MARESFIELD CONSERVATION GROUP

Minutes of a Meeting of the Executive Committee Held at 6.00pm on Monday 14th September 2026 at The Chequers, Maresfield

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Graham Shaw (GS)	Chair
Terence Brady (TB)	Treasurer
Richard Wane (RW)	Secretary
Bruce Milton (BM)	
Tom Merchant (TM)	
Tracie Coe (TC)	
Jane Hendy (JaH)	
Jeremy Hendy (JeH)	

PRESENT: GS, TB, RW, BM, TM, TC, JaH, JeH,
APOLOGIES: None

1. Quorum, Conflicts, Previous Minutes, Matters Arising

The meeting was quorate (min 4 trustees) and no further conflicts have been disclosed. The minutes of the July meeting as circulated were amended for a couple of typographical errors and were APPROVED. RW noted the action points arising that have been completed which were attached to the agenda - and which would be commented on as we went through the meeting.

2. Governance - RW

The Access and Authorisation List has been updated and will now be further updated with HMRC information obtained by TC and TicketTailor Information from JeH.

AP1: RW to ensure the Access and Authorisation List is fully updated.

JeH has kindly prepared and circulated the Parish Council grant application. This will be sent to RW for submission.

AP2: Parish Council grant application to be completed and submitted.

RW noted that he awaits information from the Parish Council about the bench for the children's playground area. This is expected after the next full meeting of the Parish Council (15th September).

3. Events and Activities - ALL
BM noted that we had a good morning working with folks from Norman's Pond who had sent us a kind note of thanks for the efforts of the Footpaths Group.

RW noted that the Talks have begun. We had 15 attendees the first one and so far have 9 booked for the second (6th October). TC will issue reminder a week beforehand.

TM noted that we had a good number of entries for the photo competition in time for the deadline of Monday 21 September. We discussed having another prize giving event, in October.

AP2: RW will confirm the preferred date for the photo prizegiving with The Chequers (27th October). TM will work with Caro Shaw on the photo judging and calendar production.

GS noted that the biodiversity/environment talk on 22nd August is booked at the Village Hall. Details have been circulated to members.

TC will move forward with the next litter picking event, which will take place on 24th October (10am-12noon).

GS noted BSO concert progress on ticket sales.

RW confirmed the Quiz is set for Saturday 6th March 2027 and the AGM is set for Tuesday 8th June 2027 and the Village Hall is booked for both.

Christmas Tree. BM will follow-up with possible contact for a tree.

4. Membership - TC
We have 114 memberships with a total of 143 members, with a couple of new joiners recently.

Gift Aid work is in hand with progress with HMRC.

5. Treasurer - TB
Monthly accounts had been circulated. The bank accounts continue to have healthy balances.

6. Footpaths - BM
The bench for installation on the park land ground is being delivered tomorrow (Tuesday 15th) and should be installed on Wednesday.

50 copies of the Millennium Walking Booklet have been re-printed (another 50 to follow). The booklet can go back on sale on the website and on display in The Chequers.

BM is keeping a monitoring brief on the public footpath adoption matter.

7. Planning – All
The proposal for the polo field off the A22 has come out and several Committee members will attend a Parish Meeting about it later in the evening at the Village Hall. Other public meetings are scheduled.

JeH has circulated some information on the Local Plan, which does not seem to contain anything particularly new but is relevant to existing applications. GS noted that Government rules on planning are changing again.

We are following up with the Parish Council as to when the developer of properties on the Straight Half Mile (SHM) are doing footpath widening and whether there will be extended speed limitation, especially given the additional development further up SHM.

GS has spoken with Mr Harris re Limestone Way and we await further contact from him for any assistance we might provide.

JeH has completed and circulated to the Committee a submission on Mill House Farm. This will be held ready for when the application gets called to Planning Committee.

JeH completed the circulated submission for the Dairy House application and submitted it to Wealden Planning. So the previous action point here is closed.

We discussed engagement from the members on planning including a possible page on our website to record our activities.

8. AOB
Next meeting Monday 26th October.
Meeting ended: 18:59

Rolling Action Points outstanding from Previous Committee Meetings – *Updates (in italics)*

From July 2026 Minutes:

Governance

AP1: RW to revise the Access and Authorisation List and place on the Committee page of the website.

Completed.

AP2: JeH to prepare Parish Council grant application.

Drafted and ready for submission.

AP3: RW to revert to the Parish Council to confirm costs and work involved for children's playground work (funding for replacement bench).

Completed. See September minutes.

Events and Activities

AP4: JaH will follow-up with Norman's Pond contact.

Completed. The Footpaths group gave some assistance at Norman's Pond on 26th August which was gratefully received.

AP5: RW to check Village Hall for 22-24 Sept. for a possible biodiversity report presentation.

Completed. The presentation will take place on 22nd Sept.

AP6: GS to follow up with the speaker and consider further (Lesser Spotted Woodpecker – Michael Blencowe).

Planning

AP7: TC to forward the Limestone Way correspondence to GS for consideration.

Completed. See September minutes.

AP8: JeH to summarise our input to the Mill House Farm application for submission to Wealden Planning Majors Committee.

Completed. See September minutes.

AP9: JeH to draft proposed comment from a heritage perspective in relation to Dairy House/Dairy Cottage.

Completed. See September minutes.

AOB

AP10: TC to action the email and FB messaging – re photo competition.

Completed.