



HENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION
COMMITTEE

**Meeting of the Local Government Reorganisation
Committee on 27th May 2026 at 10.45am in the Henfield Hall.**

Present: Cllrs J Jones (Chairman), E Goodyear, D Grossmith, R Kendall, M Morgan, G Perry and A Willard.

In attendance: Mr K Wright (Clerk) Mrs B Samrah (Parish Administrator - PA).

Minutes

1 **Election of Chairman for the forthcoming year**

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Morgan **SECONDED** by Cllr Kendall and **VOTED ALL IN FAVOUR** to elect Cllr Jones as **Chairman for the forthcoming year**.

2 **Declaration of Members' Interests**

There were none.

3 **Apologies**

Were received from Cllr R Shaw.

4 **Election of Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year**

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Jones **SECONDED** by Cllr Perry and **VOTED ALL IN FAVOUR** to elect Cllr Goodyear as **Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year**.

5 **Approval of the Minutes of meeting held on 22nd April 2026**

These were approved by all. They were signed and dated by the Chairman.

6 **Matters arising**

1 Schedule and maps prepared by Cllr Morgan – Cllr Morgan confirmed that the schedule now includes all assets. He said he thought it would be useful if all Councillors received a copy as well the Schedule that he had prepared on the land that Henfield Parish Council owns.

ACTION POINT: PA to circulate both documents to all councillors.

2 Guide Hut – Cllr Perry said that there were two issues; the Guides have applied to be the owners of the Hut and applied for the lease. She understood that the Officer at HDC was part-time and very busy so either option is likely to take a long time to be finalised.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting

Open Forum

There were no members of the public present.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting

7 **Chairman's Announcements**

There were none.

8 **Report on information received from HDC (assets in Henfield Parish)**

1 HDC - email trail with the Clerk – The Clerk reported that HDC have indicated that a business case will need to be prepared for each asset that the Parish Council hopes to transfer but this would only be necessary if HDC have indicated that they are likely to allow a transfer. HDC had stated that neither the car parks nor the industrial estate at Hollands Road would be considered for transfer, as they were income-generating assets.
Cllr Morgan said that assets which HPC already looks after, such as the public toilets, bus shelter and the Chess Brook Green play area, would make easier decisions to transfer than some others, such as green spaces, especially those with large or old trees. He added that, with the possibility of at least three large developments being built in the next few years, there were likely to be other areas for which HPC might choose to be responsible.

CLr Goodyear said that as HDC responds about a specific asset then the council could respond after discussion at council meeting.

The Chairman said that there would be some assets which Henfield would be able to look after more appropriately than a unitary authority based some distance away and some where residents would have strong feelings about their control remaining locally. It was agreed that the current expressions of interest would stand with HDC and that any decisions would be made when HDC advised on what funding if any would be offered.

It was agreed that the current dates and times for meetings would remain but that where there was little to discuss or decide the meeting would be cancelled.

- 2 HDC – Asset transfer response from Director of Communities – This was noted.

To resolve, under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, in accordance with Standing Orders s.3 (d) to exclude the press and public on the grounds that the confidential matters to be discussed under item 9 below would be prejudicial in the public interest.

9 **Community Governance Review**

This was discussed in Closed Session.

10 **News from wider area**

There were no further updates.

11 **Correspondence**

1 HDC Asset Transfers Car Parks – This was noted.

2 HDC - 2nd consultation on local government reorganisation in Sussex – The Clerk confirmed that the two choices within West Sussex would be:-

HDC, Crawley Borough and Mid Sussex

HDC, Crawley Borough, Mid Sussex and Chichester.

3 WSALC - Consultation on LGR – The Clerk confirmed that he had responded to WSALC.

12 **Any other urgent matters to be raised by Councillors**

There was none.

13 **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 24th June 2026.

The meeting closed at 11.24am.