



# Agenda 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025

## Iden Parish Council

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**Parish council members are summoned to the Meeting to be held on  
1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 at 7.30pm, Iden Village Hall**

**Signed**

**Date 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

***Members of the Public and Press are welcome and encouraged to attend***

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### **AGENDA**

**1. Apologies**

**2. Disclosure of Interests**

To receive any disclosure by Members of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the personal interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct. Members are reminded of the need to repeat their declaration immediately prior to the commencement of the item in question.

**3. Minutes (available from <https://www.idenvillage.uk>)**

To approve minutes of the parish council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (previously distributed) and to sign as a true record.

**4. The meeting to adjourn for up to 25 minutes**

**a) Report from County and District Councillors**

**b) Public Question Time**

This 10-minute period is available for the public to express a view or ask a question on relevant matters on the following agenda. Because of time constraints, only one question will be permitted per member of the public. Please advise the clerk if you have any other questions at the end of the meeting.

**5. The meeting to reconvene.**

Members of the public are welcome to stay and observe the rest of the meeting when they must remain silent.

## 6. Planning

(Information on applications is available from Rother District Council website)

### a) Enforcements and Appeals - None

### b) Planning Decisions by Rother District Council

RR/2024/1968/O - Idenwood Farm, Barn, Coldharbour Lane: Lawful development certificate for the continued use of the building known as black barn, as a residential dwelling. - Lawful

### c) Applications to be Consider - None

### d) Notifications Only – None

### e) Response to the proposed delisting of The Bell Inn

## 7. Finances – Parish Council

### a) March Bank Balances

28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 £ 15,643.06

Plus total Receipts £ 8.06

Less total Payments £ 840.18

31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 £ 14,810.94

(31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 statements TBC -Treasurers Account £4,299.98 and Reserve Account £10,510.96)

### b) March Receipts

£8.06 Bank Interest

### c) March Payments

£629.20 Clerk's February salary.

£41.70 M Philo: Room £30, car £11.70

£24.00 Mulberry Local Services Limited: Financial regulations bite size training (vat £4)

£63.40 M Philo Refund share of Local Council Clerks Annual Subscription

£12.79 Castle water: Pavilion

£32.84 EDF: Pavilion

£4.25 Lloyds Bank: Monthly Management Fee

Charge Card (March)

£32.00 Lloyds bank: Annual charge card fee

### d) Payments to Authorise

£851.00 Clerk's March net salary and salary increase back pay

£54.20 PAYE: Refund to M Miller

£41.70 M Philo: Room £30, car £11.70

Charge Card (March)- Nil

Pavilion Electricity and Water unknown.

### e) Internal Auditor

To agree to ask P Phillip to complete the council's internal audit.

### f) Fourth Quarter and Year End Financial Report

See end of the agenda

## 8. Dog Bins

To agree to confirm to stay with Rother District Council to empty the dog waste bins. The annual fee rose by more than anticipated. Annual charge is £189.80 plus vat for 2025.

**9. RDC Survey on Local Government Reorganisation**

To agree to delegate the response to the clerk in conjunction with the Chairman after consultation with colleagues.

**10. Report from the Save The Bell Inn**

**11. Iden Pavilion and Playing Fields**

**a) Iden Pavilion Working Party Update Report**

**b) Electricity Contract for the Pavilion**

To agree to delegate to the clerk securing a new contract

**c) To agree offer of small tree for Churchyard in memory of the late John Harrison**

**d) Annual Safety Inspection**

To agree to delegate to the clerk in conjunction with the chairman after consulting with members organising an inspection.

**e) Any other issues to report.**

**12. Risk Assessment – Report on Parish Assets**

**13. Information for Councillors (for noting or inclusion on future agenda).**

The insurance with BHIB will be entering its last year on the 1st of July 2025. Should we renew the next year a replacement valuation of the pavilion will be required.

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 6th of May 2025, 7.30pm, Iden Village Hall. This will be the annual meeting of the parish council.

**Iden Parish Council Fourth Quarter and Year End Financial Report 2024-2025**

Council balance on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 - £14,339.62.

**Receipts Fourth Quarter £2,791.17**

The legally required once a year vat reclaim was made and £2,765.01 was refunded for the period from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024. Bank interest for the last quarter came to £26.16.

**Payments Fourth Quarter net of vat £2,314.29**

Council running costs for the quarter were £2,178.91, including £95 for subscriptions, £20 on training, office costs and mobile phone £171.66 and salaries £1,887.60. Lloyds Bank levied the first monthly account fee of £4.25.

With the closure of the Pavilion account a full quarter of electricity cost and water charges were taken at £171.66.

**Year End Report**

**Receipts for the year £23,141.29 (not including the sports pavilion)**

Anticipated income was £16,700. It is unpredictable to anticipate the income from the burial ground and so this is always under budgeted. The £500 budget was significantly exceeded with a total of £3,600. Interest from the reserve bank account is similar and is not included as a receipt for the budget but total bank interest came to £115.86. The playing field hire fee of £200 was received. Wilder Iden passed over its funds of £153.00 and is ring-fenced for nature recovery items. Office costs (stationary) are shared with Beckley and Pett Parish Council and are recharged and this came to £105.28. The council charge card started offering cash back during the year and 58p was taken off the monthly statements.

### Payments for the year £19,680.94 (net of vat)

The grass contract (playing field, churchyard, and new burial ground) came in slightly under as the ground was very wet preventing heavy machinery on to it. Additionally, a saving was made as the brambles were not sprayed. There were no general maintenance costs for the playing field. The play area inspection was inline with budgeting and there were no general maintenance costs for that area.

Following high winds, a cherry tree in the churchyard had to be removed and the cost £1,200 (allocated £1,000 to the contingency budget and £200 to burial ground general maintenance). The council is fortunate to now have a handy man in receipt of an honorarium £100 (allocated to the contingency budget) who has carried out several tasks saving the council money. He has mended the pavilion rear toilets door, cleared the pavilion gutters, repaired the shiplap on Elmsmead bus shelter and work on the fingerposts, which easily exceeded the honorarium if a contractor had been employed.

Following on, the only other assets expenditure has been on the urban verges and wildflower verges: £670.83.

The council's running costs, which had a budget of £10,763 covering staff; office costs; insurance; subscriptions to various bodies that provide the council with legal and financial assistance or services; salaries; website and laptop programmes; chairman's allowance, mobile phone, hall hire and additionally this year bank account monthly charges, came in at £10,633.07. However, the back pay due to the clerk will fall into the next fiscal year and the final office costs are, considering recharge is £642.61.

The level of donations is high this year because of the donation to the Save the Bell Inn of £1,650. The air ambulance received £200 and the poppy Appeal £50.

The refurbishment of Elmsmead bus shelter was completed this year and creosote and shiplap cost £231.79 (net of vat).

### Sport Pavilion

As a result of Lloyds Bank decision to start charging a management fee per account the pavilion account was closed. The hire receipts and the funds transferred from the sports association folding no longer covered the pavilion running costs. The council was having to transfer money to cover running costs by November 2024. Running costs involve a fire extinguisher check, building safety check, electricity, water, and foul waste but not insurance. Expenditure came to £1,216.52 and was not covered by income at £902.41.

### Overview

Council balance on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 - £14,339.62.

Earmarked reserves total £9,629

Reserve           £9,000 (update to reflect the increase in precept for 2025-2026)

Website           £230.00

Garden Society donation   £246

Nature Recovery           £153

Leaving £4,710.62 (close to that predicted in the third quarter report)

As stated in the earlier the report the extra receipts from the burial ground and the reduction in the costs for cutting the grass through the village and savings from having a handy man, has covered the unexpected donation to the Save the Bell and pavilion deficit.