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Minutes of the Open Spaces, Roads and Footpaths Committee Meeting held at Rusper Village Hall on Tuesday 15th September 2026 to commence no earlier than 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs F Maitland-Smith(Chair), G Sallows, M Cooke, M Fenton, S White, D Matthews, G Fleming.

Apologies: Cllrs M Fillmore, G Hussey, D Halsey, R Beckmann.

Clerk: Lisa Wilcock.

There was 2 members of the public present for the meeting.

Meeting commenced 2042hrs

OS36-26/27 – Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received

OS37-26/27 – Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare any interests in respect of items on the agenda.

OS38-26/27 – Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Roads, Footpaths and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on **21st July 2026** were considered.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

OS39-26/27 – Open Forum

The Chairman opened the meeting to members of the public.

The Open Forum was then closed.

OS40-26/27 – Trees

Cllr George Sallows provided an update regarding trees within the parish that may be suitable for consideration for potential Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs). It was noted that this work has not yet commenced. The Committee discussed the importance of protecting significant trees within the parish, particularly where they make an important contribution to the local landscape and amenity. It was also noted that a Councillor, acting as a resident, had requested that a TPO be considered for a tree located near their property.

OS41-26/27 – Playground

The Committee received an update regarding the picnic benches and proposed playground improvements. Members noted that the playground gate required a new post, as the existing post had become rotten, and arrangements have been made for its replacement.

The picnic benches, kindly donated by the May Day Committee, have now arrived and are being installed this week. It was recommended to Council that Cllr Geoff Hussey should undertake the relevant training required within his role as the playground representative.

OS42-26/27 – Defibrillator

The Committee received an update regarding the parish defibrillators.

The Committee noted that all defibrillators within the parish are maintained and confirmed to be in working order. It was agreed that a new sign is required at the Sports Club to indicate the location of the nearest defibrillator to the sports ground.

OS43-26/27 – Rusper Recreation Ground

a) Sports Ground

The Committee discussed matters relating to the sports ground, including the ongoing maintenance and management of the recreation ground and its facilities. It was noted that the ventilation works have now been completed and the shed has been removed. The Parish Council is undertaking water testing. The Committee agreed that the Parish Council minutes should record its thanks to those involved in completing the works.

b) Complaint Regarding Incident at the Sports Ground

The Committee considered a complaint received by the Clerk concerning an incident at the sports ground. Members discussed the matter and considered the information available to the Committee. The matter is now closed.

c) Tennis Court Repairs

The Committee noted that repairs to the tennis court cracks had been arranged and Cllr Simon White will follow this up and report to Clerk if there are any delays.

d) Pavilion Ceiling and Maintenance

The Committee discussed the repair of the pavilion ceiling following water leaks.

Members considered the required works and discussed other maintenance projects that may need to be undertaken at the pavilion and wider recreation ground. This item will be considered at the next parish council meeting.

OS44-26/27 – Parish Award Cup

Cllr Marion Fenton is liaising with the May Day Committee regarding the cup idea for the Parish Community Award. If selected by the May Day Committee, Marion will represent the Parish Council on the decision-making board.

OS45-26/27 – Asset Dashboard

The Committee reviewed the Asset Dashboard. In relation to the fingerposts, the Chair of the Council reported that she had spoken with the contractor and he was awaiting his operation. The posts have now been completed and are ready for installation. The Chair is arranging for the posts to be transported to Rusper for installation.

OS46-26/27 – Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next Roads, Footpaths and Open Spaces Committee meeting was confirmed as 20th October 2026.

Meeting closed 2115hrs

Signed..... Dated.....