2 Mobile Phones	202	13.20		Mobile
16/12/2025	Post Office	203	2.77		Postage - C&C acc opening docs
18/12/2025	ICO	204	52.00		Data Protection
18/12/2025	RWC Landscape Maintenance	205	360.00		FPF Gate replacement
18/12/2025	The Insurance Experts	206	295.00	FC 09.12.25 9.5	S137 - Bonfire and Carols
18/12/2025	UK Power Networks	207	25.00		Allotment Site Rental
18/12/2025	Lewes District Council	208	235.20		Bins
18/12/2025	Newtimber Ltd	209	816.00	FC 11.12 Item 10.1	Christmas Tree
18/12/2025	ICO	204	-52.00		Contra
18/12/2025	ICO	204	47.00		Corrected amount
19/12/2025	Cllr J Whitlock	210	41.20	FC 14.10 Item 11.2	Xmas Tree Festival
22/12/2025	Zen Internet Ltd	211	42.30		Broadband and Landline
29/12/2025	Countrywide Grounds Maintenanc	212	1,157.90		Grass - contracted
29/12/2025	Salaries	213/4	3809.71		Salary
29/12/2025	HMRC Paye/NI	215	1,478.97		Tax/NI Dec
29/12/2025	Nest Pension	216	265.99		Pension December
Total Payments			12,992.80		