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Minutes of the Roads, Footpaths and Open Spaces Committee Meeting Held at Copsale Hall on Wednesday, 3rd September 2025 no earlier than 7:45pm.

Present:

Cllr C Kenny (Chairman), Cllr V Court, Cllr S Newell, Cllr D Cotton.

Also Present: District Councillor Dennis Livingstone

Clerk: Lisa Wilcock

Members of the Public: 2

Meeting commenced at 2028hrs

OS025-25/26 - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Cllr Wayne Bayley.

OS0026-25/26 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

OS0027-25/26 - CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The issue of overhanging vegetation will be raised at the main meeting when County Councillor Nigel Jupp is present. The areas of concern are the Copsale area, Sedgwick Lane, and Broadwater Lane have become severely overgrown.

OS0028-25/26 - PUBLIC SESSION

No comments were made.

OS0029-25/26 - MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 6th August 2025 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

OS0030-25/26 - PLAYGROUND

The Committee noted that a meeting was being arranged with the grounds maintenance provider regarding the playground area.

OS0031-25/26 - EMERGENCY AND RESILIENCE AUDIT

The Committee discussed the next steps for the Emergency and Resilience Audit. It was agreed to purchase the resilience audit template from Dee Thornton at a cost of £150, to be completed by the Parish Council. It was further noted that this reduces the amount previously resolved from £500 to £150. The Clerk was instructed to withdraw the original order and issue a new order for the template.

OS0032-25/26 - CARBON BUSTERS

Feedback from the last meeting included a proposal to create an area near the golf course that deer cannot access, in order to monitor the outcome, and a suggestion to work with the Sussex Wildlife Trust on diverting water to create a wetlands area. The removal of invasive weeds near watercourses was also

discussed. In addition, the Clerk was asked to contact Ashdown Forest regarding deer culling, and it was requested that the Parish Council be notified when culling takes place at the golf course.

OS0033-25/26 - DEFIBRILLATOR

The Committee noted the recent service report on the defibrillators. Any further actions identified will be arranged as necessary.

OS0034-25/26 - PARISH OWNED ASSET MANAGEMENT

The Committee reviewed several maintenance matters. It was agreed that vegetation around the fingerpost at Goldings Lane and the fingerpost at Monks Gate (A281) should be cut back, and that a tree surgeon be appointed to assess and maintain the Jubilee Tree at Monks Gate. Vegetation around the fingerpost at Monks Gate (A2814) will be cleared, while the fingerpost at Copsale Road is to be cleaned, with the Clerk and Cllr Newell arranging this. The fingerpost at Polecat Lane requires repainting, and it was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Newell will assess this work. The Committee further noted that additional works had been agreed following the meeting with the maintenance provider on 3rd September 2025 at 8:30am, including removal of a dead chestnut, replacement of the tree outside the old shop with the addition of a deer cage, surgery to the Jubilee Tree with strimming around the bus stop bench, and attention to the mud around the bench area. It was agreed that the proposed three days of work should be recommended to Council for resolution.

OS0035-25/26 MATTERS ARISING

The following items were suggested for inclusion on the next agenda: fingerpost maintenance, vegetation management, the bus route, and the SID in Mannings Heath.

Meeting closed at 2058hrs

Signed: Dated: