

WEST HOATHLY PARISH COUNCIL

representing Highbrook, Selsfield, Sharpthorne, Tyes Cross and West Hoathly

Minutes of the West Hoathly Annual Parish Assembly Held on Monday 6th March 2023 in West Hoathly Village Hall

There were 19 people present

1) Chairman's Welcome

Douglas Denham St Pinnock, as chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Amy Marshall and Derek Shurvell

3) Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 7th March 2023

The minutes of the meeting of 7th March 2022 were agreed and the Chairman signed them as a true record

4) A short presentation from Matthew Dean, South East Water Head of Operations for Sussex and Jo Shippey, Community Engagement Manager, followed by a Q&A session

Matthew Dean was unable to attend due to illness. Steve Andrews, Head of Central Operations attended in his place, along with Community Engagement Manager, Jo Shippey. Steve Andrews shared a presentation, which is available to view on the West Hoathly Parish Council website via the link below:

[PowerPoint Presentation \(westhoathly.gov.uk\)](https://www.westhoathly.gov.uk)

Steve Andrews answered questions from members of the public regarding the water outage prior to Christmas and gave an overview of what happened. SE Water acknowledged that the response to the outage was not good enough. Steve Andrews explained some of the challenges behind the response and the work that is now happening to ensure that a better plan is in place should it be needed in the future.

Steve Andrews outlined how five million pounds has been paid out in compensation but did acknowledge that the network map used to manage these claims does not neatly map properties. The £250 compensation payment represents an average yearly water bill.

A member of the public raised concerns that they had not received the compensation payment of £250. Steve Andrews agreed to look into it.

5) An introduction from QVH Governors, the role they play and an opportunity for members of the public to give feedback on the services QVH provides

QVH Governor Antony Fulford-Smith gave an overview of the role of governors and the services provided at QVH.

Members of the public praised the services at QVH, particularly the Physiotherapy self-referral service and minor injuries unit.

A member of the public asked whether there is any scope for expanding the services available for self-referral at QVH

Concerns were raised regarding the wider GP services and availability of face-to-face appointments.

A member of the public asked whether it would be possible to install a canopy over the pay machines in the car park.

These comments will be fed back to the QVH Governors for consideration.

6) Parishioners' Q&A session- An opportunity for general Q&A with the Parish Council

A member of the public volunteered to run the Parish Tidy Day on the 25th March 2023. The Council were very grateful for this offer.

A member of the public asked what is the Parish Council's stand on the Brickworks development proposal

The Chairman explained that the Council are very much on top of things but until an application has been submitted, they are unable to comment. It was noted that a transport consultant has been employed to support the Council in their response. This has had a large impact on the precept, but the Council agreed that this is justified expenditure.

The Chairman thanked members of the public for attending.

The meeting closed at : 21.24