

LANCING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ACE Committee Meeting held at the Council Chamber on Wednesday 13th May 2026

Councillors present: Carol Albury, Douglas Bradley, Ann Bridges, David Devoy (Committee Chair), Mike Mendoza, Joe Pannell and Vanessa Evans (non-committee Member).

Ex-Officio: Cllr Cowen (Vice-Chair)

Officers: Steven Trice (CEO/Clerk)

Members of the Public: Two representatives from the local Kitesurfing Community and two representatives from the World of Widewater.

The Chair welcomed all present and read the safety announcement.

A100. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Penny.

A101. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest on any of the agenda items for this meeting.

A102. Public forum and questions

The Chair welcomed representatives from the local kitesurfing community and World of Widewater. It was agreed that the public forum would be divided between the two organisations. A summary of the representations made, together with the Committee's considerations and resolutions, is recorded under the relevant minute items below.

A103. Minutes of the ACE Committee Meeting held on [1st April 2026](#)

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st April 2026 were reviewed.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the ACE committee meeting held on the 1st April 2026 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

A104. [Lancing and Surround Kitesurfing Community](#)

The Chair requested an update on current activity, future aspirations and barriers facing the kitesurfing community. The following points were noted:

- Membership remains free, with a small fee charged only to cover insurance costs. Membership has declined from around 1,000 to 400 in recent years despite increased marketing and improved signage. Growth has plateaued, partly due to the rise in wing foiling and concerns regarding parking charges and signage. Opportunities to improve parking information and explore concessions were suggested.
- Demonstration days, competitions and community events were recognised as valuable for promoting participation but had not taken place this year due to the resources required to organise them.
- Lancing remains a popular destination for kitesurfing, and consideration should be given to how facilities and infrastructure that can better support participants, visitors and future events.

Members acknowledged the benefits kitesurfing brings to the village and agreed that the Council could assist through promotion, marketing and support for future events, particularly on Beach Green. Any future facility improvements would need to be balanced against the sensitivity of the site and existing infrastructure.

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Whilst Members considered parking charges to be comparatively low in relation to other local car parks, it was agreed that parking signage should be reviewed. The representatives were also reminded that designated parking spaces were not possible due to the Council's parking management arrangements.

Members further agreed that a survey of current and former kitesurfing members would be beneficial in identifying potential improvements and reasons for declining participation.

The Chair thanked the representatives for their attendance and confirmed that the Council would seek to support the kitesurfing community where possible.

Members **RESOLVED** to **take the actions contained in the body of the minute above forward and look to collaborate with the Kitesurfing Community in the future.**

Item A109 Widewater - This matter was brought up the agenda to allow the representatives to avoid staying for the whole meeting by agreement of the Chair.

A105. [Widewater](#)

The Chair of the Committee welcomed the Chair of World of Widewater and a committee member, who attended to provide background information on the build-up of silt and sand within the lagoon. It was noted that, despite successful partnership work last year to clear the channel leading to the water flow pipe, much of the excavated silt had migrated back into the lagoon. Members also noted the significant accumulation of sand, which had extended the land boundary into the lagoon beyond its natural edge.

Concern was expressed that, without intervention, sand and silt would continue to accumulate around the newly installed pipe, reducing its effectiveness. Members agreed that a long-term solution, supported by ongoing maintenance, was required. It was suggested that the Environment Agency (EA) be approached for advice on both immediate remedial works and a longer-term solution. Whilst the works themselves were considered straightforward, challenges relating to site access and the removal and disposal of materials were noted. Members agreed that a site meeting be arranged involving the CEO/Clerk, Councillor Pannell who offered to bring a local contractor, and that the CEO/Clerk seek advice from the EA. Members then considered the deemed illegal placement of jetties. Given the complexities of land ownership and the fact that Adur District Council had granted permissions despite previous Parish Council objections, Members agreed that there was little benefit in investigating historic installations. Instead, the Council would continue to object through the planning process where appropriate and monitor both existing and proposed jetties.

Members **RESOLVED** to:

- a) Authorise the CEO/Clerk to investigate the permanent removal of silt and sand from Widewater Lagoon.**
- b) Not progress any enforcement action regarding the placement of jetties along Widewater Lagoon.**

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A106. [Operations Report](#)

The Chair, on the assumption that Members had read the report, asked the CEO/Clerk to highlight any issues. The CEO/Clerk raised two matters:

- Wicksteed had gone back on its quotation regarding the replacement of play equipment on Beach Green, and the CEO/Clerk was awaiting a response to a formal complaint.
- The CEO/Clerk and the Operations Manager had undertaken a review of the planters on Beach Green, as there appeared to be historic management arrangements and sponsorship agreements in place, which needed to be reviewed. A review had also been undertaken to tidy up the boundaries with local businesses.

Cllr Cowan raised the issue of watering the planters on Crabtree Lane. The CEO/Clerk responded that he would arrange for the Grounds Staff to attend.

Members **RESOLVED to note the Operation Managers report.**

A107. [Community and Events Report](#)

Members noted the report. Regarding the advertised Events Officer post, Cllr Albury asked whether the role would include responsibility for generating additional income. The CEO/Clerk confirmed that this was indeed one of the objectives of the role. The CEO/Clerk also referred to the success of several community projects, including the fruit tree planting initiative, for which the Events and Community Manager had received training in their upkeep, and highlighted the continued success of the Lunch Club.

The Chair asked Members to note the request for Councillor volunteers to assist with the Green Dreams event, which was due to be held on 14 June 2025.

Members **RESOLVED to note the Operation Managers report.**

A108. [East Lancing Recreation Ground Proposal](#)

Regarding the proposed event at East Lancing Recreation Ground, Members welcomed the request by West Beach Residents Association's to use the site for a Summer Fair on Sunday 19 July. Members asked the CEO/Clerk what mitigation measures would be put in place to protect the recently planted trees and the wildflower planting area. The CEO/Clerk confirmed that both areas would be cordoned off and excluded from public use during the event.

Members **RESOLVED to grant permission to West Beach Resident's Association to use East Lancing Recreation Ground for their Summer Fair on the 19th July 2026.**

A109. [Lancing Football Club](#)

Members considered the proposed tenancy agreement for the use of Monks Recreation Ground and expressed support for issuing a 25-year tenancy agreement, subject to appropriate break clauses being included. It was agreed appropriate safeguards would need to be included to protect both the Council's future aspirations for the site and the operational needs of Lancing FC. It also was agreed that the licence should also include a clause relating to the potential future use of part of the site for padel courts. The CEO/Clerk advised that the proposed padel courts could be accommodated and if needs be the basketball area could be relocated and potentially positioned on land adjacent to

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Culver Road. It was asked by Cllr Mendoza if thought has been given to the proposed pathway down to Crabtree Lane from the WBCC Youth Hub. The CEO/Clerk stated that the path already had approval from the Council and the football club welcomed such. Members further noted the aspirations for the future use of the WBCC building and the potential for the opening of the Culver Road corner area in near proximity, which included the potential provision of improved community facilities and a food concession. Regarding the proposed pitch improvements by Lancing FC and the requirement for landlord's consent were discussed. Members supported the proposed improvements, which were subject to a funding application, and gave landlords permission, which was a requirement of the Sussex FA. It was also felt to support the pitch works that the Council offer five years of no rent increases up from the tree years requested. With this,

Members **RESOLVED** to **issue a new tenancy agreement to Lancing Football Club for 25 years on Monks Recreation Ground at £4,762 per annum for the first five years and then rising in line with inflation annually, which included the following heads of terms.**

- a) **A break clause allowing either party to terminate the agreement with 12 months' (one full season's) written notice.**
- b) **The Council reserving the right to terminate the agreement if the tenant fails to make the annual payment by 1 August each year.**
- c) **The Council may also terminate the agreement in the event of a breach of the terms.**

In addition

- a) **To allow the continued use of the Parish Council depot compound for the storage of equipment for the duration of the tenancy agreement.**
- b) **To grant landlord's consent to Lancing Football Club to undertake improvements to the football facilities funded through a grant from the Sussex County Football Association.**
- c) **To note the implications of, and require appropriate safeguards in relation to, any future facilities proposed on the site.**

A110. Items for information and/or inclusion on future agendas - None

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.16pm.

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