RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES: of the Monthly Meeting held on 24 November 2025

PRESENT: Councillors J Bennett (Chairman), Mrs C Broomfield, M Broomfield, J Ceiriog-Hughes,

Mrs A Cooper, A Cooper, Mrs P Gregory, R Grevett, G Lee, Mrs S Partridge,

Ms M Revell, D Rogers, Mrs C Stevens and P Warren

In attendance: Mrs C Ward (Clerk of the Council) and Ms R Costan (Deputy Clerk of the Council)

283/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Allen (Personal) and Ms Lloyd (Work Commitment). These apologies were accepted by the Council.

284/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest by Members.

285/25 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 October 2025 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

286/25 SUSSEX POLICE

An apology for absence had been received from PCSO Raju.

(a) Matters Arising

The Clerk referred to Minute 256/25(a) and said that she had nothing of any significance to report other than to advise that Sergeant Alex Johnston would be joining the Neighbourhood Policing Team on 20 November 2025 and would have geographical responsibility for Rustington.

She did, however, refer to a Sussex Alert, which had been previously circulated, relating to a Hotspot Policing ASB Survey that was currently being undertaken by Sussex Police.

Following a brief discussion, the Council NOTED this information and AGREED that Members should complete the Survey on an individual basis if they so wished.

Councillor Bennett then reported that he would be accompanying the Police on patrol 'across the patch' on 4 December 2025. He said that he would be happy to raise any issues or concerns Members might have.

The Council NOTED this information.

Councillor Lee then reported that the crime rate in Rustington was 30% lower than other parts of the South East, and 39% lower than the National average. He said that the published September crime figures numbered 55 of which 5 were robberies (all at the same place, time and day).

He also advised that the figures so far in the current month numbered 56, of which 34 were anti-social behaviour crimes.

The Council NOTED this information.

(b) <u>Arun All Parishes Meeting - 18 November 2025</u>

The Clerk advised that she had attended the above Meeting, hosted by Inspector Ross Wickings.

She said that Inspector Wickings had provided information on the Police Operation Locally as follows:-

- Two new Sergeants now in post in Bognor and Littlehampton
- Mobile Engagement Pod Should be arriving around end January/beginning February Template Form to complete and submit Will then be assessed to see if the Police could accommodate each request 3 month trial to start with Police Officers will be present
- E-Bikes and E-Scooters Planning some days of action for seizures and taking them away -Would be contacting Comms to get something out to try to put people off buying them for Christmas.

Inspector Ross then responded to questions raised:-

- E-Scooters Are there any regulations Anyone can sell them at the moment
- Police Perspective on Unitary Authority
- Policing Team Review.

Updates from Parish and Town Councils:-

- Bersted No problems at the moment
- Aldwick Nothing much to raise at the moment Recent incidents at One-Stop Store Disappointed at lack of support from Police Issues raised through MP
- Bognor Regis
 - Nothing major to raise, other than to say that there has been a spike in the level of aggressive behaviour being experienced in Town Centre
 - Thanks to Ross Spike of Graffiti in Hotham Park and on the Promenade but non-offensive Some current problems with a few moped riders with balaclavas covering their faces speeding and erratic On promenade and esplanade
 - Recent Ram Raid at Arcade
 - Large number of cars being seen in the hours of darkness without lights most concerning Concerns regarding South Coast Life Calling themselves auditors/reporters and approaching members of the public and asking them questions, filming people, including the Police RW Police aware of a couple of issues involving South Coast Life
- Littlehampton
 - Reports received regarding people being aggressive and abusive to people at bus stops in Anchor Springs, in particular Bus Stops now moved no further reports Problems with people riding bikes at speed through Arcade
- Thank you to Sergeant Georgia Hudson for doing such a brilliant job for Littlehampton
- Middleton Nothing to raise
- Angmering Nothing to raise Happy to see increase in PCSO's presence in the Village
- Yapton Who is responsible for wildlife being trapped on building sites under development Police or another body?

The Council NOTED this information.

(c) Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner Town and Parish Feedback Sessions Autumn 2025

Councillor Bennett reported on his attendance at the online Feedback Session held on 10 October 2025.

He said that he had nothing of any significance to report in respect of the Feedback Session.

The Council NOTED this information.

287/25 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Ms Edwards and Gunner.

Councillor Mrs Cooper, in her capacity as a District Councillor, reported on District Council matters as follows:-

- Full Council Meeting 19 November Following Cross Party Motion carried unanimously to review and prioritise enforcement for breaches of offences against Council policy including littering, fly tipping as this has not been happening since April 2024. The Council recognised the importance of effective, proportionate enforcement to uphold local standards and protect the wellbeing of Arun's residents. The Chief executive will write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to request that the Government to lobby for more local flexibility on charges and current regulations and enforcement. Other recommendations went to the Environment Committee
- Environment Committee Endorsed the Full Council recommendations and furthermore made the decision to increase fly tipping Fixed Penalty Notice cost to £600.00 to assist in finding a contractor for enforcement which was sustainable
- Environment Committee Decision made to add Bathing Water Quality to Works Programme
- Housing and Well-Being Committee First Meeting of Housing Improvement Board has taken place Limited membership of six Reports will be fed back to Committee but weekly updates are being held with the Leader of the Council.

Councillor Rogers asked what the latest information was on how enforcement was working in respect of planning issues, which was responded to by the Chairman. He said that there was a very small team at the District Council working on enforcement cases, which was why the service was felt to be unsatisfactory by many people.

The Council NOTED the above information and the Chairman thanked Councillor Mrs Cooper for her Report.

288/25 <u>COUNTY COUNCILLORS</u>

Councillor Mrs Cooper, in her capacity as a County Councillor, reported on County Council matters as follows:-

- Local Government Reorganisation Government Consultation on Devolution currently underway with closing date of 11 January 2026 Hoping that the general public will be encouraged to participate
- Work continuing to bring the benefits of devolution to Sussex with appointment of Mark Rogers as the Interim Chief Officer of the Sussex and Brighton devolution programme
- Four Children's Homes commended by Ofsted for the quality of care they are providing for children and young people Outstanding High Trees and Breakwater and Good Blue Cove and Bright Side
- Annual Summer Reading Challenge in Libraries 'Reading for Pleasure' Over 10,000 children participated
- Skills Bootcamps being launched New initiative delivering a range of flexible courses to help people gain the in-demand skills required by local employers

- Connect to Work To provide mentoring, coaching and training for job seekers facing barriers in finding work
- Updated Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2025-2030) now published
- West Sussex Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025-2028 now published
- County Council supporting roll-out of the Autumn/Winter NHS Flue and Covid-19 Seasonal Vaccination Programme
- Sepsis Awareness Month supported by County Council during September Focus on early recognition and the escalation process in the event of deterioration, to help save lives
- NHS Service Review ongoing Lots of Changes anticipated.

Councillor Lee referred to the missing railings along Broadmark Parade, which had been damaged earlier in the year. Councillor Mrs Cooper said that she would contact the appropriate Department at the County Council to establish when the repair works were likely to be carried out.

The Council NOTED the above information and the Chairman thanked Councillor Mrs Cooper for her Report.

289/25 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk said that she had nothing to report at the present time.

290/25 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported on his official representation and attendance at Meetings, Events and Functions since the last Monthly Meeting as follows:-

• Remembrance Sunday - Wreath Laying at the War Memorial - 9 November 2025

He also reported that he had attended the War Memorial on Armistice Day, 11 November 2025, along with other Members and Members of the Public, for an informal Service, incorporating a two-minute silence at 11.00 am, led by The Reverend Natalie Bawcutt.

The Council NOTED this information.

291/25 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Council received the Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 24 November 2025. (Verbal Report from the Chairman of the Committee).

The Council RESOLVED that the Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 24 November 2025 be APPROVED.

292/25 <u>DECEMBER RECESS</u>

The Council AUTHORISED the Finance and General Purposes Committee to deal with any urgent matters that might arise, in addition to the payment of accounts, during the December recess.

293/25 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - PARADE AND SERVICE

Councillor Bennett, who was the organiser of the Remembrance Sunday Parade Group, reported that the Parade and Service had, once again, been an outstanding success, with the attendance exceeding that of

previous years. He said there had been an unprecedented number of medical incidents, namely seven, where both adults and children had been treated for being unwell, by the medical support operatives employed by MS Services (Security, etc.,) together with personnel from SECAMB and the local Community First Responders, who were in attendance to participate in the Parade and Service.

The Council was pleased to NOTE this information and conveyed its thanks and appreciation to the Clerk, Administrative Officer, Deputy Clerk and Leisure and Amenities Officer, for their hard work and efforts in respect of the Event overall, and in particular the Event Management Plan, administration of the road closures, and the health and safety of the public in attendance.

294/25 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH MEETING - 9 APRIL 2026

The Clerk reminded Members that the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting was scheduled to be held on 9 April 2026.

She said that, at the present time, a Guest Speaker had yet to be invited to attend the Meeting.

Following a brief discussion, it was AGREED that this matter should be DEFERRED until the next Monthly Meeting of the Council, when Members could submit any other suggestions that they might have for consideration.

295/25 THE WOODLANDS CENTRE - MAJOR REDESIGN AND REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

The Clerk referred to Minute 269/25 and said that she had previously circulated the following Report of the Project Planning Start Up Meeting held on 24 October 2025, together with other associated issues:-

The Deputy Clerk, Finance Manager/RFO and myself met with the Project Manager, Scott Taylor Limited, on 24 October 2025, with the following draft Agenda set:-

- 1. Approved Cost Plan Review
- 2. Design Team Fees Review
- 3. Planning Applications Review
- 4. Design Development Workshops and Key Milestones' Planning

During the Meeting, a number of actions were agreed and subsequently confirmed in an email from the Project Manager as follows:-

'Following our meeting last week I just wanted to follow up with a few actions discussed:-

Design Team Fees

I am in the process of firming up the remaining provisional fees (Principal Designer, Building control etc) and will forward a summary schedule along with the chosen fee proposals in due course.

Did Caroline speak to your Internal Auditor to gain some advice?

Design Development Workshops

We discussed assembling a small team of Councillors to attend design development workshops to go through all aspects of the project these could be split into 5 workshops as follows (not necessarily in this order):-

- Heating, Cooling, Drainage,
- Lighting, Electrical, Services
- Internal finishes

- Kitchens and Bathrooms
- External finishes, key build-ups, signage design, external works

We discussed having 2 prior to Christmas and 3 after Christmas the first one could be held any time from the 20th November and then the second in early December.

Let us know and we can book in some dates that work for the team.

Fire escape requirements in the main hall

We discussed that there is likely currently an oversupply of fire escapes in the main hall and that you were currently undergoing a review of this. If you could confirm this with the consultant you are using that would be much appreciated. Alternatively, we would be happy to speak with them directly if needed.

Sequencing of the works

We had a good discussion on how the works need to be sequenced to keep certain areas of the buildings running to maintain some use and provide additional storage. We can write this into the tender and will start to produce a sequencing diagram for discussion with yourselves in order to get this aspect of the works right. There will likely be negotiation with the chosen contractor but good to have an ideal workflow from your perspective as a starting point.

I'll be in touch with the final fees in due course and please let me know on the points raised above.'

The Project Manager has obtained the majority of the fee proposal estimates for the Design Team and the question of the Architects Services was discussed, as to whether it was necessary to obtain two further estimates from Architects, in addition to Scott Taylor Limited, or whether a similar stance could be taken to that for the appointment of the Project Manager earlier in the year (Minute 200/25(c) refers).

The Finance Manager/RFO has contacted the Council's Internal Auditor, who's advice is as follows:-

- This could be achieved by waiving Financial Regulations 5.11 and 5.12
- In order to ensure that the Project Manager is fully compliant with the Council's Financial Regulations, provide them with a copy of the Procurement Rules and reiterate that the Financial Regulations Procurement must be followed.

The estimate received from Scott Taylor Limited for Architect's Services is £22,551.09 (excluding VAT), which relates to RIBA Stages 4-7, namely to Project completion. Scott Taylor Limited have carried out all of the architectural work for the RIBA stages from the Project's conception in 2021 to date, and are now very familiar with the building, and the Council's requirements. They also have excellent local knowledge.

Taking account of the above information, and in the interests of best value and project continuity, I would request that the Council now consider waiving Financial Regulation 5.11:-

The requirement to obtain competitive prices in these regulations need not apply to contracts that relate to items (i) to (iv) below:-

- (i) specialist services, such as legal professionals acting in disputes;
- (ii) repairs to, or parts for, existing machinery or equipment;
- (iii) works, goods or services that constitute an extension of an existing contract;
- (iv) goods or services that are only available from one supplier or are sold at a fixed price.

When applications are made to waive this financial regulation to enable a price to be negotiated without competition, the reason should be set out in a recommendation to the Council. Avoidance of competition is not a valid reason.

and agree that the Fee Proposal from Scott Taylor Limited for Architects' Services, in the sum of £22,551.09 (excluding VAT), be accepted.

Moving on from the Design Team Fees to the Design Development Workshops, I can confirm that the Chairman of the Council, Vice-Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the Leisure and Amenities, together with the Deputy Clerk, Finance Manager/RFO and myself will be attending the five Workshops.

As far as all of the other matters considered at the Meeting are concerned, these are being dealt with, and going forward regular progress reports will be provided for the Council at Monthly Meetings.

The Council's decision in respect of the Architects' Services is now requested.

Following a detailed discussion, the Council RESOLVED that:-

Taking account of the above information, namely that Scott Taylor Limited have carried out all of the architectural work for the RIBA stages from the Project's conception in 2021 to date, and are now very familiar with the building, and the Council's requirements, and in the interests of best value and Project continuity:-

Financial Regulation 5.11:-

The requirement to obtain competitive prices in these regulations need not apply to contracts that relate to items (i) to (iv) below:-

- (j) specialist services, such as legal professionals acting in disputes;
- (ii) repairs to, or parts for, existing machinery or equipment;
- (iii) works, goods or services that constitute an extension of an existing contract:
- (iv) goods or services that are only available from one supplier or are sold at a fixed price.

and Financial Regulation 5.12:-

When applications are made to waive this financial regulation to enable a price to be negotiated without competition, the reason should be set out in a recommendation to the Council. Avoidance of competition is not a valid reason.

be waived and the Fee Proposal from Scott Taylor Limited for Architects' Services, in the sum of £22,551.09 (excluding VAT), should be ACCEPTED.

The Council also AGREED that the Project Manager's preferred selection of Service Engineers, Structural Engineer and Quantity Surveyor, following consideration of the quotations received, should also be APPROVED.

296/25 PUBLIC CONVENIENCE CLEANSING CONTRACT - 2026-2029

The Clerk referred to Minute 32/23 and said that she had previously circulated a Proposal received from Biffa for a new Cleansing Contract with effect from 1 February 2026.

She reminded the Council that the service to be provided for the four units was comprehensive and provided for a static operative to service the units on a constant walking rotation between 1 May and 30 September and a three times daily inspection and clean from 1 October to 30 April. All units would be opened by 8.00 am each morning. The service for all four units would also be seven days per week.

She said that the proposed annual cost as £41,368.00, which represented an increase of £66.12 per month on what the Council was currently paying. This cost would be subject to indexation on an annual basis. Excluded from this cost would be toilet rolls, which would be charged on a monthly basis, as had been the case since Biffa started providing cleansing services of the Public Conveniences almost five years ago.

She then advised the Council of the previous advice received from the Chief Executive of WSALC in respect of awarding the Contract to Biffa without going out to Tender, prior to the beginning of the previous Contract as follows:-

'Given that Arun District Council has carried out a procurement exercise which complies with its Financial Regulations and provided the Parish Council is satisfied that the District Council's exercise was robust, there seems to be no reason why the Parish Council cannot 'piggyback' on the existing Contract in the interests of value for money.'

She said that a similar stringent fully competitive tender process had recently been carried out by the Arun District Council, following which an eight-year Contract for its Combined Cleansing Services had again been awarded to Biffa with effect from 1 February 2026.

Following a further discussion, and taking account of the fact that the Arun District Council had entered into a new Combined Cleansing Services Contract for a further eight years with effect from 1 February 2026, following robust scrutiny, in compliance with its Financial Regulations, as well as in the interests of best value, the Council RESOLVED that, in this instance, Financial Regulation 5.5 should be waived, and the Proposal for a new Contract received from Biffa in the sum of £41,368.00 per annum, subject to indexation (December CPI), for a three year period from 1 February 2026 to 31 January 2029, be ACCEPTED.

297/25 <u>REVIEW OF YOUTH PROVISION</u>

The Clerk referred to Minute 59/25(c) (Leisure and Amenities Committee Meeting - 20 October 2025 refers) and said that with effect from 3 November 2025, the Littlehampton Army Cadets were hiring the Youth Centre, on a twice weekly evening basis, although initially only one session per week was up and running. She said that a proposal was currently awaited for a Youth Table Tennis Club which it was anticipated would be on a once weekly basis.

She also advised that Councillor Mrs Stevens, in her capacity as a Member of the Review of Youth Provision Working Party, was in the process of representing the Council, along with Councillors from Angmering and East Preston Parish Councils, at a selection of the Primary Schools in the three Villages and The Angmering School, to meet with pupils in Years 5, 6, 7 and 8, and seek their views in respect of what activities they would be interested to participate in out-of-school time.

The Clerk said that it was hoped that, the information gained from the above exercise would enable the three Councils to work in partnership to provide Youth Activities across all three Villages. It was hoped that at least two evening sessions per week could be utilised in the Youth Centre for any such initiatives.

She then reported that the Deputy Clerk and herself were hoping to meet with the Activ8 for Kids Manager, who had recently advised that Activ8 had a team of youth workers and support workers who could put together an offer of services that it could provide.

The Council was pleased to NOTE this information.

298/25 RUSTINGTON IN-BLOOM

Councillor Lee referred to Minute 270/25 and reported as follows:-

Bulb Planting First and second sessions had taken place on 24 and 31 October respectively, at the

'Welcome to Rustington' Signs in Station Road and Worthing Road

Xmas Fayres The Committee had a Table selling bric-a-brac, etc., at the Methodist Church Charity

Fayre (MND) on 15 November and would also be having a Table at The Lamb Inn's Christmas Fayre on 6 December, when plants, Christmas wreaths and decorations,

together with bird boxes would be available for sale

Future Projects Currently progressing the possibility of enhancing smaller retail areas, namely North

Lane and Sea Lane with floral planters/displays

The Council was pleased to NOTE this information.

299/25 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN MUSICAL CONCERT - 13 JUNE 2026

The Clerk referred to Minute 273/25 and advised that she had now confirmed with the Conductor of the Littlehampton Concert Band that a Summer Musical Concert to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Festival of Britain from 2.30 pm to approximately 4.30 pm on Saturday 13 June 2026 in the Village Memorial Hall.

She said that it was anticipated that the Conductor of the Band, Mr Haselip, would be organising the Programme as he had done for previous Commemorative Concerts, and she would be discussing the arrangements in more detail early in 2026.

The Council NOTED this information.

300/25 <u>REDUCED USE OF PAPER FOR MEETINGS</u>

The Clerk referred to Minute 16/25 and said that at the present time, six Members continued to receive paper copies of Agendas, Minutes and associated documentation. She also advised that all Members, with the exception of two, were now in possession of, or had access to, a Council owned laptop.

Following a detailed discussion, the Council RESOLVED that:-

(a) A further review should be undertaken towards the end of 2026, with the continued hope that the maximum number of Members possible would no longer require paper copies of Council documentation.

301/25 MOBILE CINEMA - THE WOODLANDS CENTRE/WOODLANDS RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK

The Clerk reported that she had previously circulated a representation received from the Arun East U3A, detailing their concerns regarding the disruption and inconvenience the siting of the Mobile Cinema in The Woodlands Centre/Recreation Ground Car Park, from 19 November 2025 to 5 December 2025, would have on the Organisation's hirings at The Woodlands Centre and Guide Hall during the aforementioned period. She said that she had also circulated her response in this connection.

The Council NOTED this information.

302/25 RUSTINGTON CHAMBER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

Councillor Mrs Broomfield advised the Council that the Chamber of Trade and Commerce was again organising a Christmas Window Display Competition for the Shops in the Village.

She also reported that the Lemongrass by Nasir Restaurant had been selected as the Thai Restaurant of the Year in the Asian and Curry Awards, and Aubrey Bird Carpets and Flooring had been announced as the National Winner in England's Business Awards, as the Best Carpet or Flooring Business in England.

The Council was pleased to NOTE this information.

303/25 REQUEST FROM PARISHIONER

The Clerk reported that she had previously circulated a representation received from a parishioner regarding the possibility of a framed photograph of the organiser of the Platinum Club being on display in the Community Hall at the Samuel Wickens Centre.

Following a detailed discussion, the Council RESOLVED that whilst it fully acknowledged the extensive work and commitment made by the aforementioned individual for the benefit of the members of the Platinum Club, for which it was most appreciative, it was unable to agree to this request as it could set a precedent, which the Council would be unable to fulfil in the future.

304/25 <u>LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION - PROPOSALS - CONSULTATION</u>

The Clerk reminded Members that she had previously circulated News Releases from West Sussex County Council (Have your say on the future of local Government in West Sussex) and Arun District Council (Arun District Council shares Government's consultation on Local Government Reorganisation), together with an email from the West Sussex Association of Local Councils regarding the Consultation that had just been launched by the Government, with a closing date of 11 January 2026.

She said that the Consultation was seeking views on the Local Government Reorganisation proposals received from Councils in East Sussex and Brighton and Hove, and West Sussex.

She said that for West Sussex, the Consultation was on two proposals from the principal Councils in West Sussex:-

- 1. A proposal from West Sussex County Council for one Unitary Council
- 2. A proposal from Arun District Council, Adur District Council, Chichester District Council, Crawley Borough Council, Horsham District Council, Mid-Sussex District Council and Worthing Borough Council for two Unitary Councils.

Following a detailed discussion, the Council RESOLVED that Members should respond to the Consultation on an individual basis, and the Clerk and Deputy Clerk should be tasked with responding on behalf of the Council.

305/25 <u>DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS CIRCULATED</u>

The Council NOTED the following Documents and Publications previously circulated for Members' information:-

- (a) Aldingbourne Trust Make a meaningful impact this Season
- (b) Arun & Chichester CAB ACCA News
- (c) Arun District Council Arun News Release 27 October 2025, 31 October 2025, 3 November 2025 and 20 November 2025
- (d) Arun District Council Arun District Council Waste Collections
- (e) CAGNE Legal Challenge Filed Against Gatwick Airport
- (f) CAGNE Time is Ticking online talks
- (g) East Preston Parish Council News 29 October 2025, 6 November 2025, 13 November 2025 and 20 November 2025
- (h) National Association of Local Councils Chief Executive's Bulletin 30 October 2025 x2 and 6 November 2025

- (i) National Health Executive From 10 mins to 10 seconds: The patient check-on transformation
- (j) National Health Executive Discover how Location Intelligence is transforming NHS planning & preventative care
- (k) ONH Another new NPPF: Are you ready for more planning changes in 2026
- (1) Rampion 2 Project Newsletter September 2025
- (m) Stonepillow AGM: An evening with Stonepillow
- (n) Turning Tides Impact Report 2025
- (o) Turning Tides Urgent Christmas Appeal
- (p) West Sussex County Council News Release 28 October 2025, 31 October 2025,
 11 November 2025 x2, 12 November 2025, 13 November 2025 x3, 18 November 2025 and
 19 November 2025 x2
- (q) West Sussex County Council Support the Aerosol Recycling Campaign
- (r) West Sussex County Council West Sussex Fire & Rescue News Release 18 November 2025
- (s) Worthing Samaritans Annual Review 2025

There being no further business the Meeting concluded at 8:05 pm.

Chairman:	Date:

There were no questions received either preceding, or at, the Meeting for consideration during the Public Question Time, held prior to the commencement of the formal proceedings.