

# ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

## CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Mrs Suzanna Dry

Telephone – 07936 904 743

Email – [clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk)

Alfriston War Memorial Hall,  
Old School House, The Tye,  
Alfriston, East Sussex, BN26 5TL

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025

All members of the Parish Council are summoned to a meeting of Alfriston Parish Council to be held in the Alfriston War Memorial Hall on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 7.15pm.**

*Please note that a digital sound recording is made of all meetings of Alfriston Parish Council including Public Questions sessions. The recording is not for publication and used only to aid accurate minute taking.*

*S.C. Dry*

Mrs Suzanna Dry CiLCA – Clerk & RFO

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## AGENDA

### 108. Chair's Welcome

### 109. Public Questions

### 110. Apologies for absence

### 111. Update from MP . ([Appendix A](#))

### 112. Update from Cllr Stephen Shing – East Sussex County Council

### 113. Update from Cllr David Greaves - Wealden District Council

### 114. District Cllr Ward Budgets Scheme

WDC Cllr. David Greaves to present scheme and grants available to the community.

### 115. Declaration of interest

### 116. Minutes

To agree as a true record the minutes of the APC July meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025.

To agree as a true record the minutes of the APC Finance meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025.

### 117. Finance

To approve the Statement of Finances for September 2025. ([Appendix B](#))

To confirm sight and approval of External Auditor's Report & Notice of Conclusion of Audit ([Appendix C](#))

### 118. Report Back on MP's Meet & Greet in August.

### 119. SDNPA Local Plan & Partnership Plan – Presentation by Vanessa Rowlands, Chair SDNPA.

### 120. Wealden Town & Parish Council Conference 21<sup>st</sup> October – APC representative to attend.

### 121. Replacement Laptop for APC

To agree on a replacement laptop for APC. Clerk's Report attached ([Appendix D](#)).

### 122. Coffeehouse Conversations

To agree date and subject of next Coffeehouse Conversation.

**123. Cllr Vacancy**

Deadline for applications 30<sup>th</sup> September. These will be considered at the October meeting.

**124. Update on Post Box - Clerk**

**125. Alfriston Welfare Lobby Group** – Letter to APC & APC's response attached. ([Appendix E](#)).

**126. Report on Highways & Twittens – Cllr Embry**

Residents Letter received on traffic calming measures & APC's reply. ([Appendix F](#)).

To discuss and review new traffic calming measures.

Feedback from MP on Sussex Police mobile speed enforcement sessions.

**127. Report on Allotments & Recreation Ground – Cllr Vacancy**

Update on removal of rubble from allotment plot – Cllr Spring to report back.

Update on vacant allotments & weed notices issued - Clerk

Update on Playground - Clerk

**128. Report on Public Transport & Environment – Cllr Harris****129. Report on Strategic Planning – Cllr Parkinson .**

Emergency Plan Update

**130. Report on Tye – Cllr Spring.**

Repair to Tye Rd – to receive further quotes and agree contractor.

Dog Show 24<sup>th</sup> Aug 2025 - Feedback from event.

Cuckmere Valley Showcase & Outdoor Pursuits 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Update & Agree date of event.

**131. Reports from Outside Bodies**

131.1 Heartstart

131.2 Alfriston Emergency Group

131.3 Flood Forum

131.4 Neighbourhood Watch ([Appendix G](#)).

131.5 Twinning Committee

131.6 St Andrew's Church

131.7 Clergy House

131.8 Alfriston War Memorial Hall

131.9 Speedwatch

131.10 Events

**132. Correspondence to The Clerk – Asking for permission from the Council.**

Request for Pizza Van at AWMH for wedding on 20.06.26. ([Appendix H](#)).

Request for A Board from Alfriston Women's Group – Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Nov. for Jumble Sale . ([Appendix I](#)).

To Ratify APC's response to request to use The Tye for refreshment station at Ultra Marathon 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. ([Appendix J](#)).

Request for A Board for Poetry Bee Event – 25<sup>th</sup> Oct for 3 weeks from 3<sup>rd</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> Oct. ([Appendix K](#)).

**133. Public Questions**

**134. Date of next meeting** – to be held on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025** in the AWMH 6.45pm Planning Meeting, 7.15pm Monthly Meeting.

Please see Appendices attached below and/or on the website.

**James MacCleary MP report August 2025**

**Brighton's land grab**

The Local Government Reorganisation is rapidly becoming a hot topic of discussion in our local communities. It is now confirmed that Brighton and Sussex will form a combined strategic mayoral authority, headed by a Mayor. The first Mayor of Sussex will be elected across Sussex in May 2026.

The next phase of our local government reorganisation is to abolish our District and Borough Councils, reshaping them into single unitary authorities. East Sussex County Council alongside our District, Boroughs and local MP's have already submitted a proposal for a new unitary to be made on the existing geographic footprint of East Sussex.

Brighton and Hove City Council disagree. To say I am furious at their latest proposals is an understatement. Not only was there a lack of engagement from Bella Sankey, the leader of Brighton and Hove City Council ahead of announcing her proposals - not a single option contained any westward expansion.

Separating our local villages from their historic and geographical ties to Lewes and East Sussex makes no sense and amounts to nothing more than a panicked land grab. Bella Sankey claims that there are economic benefits to the move for towns like Newhaven but has so far failed to articulate what they are. Given Brighton & Hove's record at Kendall Court, their recent incompetence on the i360 which wrote off in excess of £50m, missed bin collections and their much lower recycling rate than our own (28% BHCC vs 40% LDC and 45% in WDC), I do not see what benefits joining the city could possibly bring to our area.

I would urge our town and parish councils to encourage residents to participate in both of the consultations that are currently open, closing to submissions on the 25th of August 2025.

**South East and Southern Water**

I recently spoke on LBC about the appalling water waste we are seeing in South East Waters network, they initiated a hose pipe ban - whilst leaking an average of 97.4 million litres of water a day, the equivalent of 39 olympic sized swimming pools.

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I also wrote to Lawrence Godson, CEO of Southern Water, alongside colleagues about the eyewateringly high incentive that he was due to be paid and the 15 serious pollution events he has presided over this year, whilst our bills have increased dramatically.

At last the government earlier this month announced that they are abolishing Ofwat. The Lib Dems have been calling for this since 2022 and are now calling on the government to ensure that the new water regulator is established as soon as possible and to ban water company bonuses until leaks are fixed and sewage dumping ends.

**Summer Tour**

I have looked forward to my summer tour as a welcome opportunity to spend more time in the constituency away from Westminster, meeting the people that make our part of Sussex special. With visits to local businesses, charities and other organisations planned as well as attempting to get around as many of our parish councils as possible to meet the councillors and residents, hearing your concerns directly.

**Remembrance and Christmas Plans**

Whilst we are still officially in summer, I would like to take this opportunity to ask our parish and town councils for their remembrance or Christmas plans. Please do contact Helen at [helen.spearman@parliament.uk](mailto:helen.spearman@parliament.uk) for any diary requests or invitations.

## Appendix B - Statement of Finances for September 2025

Alfriston Parish Council Finance Report 8th September 2025				
Authority is sought to make the following payments:-				
Sept. Payroll	Staff Costs	BACS	£2,074.08	
	Total:		£2,074.08	
Authority is sought to make the following payments made since last meeting:-				
54	July Payroll	July Payroll	BACS	2018.24
55	Castle Water - Pavilion	Pavilion Water	BACS	18.04
56	HP Instant Ink	Printer Ink	CARD	13.49
57	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	Grass Cutting - Tye & Rec	BACS	504.00
58	Latitude	E-mail & Website	BACS	111.74
59	Alfriston United Reformed Church	OCC Hire	BACS	29.00
60	PKF Littlejohn LLP	AGAR	BACS	378.00
61	Inland Revenue - HMRC	Tax & NI July Payroll	BACS	480.16
62	Nest Pensions	Employee Pension	DD	182.18
63	Bank Charges	Bank Charges	DD	20.00
64	O2 Phone Bill	Mobile Phone	DD	16.76
65	Business Stream - Pavilion	Waste Water	BACS	41.41
66	Interbiz	Payroll Services	BACS	25.20
67	Refreshments	MP's Meet & Greet	CARD	35.33
68	Stationery	Printer Paper	CARD	11.30
69	AWMH	Rent of Hall	BACS	48.00
70	Stredder Pearce	Annual Glebeland Rent	BACS	50.00
71	August Payroll	August Payroll	BACS	2298.10
72	Inland Revenue - HMRC	Tax & NI August Payroll	BACS	595.49
73	Castle Water - Pavilion	Pavilion Water -	BACS	18.30
74	HP Instant Ink	Printer Ink	CARD	13.49
75	Nest Pensions	Employee Pension	DD	211.00
76	MDC Exports Ltd	Dog Poo Bags	CARD	41.60
77	MW Landscapes Sussex Ltd.	Replace Wooden Posts	BACS	497.33
78	Land Registry (£45 credited back)	Title Deeds copy for Tye	CARD	59.95
79	Microsoft Office Renewal	Annual Renewal	CARD	84.99
80	Land Registry	Title Deeds re Tye query	CARD	24.95
81	O2 Phone Bill	Mobile Phone	DD	24.70
82	Bank Charges	Bank Charges	DD	20.00
83	Interbiz	Payroll Services	BACS	25.20
84	AWMH	Rent of Hall	BACS	56.00
TOTAL:				7953.95
Summary of Bank Balances as of 8th September 2025				
Business Current Account				5,978.83
Business Savings Account				35,490.28
TOTAL:				41,469.11
Signed by:				S.C. Dry
Suzanna Dry - Clerk & RFO				
Councillor who checked the invoices for the above payments: .....				

RESERVE INFORMATION FOR 2025/26						
Project	Opening Balance Apr 2025	Budget 25/26	New Balance	Expenditure	Income	Current Balance
General Reserves	18,143.62	£5,000.00	£23,143.62	£1,300.00		£21,843.62
Tye Rd surface	1438.32	£500.00	£1,938.32			£1,938.32
Playground	0	£500.00	£500.00		£400.00	£900.00
NDP	0	£500.00	£500			£500
High St Traffic Plan	12,000	£0.00	£12,000.00			£12,000.00
Election costs 2027	500	£500.00	£1,000.00		£500.00	£1,500.00
Allotments	0	£0.00	£0.00		£400.00	£400.00
CIL money	0	£0.00	£0.00			£0.00
TOTAL	32081.94	£7,000.00	£39,081.94	£1,300.00	£1,300.00	£39,081.94

## Section 3 – External Auditor's Report and Certificate 2024/25

In respect of **Alfriston Parish Council - ES0002**

### 1 Respective responsibilities of the auditor and the authority

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – <https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/>

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2025; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

### 2 External auditor's limited assurance opinion 2024/25

On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

None.

### 3 External auditor certificate 2024/25

We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

External Auditor Name

**PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP**

External Auditor Signature

*PKF Littlejohn LLP*

Date

16/07/2025

## Alfriston Parish Council

### Notice of conclusion of audit

#### Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2025

Sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

Section 16 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

<p>1. The audit of accounts for <b>Alfriston Parish Council</b> for the year ended 31 March 2025 has been completed and the accounts have been published.</p> <p>2. The Annual Governance &amp; Accountability Return including the auditor's certificate and opinion is available for inspection and copying by any local government elector of the area of <b>Alfriston Parish Council</b> on application to:</p> <p>(a) <u>Mrs. Suzanna Dry</u> <u>Clerk &amp; RFO</u> <u>Alfriston War Memorial Hall, Old School</u> <u>House, The Tye, Alfriston, BN26 5TL</u></p> <p>(b) <u>Monday - Friday</u> <u>9.30 am - 2.30 pm</u></p> <p>3. Copies will be provided to any local government elector of the area on payment of £ <u>2</u> (c) for each copy of the Annual Governance &amp; Accountability Return.</p> <p>Announcement made by: (d) <u>Mrs. Suzanna Dry</u></p> <p>Date of announcement: (e) <u>23/7/25</u></p>	<p>Notes</p> <p>This notice and Sections 1, 2 &amp; 3 of the AGAR must be published by 30 September. <b>This must include publication on the smaller authority's website.</b> The smaller authority must decide how long to publish the Notice for; the AGAR and external auditor report must be publicly available for 5 years.</p> <p>(a) Insert the name, position and address of the person to whom local government electors should apply to inspect the AGAR</p> <p>(b) Insert the hours during which inspection rights may be exercised</p> <p>(c) Insert a reasonable sum for copying costs</p> <p>(d) Insert the name and position of person placing the notice</p> <p>(e) Insert the date of placing of the notice</p>
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## Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25

We acknowledge as the members of:

ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, that:

	Agreed		"Yes" means that this authority:
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A has met all of its responsibilities where, as a body corporate, it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

\*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

28/04/2025

and recorded as minute reference:

250.2

Signed by the Chair and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

VICE  
Chair

J.M. Watkins

Clerk

S.C. Dwyer

## Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25 for

ENTER NAME OF AUTHORITY

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2024 £	31 March 2025 £	
1. Balances brought forward	25,291	43,166	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	55,252	56,736	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	18,316	9,814	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	18,119	27,634	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	37,574	50,000	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cash-book less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	43,166	32,082	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	43,166	32,082	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	152,518	146,537	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	N/A
11a. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11b. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2025 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

S.C. Dwyer

Date 10/04/2025

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

28/04/2025

as recorded in minute reference:

250.3

VICE

Signed by Chair of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

J.M. Watkins

ALFRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025  
Report Subject: New Laptop for APC  
By: Suzanna Dry, Clerk & RFO

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The purpose of this report is to give Councillors information on purchasing a new laptop for APC.

Background

APC previously agreed that the laptop would need to be replaced in this financial year. A budget of £700.00 was therefore incorporated into this year's budget costings.

Analysis

In order to purchase the next upgrade to the current laptop (a 2020 HP Pavilion 14, with a Ram of 4GB), with additional memory the costs are as follows:

Currys: £599.00 (includes VAT)  
PC World: £649.99 (includes VAT)  
Amazon: £750.00 (includes VAT)  
(for an HP OmniBook 5 16" Laptop – Intel Core i5, 512 GB SSD, with 16GB Ram).

This would leave enough in the budget to get the laptop set up professionally by Ingenio Technologies. Who would then be able to carry out any maintenance\support going forwards.

Recommendation

That APC agree the motion to purchase a new laptop from Currys at a cost of £599.00 including VAT. To replace the existing laptop and have this professionally set up by Ingenio.



## Appendix E - Alfriston Welfare Lobby Group Letter & APC Response

21st July 2025

Chair of the Alfriston Parish Council  
PO Box 217  
Polegate  
East Sussex  
BN26 5TL

Residents of Alfriston Village  
Alfriston Welfare Lobby Group

www.awlg.org  
jamie@awlg.org

Re: Increasing illegalities of traffic in and around The High Street, Alfriston

To all that serve on the Parish Council

We write today as a large group of residents of Alfriston (Alfriston Welfare Lobby Group - AWLG), to inform and ask for the Parish Councils support, and also to have it minuted, the concerns of the increasing illegalities of traffic offences and their effect on the village and its residents.

These serious concerns will be taken directly to the heads of the local authorities with responsibility by AWLG. Once our concerns have been heard and considered in the Parish Council meeting, we would appreciate the Parish Councils support in this approach.

Our main areas of concern are as follows:

- The continuous mounting of the pavements along the High Street by through traffic putting residents and visitors to the village at extreme danger and risk to life.
- The increasing frequency of physical and verbal assault to pedestrians and public in vehicles from frustrated drivers.
- The increasing frequency of HGV vehicles using Alfriston as a through route illegally ignoring the (inadequate) signage and law.
- The increasing frequency of damage to property by illegally present HGV vehicles.
- The increasing frequency of damage to the villages infrastructure i.e. kerb stones, pavements, residents homes, listed historical buildings by congested traffic at all times of the day.
- The increasing damage to the attractiveness and reputation of the village in which we all live.

Whilst these matters may have been brought to the Parish Councils' attention before and historically, solutions may have been sought, the solutions that have taken nearly ten years to come to fruition are totally inadequate. The reality of the current situation is that the law is being broken and there is a clear risk to life. This cannot be ignored.

As the Parish Council will be aware, there are imminent works planned on the bridge at Exceat. We have been communicating with the Project Manager, Richard Killean (communications attached) at Balfour Beatty. He has confirmed that Alfriston will be used as the diversion route for traffic (non HGV). We have had extensive discussions with Richard regarding the works and the diversion routes planned. The recording of an important telephone call between Richard and Jamie Mansfield is available. The work will be starting in September 2025 (imminently) and although not officially, Alfriston will be used as a diversion. The increase of traffic will be exponential and will increase the already dangerous situation. The project manager for East Sussex County Council, Karl Taylor for the Exceat Bridge works and Richard Killean have both confirmed that the works will be for two years and have the potential to over run this timeline.

The AWLG is currently developing a website/online portal for its members to upload photographic and video evidence creating a timeline database of occurrences. The database already has a considerable amount of evidence collected by its members prior to the formation of the AWLG.

The AWLG will be producing a petition to go to all residents in Alfriston and concerning areas for signed support. The AWLG will be meeting with James Cleary MP for his support.

The Parish Council has seven days to respond with its willingness to support the said motion before the AWLG approaches East Sussex County Council, East Sussex Highways, Wealden District Council and South Downs National Park Authority, Balfour Beatty, Sussex Police, and details the legal requirements to act. The AWLG has legal representation to support its approach. We will also be making the local and national press aware of our efforts to help ensure action.

If the Parish Council is unwilling to support the safety of its residents and visitors by ways of taking action within the RTA 1988 with immediate effect, we kindly request its reasons.

Regards

Jamie Mansfield  
Representing  
The Alfriston Traffic Lobby Group

E-mail and hard copy sent to AWLG on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025:

Dear Alfriston Welfare Lobby Group,

Increasing Traffic Offences in and around The High Street, Alfriston.

Thank you for your letter (copy attached) which was presented to the Parish Council at the July meeting.

Alfriston Parish Council can certainly appreciate your frustrations as APC have spent over a decade campaigning on this issue. This has included collection of evidence, public meetings, petitions, community surveys and calls for ideas to improve the situation. These ideas were collated and presented to ESCC Highways who have trialled some solutions and carried out safety audits of proposals. The traffic calming measures that have recently been installed were agreed by ESCC Highways having met their statutory obligations, guidelines and safety criteria.

With regard to the lack of enforcement we agree this is a major concern and have raised this with Sussex Police. APC invited the Sussex Police Neighbourhood Policing Team to attend the Annual Parish Assembly in April to discuss this, they stated how important it is that any traffic offences are reported by the public to Operation Crackdown on [www.operationcrackdown.org](http://www.operationcrackdown.org) or call 101. This is to ensure that Sussex Police have a record of all offences taking place. At the April meeting Sussex Police advised that there had been no incidents reported, therefore they were unaware of any issues. We urge you to pass your database of incidents to Operation Crackdown, so that these can be logged with the Police and to advise your members of the importance of reporting incidents directly to Operation Crackdown, or to call 101. Our local PCSO Issac Wood is holding a 'Meet & Greet' session for residents on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August between 1-2pm on The Tye, where residents can discuss their concerns. The Parish Council will be advertising this throughout the village. PCSO Issac Wood can also be contacted via the Wealden Neighbourhood Policing Team at Hailsham on <https://www.sussex.police.uk/area/your-area/sussex/wealden/alfriston-alciston-berwick-ripe-and-chalvington/about-us> or tel. 101.

County Councillor Stephen Shing did advise at the Parish Council meeting that the Exeat Bridge will only be closed for 19 days during the whole of the works and at all other times traffic will be able to pass through. This will limit the amount of traffic being diverted through Alfriston to a very short window.

We hope you find the above information useful and wish the Alfriston Welfare Lobby Group every success in your endeavours.

With kind regards

Suzanna

For and on behalf of Alfriston Parish Council

Mrs Suzanna Dry CiLCA  
Clerk and RFO

#### **Appendix F - Residents Letter & APC's reply re Traffic Calming Measures**

APC's Response:

Dear Susanne,

Thank you for your below e-mail regarding the traffic issues in Alfriston. I have forwarded this to the Chair and all Councillors for their information. In response to the proposals you put forward, APC can advise as follows:-

**Vehicle-Activated Speed-Warning Signs in the High Street** - This is indeed an option that was raised at the recent Meet & Greet session with our MP James MacCleary. APC will be looking into this possibility further. We are however aware that in order to progress any measures we need to be able to evidence the amount of speeding being carried out. This is where Speedwatch will be so valuable, once we are able to re-start the Speedwatch sessions now that the new traffic calming measures are in place, and send the results to Sussex Police. The Speedwatch Administrator is liaising with our newly appointed PCSO so that records will be sent directly to Sussex Police.

**Mobile or Regular Speed Enforcement Sessions by Sussex Police** - Again, as a result of the Meet & Greet session, our MP James MacCleary has written to the Sussex Police Traffic Team to request that mobile speed enforcement sessions are carried out in the High Street. We have asked James' office for an update on this for our next APC meeting. Again, the results from Speedwatch sessions will be very valuable in evidencing our on going need for

this. We also urge residents to report any speeding or anti-social driving and parking to Operation Crackdown, so that these incidents are logged directly onto the Sussex Police data. [www.operationcrackdown.org](http://www.operationcrackdown.org) or ring 101.

**Community Speed Watch Programme** - As mentioned previously Alfriston Speedwatch will shortly be re-starting, after an enforced break while the new traffic calming measures take effect. Our Speedwatch Administrator has used this time to engage a number of new volunteers and liaising with our PCSO.

**Physical Road-Narrowing Features\Gateways** - Road narrowing features - these options have previously been put forward to East Sussex County Council Highways but were dismissed due to safety concerns, following their Safety Audit. Gateways – new gateways have been installed as part of the recent traffic calming measures.

**Permanent Traffic Calming Installations** - The traffic calming measures recently installed were a result of over 10 years of negotiations with ESCCH. All proposals put forward in this time were either considered and/or trialled by ESCCH with Safety Audits carried out. The measures in place today are the limit of what ESCCH will allow, having met their statutory obligations, guidelines and safety criteria.

**Improved Parking Enforcement** - This is something that APC have raised with Wealden District Council on a number of occasions, asking for decriminalisation. Unfortunately as parking is not decriminalised in Wealden it remains with the Police to enforce, and parking wardens cannot be used. Wealden District Council will not consider changing this policy. Our only hope is that when the new Unitary Authority takes over from WDC they change to decriminalisation. This looks promising as all other districts in Sussex are already decriminalised.

As you mention, Alfriston is a medieval village with narrow roads and pavements, this therefore limits the number of interventions we can have on the road. We hope the above goes some way to answering your questions.

With kind regards

Suzanna

For and on behalf of Alfriston Parish Council.

**Susanne Taylor**, Alfriston, East Sussex BN26 5UG

**27, August, 2025 To the Chair and Members of Alfriston Parish Council,**

Dear Members of the Parish Council,

**Subject: Traffic Speeds and Pedestrian Safety in Alfriston**

I am writing as a visiting resident of Alfriston, having lived here for the past six months, to express growing concern about the speed and volume of through-traffic in our medieval village. I have observed frequent instances of vehicles mounting kerbs, navigating the narrow High Street with undue haste, and endangering pedestrians in an area with no pavements.

I appreciate the considerable efforts that have already been made to address this long-standing issue. In particular:

1. In 2018, East Sussex County Council conducted a four-week trial of temporary traffic signals at both ends of the High Street (Star Lane and Weavers Lane), paired with an extended trial of a 20 mph speed limit—though the signal trial proved unviable, with traffic and queuing issues displaced elsewhere in the village
2. Going further back, temporary water-filled barriers were installed in the narrowest section of the High Street to encourage drivers to give way rather than mounting pavements
3. Most recently, as of July 2025, a village-wide 20 mph speed limit has been introduced, accompanied by gateway signs, high-friction surfacing at the transition from 30 mph, new double yellow lines, refreshed road markings, and warning signage at the village entrances

While these measures are welcome and encouraging, concerns remain about their effectiveness and enforcement. In particular, temporary barriers and signal trials did not resolve the underlying issue; and without active enforcement—even a 20 mph limit risks being ignored by motorists. My parents, Betty and Geoff Carey were long term residents in the village and during the 1980s they ran the Singing Kettle and were familiar with the parking and traffic issues in the village. During this period, there was a fulltime traffic warden assigned to the village to prevent parking on the yellow lines and assist with traffic safety. While there are obvious budget constraints on Wealden Council to reintroduce this level of traffic management, I would like to register my concerns and offer options that may be considered moving forward.

**To strengthen current efforts, I respectfully request the Parish Council consider supporting or advocating for the following additional traffic calming and enforcement initiatives:**

1. **Vehicle-Activated Speed-Warning Signs** at both ends of the village, to accompany 20 mph signage and reinforce awareness. In particular high speeds we have noticed along North St past our cottage, from Waterloo Square down the hill toward the Sloe Lane Car Park.
2. **Mobile or Regular Speed Enforcement Sessions** with Sussex Police—ideally during peak times or when speeding is most evident.

3. **Community Speed Watch Programme**, utilising local volunteers to monitor speeds and encourage compliance.
4. **Physical Road-Narrowing Features or Gateways**, such as textured surfaces or subtle visual width reductions—especially at entry points, reinforcing the 20 mph zone.
5. **Permanent Traffic Calming Installations** (for example, raised crossings or rumble strips) in key locations, where safe and feasible.
6. **Improved Parking Enforcement**, particularly in the High Street. Without decriminalised parking enforcement, double yellow lines may go disregarded

Thank you for your continued dedication to preserving Alfriston's character, safety, and heritage. I look forward to any updates you can share on this matter.

Yours sincerely,  
**Susanne Taylor**

## [Appendix G - Neighbourhood Watch Sept. Newsletter](#)

### ALFRISTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

[View this email  
in your browser](#)

**Our News September is here - again!**



Don't forget - the the National Emergency Alert test will be happening later this month. The UK government is testing the system on Sunday 7 September 2025 at 3pm. Your mobile phone or tablet will vibrate and make a loud siren-like sound, even if it's set on silent. The alert message will confirm this is a test and that you do not need to take any further action.

Also this month

- A new deputy crime commissioner in Derbyshire
- Student safety information
- Estate planning made easy with FPEP
- Advice to protect yourself from mobile phone theft
- ITV reports a 15% reduction in crime in areas where police work with Neighbourhood Watch
- Wildlife crime in Kent

## [Appendix H - Request for Permission for Pizza Van at AWMH Wedding](#)

**From:** Mkaya Carrigan **Sent:** 15 July 2025 16:22

**To:** [clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Subject:** Pizza van wedding 20/06

Hello, I'm Mkaya – I am getting married in the hall on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2026. Nice to e-meet you and I hope you are enjoying the lovely weather. We have booked a pizza van for the wedding. The measure of the van is approx 5 x 2 metres (max) and is approx. 2.3m high. Wendy and Gerry think it would be best to check with you in case it doesn't fit directly



into the assigned outdoor space of the hall. Hoping it will be ok – we have really struggled to find catering that we can afford, so would be so grateful if it could be accommodated. Thank you in advance, Mkaya

#### **Appendix I - Request for A Board: Alfriston Women's Group**

From: Gill Chopra Sent: 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2025

To: [Clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:Clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk)

Subject: Jumble Sale Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November

Dear Suzanna, Could you please request permission from APC for us to use the 'A' Board at the Market Square on Saturday 1st November to advertise our Jumble Sale in the War Memorial Hall that day. Many thanks.

Gill Chopra, Secretary, Alfriston Women's Group

#### **Appendix J - Request and APC's response to Ultra Marathon on 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2025.**

Sent: 03<sup>rd</sup> Sept. 2025

To: Sam Calvert

Subject: Help with Ultra Marathon – Saat 13<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Dear Sam,

Thank you for your e-mail.

Unfortunately Alfriston Parish Council do not allow any running events to have an aid/refreshment station on The Tye Recreation Ground. However, in the past the area known as 'The Spots' (between the pumping station on River Lane and the White Bridge) has been used by running events. This land is owned by the Environment Agency and you would need to contact the EA regarding this. Alternatively it may be worth getting in touch with The Old Chapel Centre, who may be able to accommodate you. <https://oldchapelcentre.com/>.

We hope the above information is of help.

Kind Regards

Suzanna

Mrs Suzanna Dry CiLCA

Clerk and RFO

Please note that I work flexible part time hours.

> From: Sam Calvert

> Sent: 01 September 2025 10:06

> To: Alfriston Parish Clerk <[clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk)>

> Subject: Help with an Ultra Marathon - Saturday 13th September

>

> Good morning,

I am hoping that you are able to help?

We are hosting an Ultra Marathon event, starting in Brighton, that takes in much of the South Downs Way and includes running through your village.

Crucially, the two distances that enter Alfriston from the West on the South Downs Way, split here with the 50-mile race carrying on the SDW, and the 50k runners heading down High Street towards Newhaven. We are looking for help to position an Aid Station in/around the village, which would provide refuelling for the runners, and I am hoping that you may be able to help with this? I've put images below of the two routes, along with a link to the interactive Strava Map so you can see where the runners will be coming from/heading. You will see that we have provisionally indicated a location in The Tye, however, we are completely open to suggestions that work for yourselves and the village. With this being our first event in the area, we are looking at a combined 200 runners in these two distances, with everyone very spread out by this stage of the event and runners expected to start entering the village around 08:45 until around 13:00.

Any help would be greatly appreciated! If you would like to jump on a call, I'd be very happy to run through any feedback, advice and suggestions. I look forward to hearing from you soon. Many thanks,

Sam Calvert, Event Operations Manager

#### **Appendix K - Request for A Board – Poetry Bee Event, OCC, 25<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2025**From: Gayle Hudson

**Sent:** 08 September 2025 13:50

**To:** APC Clerk <[clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk)>

**Subject:** Poetry Poster in square

Hi Suzanna, Hope all is well!! am writing to ask permission to display this poster in Market Square from start of October (4th) if possible, for 3 weeks? There is a deadline of 10<sup>th</sup> October to enter a competition and the event is on 25<sup>th</sup> October.

Look forward to hearing thank you!

Gayle