9 October 2026 WAR Committee Meeting

Present: Sarah Andrews, Julie Bartlett, Linda Bass, Julie Gurr, Richard Plumb and Jane Taylor

Apologies: Ian Menzies

Minutes from the previous meeting (Sept 4) were approved.

Treasurers report: Ian Menzies is finalising the accounts. £15 was paid for hiring the New Hall for the AGM November 7th; another £15 was paid to hire the Hall on behalf of the Neighbourhood Watch meeting. Jane met Adam Hart who invited the new Community Police Officer to the neighbourhood watch meeting.

Richard Plumb tried to discuss the Speed Watch group, but Jane interrupted, stating that it was outside the WRA's remit. Julie then asked whether anyone had heard about the pub's sale, and Jane replied that the group was not involved.

AGM arrangements: The AGM will take place on November 7th from 11-1PM. Jane confirmed that Rob will help with the IT in advance of the meeting, and Brian Leonard will assist in the background. She asked that Committee members arrive by 10:30. Jenna, the clerk for Icklesham Parish Council, will be the main speaker. Jenna currently writes the news related to IPC for the monthly Parish magazine. She will explain her role with IPC. Linda couldn't confirm her attendance for the moment as she has a personal commitment. Julie B will sit at the door and ask for names as people arrive. Julie B agreed to ask Ian Rowland to briefly update the WRA on the progress with the Shop.

Committee Roles: Linda agreed to be the Treasurer once Ian's tenure finishes after the AGM. Julie B. agreed to take on the membership with help from Linda. PR: Sarah will develop the text for posters, the Parish magazine, and liaison with the town's WhatsApp group, and Richard will design the posters and put them up around the town. He will try to drop off information to any new residents. The Role of Secretary and Chair remains unfilled. Julie G and Jane have not yet committed to a role. Julie G suggested her partner Steve could fill a role, otherwise no other suggestions.

It was noted that Daniel Bradley, our Rother District Councillor has changed political parties, from Reform to Independent. He will be invited to attend the AGM. It was also noted that elections for IPC councillors take place next Spring and that it was unclear if either current Councillor would run again.

NL/NRT: Jane wrote to the IPC objecting to the notion of a Parish wide vote on NL/NRT. There has been no response to date, however Jenna mentioned that she was having IT issues so as of October 9th the note had not been distributed. We agreed that in the event IPC is adamant about a Parish wide vote, we would respond that there was no point in a vote nor in continuing to advocate for NL/NRT.

Julie B's traffic note: Jane took issue with many of the facts and findings in the report. Julie responded that the situation in the town had changed since the vote and many people no longer support NL/NRT, and believe that the Shop, which soon will be owned by the town, will suffer. Jane who doesn't use the Shop, is looking for facts to explain to people why this is not the case; Julie countered that facts and beliefs are not the same thing.

Communication: This was discussed related to the comms role. Not sure if it was resolved between Jane who is currently handling things, and Sarah/Richard.

Brian Leonard's Governance Review Paper: Saved for next time; however, the idea of breaking away from IPC to form Winchelsea Parish council was discussed. Jane mentioned that it was tried in the past but Rother DC said no. Richard added that if it were to be approved, the new Winchelsea council would take over many of the issues currently handled and discussed by the WRA. WRA's role would change.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for November 20th.