



# NEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

**To: All Members of the Parish Council**

You are summoned to attend a Meeting of Newick Parish Council at Newick Community Centre, The Green, Newick on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7.00 p.m.**

Emma Reece  
Clerk to Parish Council  
4<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Members of the public are invited to attend and there is a 15-minute opportunity for them to ask questions or make statements with priority being given to items that are on the agenda (maximum 3 minutes for each person).

Please note that an audio recording will be made of this meeting

## **Agenda**

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Disclosure by Members of personal interest in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct**
3. **Exclusion of the Press & Public - To agree any items to be dealt with after the press and public have been excluded (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 S1 (2))**
4. **To consider co-option of up to two applicants to fill Parish Councillor Vacancies**
5. **Questions or Statements by members of the public**
6. **Report from Lewes District Councillor Charlotte Keenan**
7. **Report from County Councillor Matthew Milligan**
8. **Report from Member of Parliament Mims Davies**
9. **Approval of draft minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**10. Planning:**

**10.1 Applications (if documents available):**

LW/26/0037	24 Western Road Erection of single-storey rear extension, replacement of existing conservatory including new windows/doors and flat roof, alterations to fenestration to the main house
LW/26/0082	25 Western Road Demolition of detached garage and erection of a single-storey outbuilding to form an Artist Studio

**10.2 Approvals/Refusals**

**10.3 Tree Works Applications**

**10.4 To discuss Wealden District Council Local Plan consultation**

**10.5 Planning update training – Cllrs. Armitage and Wickens**

**10.6 To consider response to NPPF consultation – Cllr. Armitage**

**11. Clerk's Report – To note report from Clerk**

**12. Report by Clerk on any action taken under Delegated Powers in consultation with Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman**

**13. Financial Matters:**

**13.1 To authorise Schedule of Payments for March 2026**

**13.2 To receive statement of performance against budget as at end of February 2026**

**13.3 To consider grant applications received (S. 137 LGA 1972)**

**13.4 To consider any quotations received including Mulberry & Co for 2026/27 audit services**

**14. Newick Sports Pavilion**

**15. Newick Common – Cllr. Armitage**

**16. To confirm arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**17. To consider request from Newick Horticultural Society to use The Green for the Annual Show on Saturday September 5<sup>th</sup> 2026 and to erect banners beforehand**

**18. Newick Allotment Society – Cllr. Hughes**

**19. To agree content for April Parish Council newsletter (deadline 15<sup>th</sup> March)**

**20. Report from Cllr. B Whitlock on Village Hall Management Committee**

**21. Items for next agenda**

## Detailed Income &amp; Expenditure by Budget Heading 28/02/2026

## Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
<b>100 Income</b>							
1076 Precept	75,100	75,100	0			100.0%	18
1080 Bank Interest Received	1,346	3,000	1,654			44.9%	
1110 ESCC Mowing - Income	1,202	1,202	(0)			100.0%	
1120 Rents Received	400	1,150	750			34.8%	
1122 Wayleave	164	164	0			99.9%	
1130 Allotments Income	600	600	0			100.0%	
1150 Community Infrastructure Levy	143,947	40,800	(103,147)			352.8%	143,947
1200 Donations Received	43,100	0	(43,100)			0.0%	36,100
1350 Match Funding	200,000	200,000	0			100.0%	
1450 Other/Miscellaneous Income	150,000	150,000	0			100.0%	150,000
Income :- Income	<b>615,859</b>	<b>472,016</b>	<b>(143,843)</b>			<b>130.5%</b>	<b>330,065</b>
4410 Sports Pavilion Expenditure	545	0	(545)		(545)	0.0%	545
Income :- Indirect Expenditure	<b>545</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(545)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(545)</b>		<b>545</b>
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>615,314</b>	<b>472,016</b>	<b>(143,298)</b>				
6000 plus Transfer from EMR	545						
6001 less Transfer to EMR	330,065						
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	<b>285,794</b>						
<b>200 Staff Costs</b>							
4000 Clerk's Salary	30,603	33,845	3,242		3,242	90.4%	
4040 National Insurance-PC Contrib.	3,885	4,205	320		320	92.4%	
4050 Pension Contributions	6,127	6,640	513		513	92.3%	
Staff Costs :- Indirect Expenditure	<b>40,615</b>	<b>44,690</b>	<b>4,075</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,075</b>	<b>90.9%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>(40,615)</b>	<b>(44,690)</b>	<b>(4,075)</b>				
<b>210 Operating Costs</b>							
4110 Administration	1,994	2,000	6		6	99.7%	
4120 Parish Office	1,200	1,200	0		0	100.0%	
4125 Telephone	461	451	(10)		(10)	102.3%	
4130 Website	693	612	(81)		(81)	113.2%	
4140 Audit Internal and External	997	715	(282)		(282)	139.5%	
4150 Insurance	1,903	1,939	36		36	98.2%	
4160 Subscriptions	1,189	1,370	181		181	86.8%	
4170 Training	55	750	695		695	7.3%	
4200 Hall Hire	206	200	(6)		(6)	103.0%	
4600 Grants Paid	1,020	1,500	480		480	68.0%	
Operating Costs :- Indirect Expenditure	<b>9,719</b>	<b>10,737</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>90.5%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>(9,719)</b>	<b>(10,737)</b>	<b>(1,018)</b>				

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	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
<b><u>220 Maintenance/Running Costs</u></b>							
4210 Village Handy Person	4,942	5,824	882		882	84.9%	
4310 General Maintenance	1,942	4,000	2,058		2,058	48.6%	756
4320 Play Equipment Maintenance	165	3,500	3,335		3,335	4.7%	
4330 Playing Field Maintenance	684	1,500	816		816	45.6%	
4340 Mowing - Playing Fields	1,471	1,066	(405)		(405)	138.0%	
4350 Mowing - Village	1,680	2,966	1,286		1,286	56.6%	
4360 Tree Surgery-Inspections	3,748	4,000	252		252	93.7%	
4380 Water	454	1,200	746		746	37.9%	
4390 Car Park Lease	990	990	0		0	100.0%	
4400 CCTV Repair/Maintenance	0	250	250		250	0.0%	
4410 Sports Pavilion Expenditure	0	550,000	550,000		550,000	0.0%	
Maintenance/Running Costs :- Indirect Expenditure	<b>16,077</b>	<b>575,296</b>	<b>559,219</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>559,219</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>756</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>(16,077)</b>	<b>(575,296)</b>	<b>(559,219)</b>				
6000 plus Transfer from EMR	756						
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	<b>(15,321)</b>						
<b><u>230 Agency Work</u></b>							
4450 Mowing ESCC Highway Verges	1,320	3,216	1,896		1,896	41.0%	
Agency Work :- Indirect Expenditure	<b>1,320</b>	<b>3,216</b>	<b>1,896</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,896</b>	<b>41.0%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>(1,320)</b>	<b>(3,216)</b>	<b>(1,896)</b>				
<b><u>250 Events</u></b>							
4510 Bonfire Celebrations	353	340	(13)		(13)	103.7%	
Events :- Indirect Expenditure	<b>353</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>(13)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(13)</b>	<b>103.7%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>(353)</b>	<b>(340)</b>	<b>13</b>				
<b><u>260 Projects</u></b>							
4410 Sports Pavilion Expenditure	542,483	0	(542,483)		(542,483)	0.0%	477,441
4550 Environment Committee	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%	
4560 Allotments - Costs	500	500	0		0	100.0%	
Projects :- Indirect Expenditure	<b>542,983</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>(541,483)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(541,483)</b>	<b>36198.9</b>	<b>477,441</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>(542,983)</b>	<b>(1,500)</b>	<b>541,483</b>				
6000 plus Transfer from EMR	477,441						
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	<b>(65,542)</b>						

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## Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
Grand Totals:- Income	615,859	472,016	(143,843)			130.5%	
Expenditure	611,611	635,779	24,168	0	24,168	96.2%	
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<u>4,248</u>	<u>(163,763)</u>	<u>(168,011)</u>				
plus Transfer from EMR	478,741						
less Transfer to EMR	330,065						
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	<u>152,924</u>						



## Internal Audit Services for Town and Parish Councils

### Overview of Services

As part of our comprehensive support for town and parish councils, **Mulberry Local Authority Services (LAS) Ltd** provides a professional **internal audit service**. This is delivered in full compliance with the **Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel (SAPPP) Practitioner's Guide**, reflecting current guidelines and accounting standards.

### Audit Schedule

We generally carry out **two audits per year** as standard:

- **Interim Audit:** Focuses on **governance and accountability**, including procedural aspects such as Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, risk assessments, internal control systems, and policies.
- **Final Audit:** Concentrates on **financial matters**, including verification of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) and all supporting documentation for submission to external auditors.

This two-stage approach allows councils to **identify and address weaknesses** before the final internal audit report is completed.

### Flexible and Responsive Service

We understand that each council has unique needs, so we're happy to offer **customised audit visit schedules** and respond to queries throughout the year. Our flexible service ensures your council receives the support it requires when it's needed most.

### Sector Expertise and Independence

Mulberry LAS are founder members of the **Internal Audit Forum**, who work in partnership with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) to promote continuous internal audit improvement in the local council sector.

One of our directors, Mark Mulberry, is the internal audit representative on the SAPPP, which is responsible for issuing proper practices about governance and accounts of smaller authorities.

Mulberry LAS, previously operating as part of **Mulberry & Co**, has over **20 years of experience** in conducting internal audits for local councils. Our auditors have deep sector knowledge and can rotate between clients to ensure **full independence** throughout your engagement.

In the 2025/26 financial year, we are supporting over **350 councils** with their internal audit requirements, including:

- Small councils exempt from limited assurance reviews
- Larger town and parish councils managing **multi-million-pound budgets** and **complex financial systems**

Audits are conducted **either on-site or remotely**, based on your council's preferences and circumstances.

We publish on our website an **annual internal audit guide**, which enables our councils to prepare for their audits by providing details of the information we review at each visit and reminding them of the publication requirements on the council's website.

### **Fees and Charges**

Our pricing for internal audits for the financial year commencing **1 April 2026** is as follows:

- Precept below £1 million - **£80 per hour + VAT**
- Precept £1 million and above - **£85 per hour + VAT**
- **Travel costs** (for on-site visits) are billed at the standard **HMRC rate of 45p per mile**
- No charges for travel time

Audit duration depends on your council's financial complexity. Once appointed, your assigned auditor will be happy to discuss a **personalised estimate** and timeline.

### **Engagement Options**

We offer **one-year** and **three-year** engagement periods. If you commit to a **three-year term**, we guarantee that your hourly rate will remain **fixed for the full duration** of the agreement.

### **Added Benefits**

As a client of Mulberry LAS, you will gain access to **discounted rates** on our **training programme for officers and councillors**. Details of upcoming courses can be found at:

[www.mulberrylas.co.uk/training-programme](http://www.mulberrylas.co.uk/training-programme)

### **Contact Us**

If you have any questions or require further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to supporting your council's internal audit needs.

# QUOTE

Bob Braithwaite  
33 Leveller Road  
Newick  
Lewes  
Sussex  
BN8 4PL  
GBR

**Date**  
26 Feb 2026

**Expiry**  
25 Aug 2026

**Quote Number**  
QU-461

**Reference**  
Tree work.

**VAT Number**  
307 7014 27

Birchwood Tree and  
Estate Management Ltd  
Contact  
Tele: 07751 714854  
Email:  
josh@birchwoodtreemana  
gement.co.uk  
Website:  
www.birchwoodltd.co.uk

Description	VAT	Amount GBP
Carry out the following work as recommended by Matt Scott's Visual Tree Report.		0.00
All timber suitable for logs to remain onsite and stacked.		
All Woodchip to remain onsite. I am running a few minutes late; my previous meeting is running over.		
As requested I have broken up the quote per tree.		
Below are the trees that need to be carried out in 1 year.		
T1 - Chamaecyparis sp. - Conifer	20%	200.00
Within 3 Months May 2026		
Work discription - Fell		
Stump to be cut as low as possible.		
T2 - Betula pendula – Silver birch		0.00
Within 1 Year		
Ivy severance to ensure enhanced inspections of specimen longer term.		
T3 - Betula pendula – Silver birch	20%	85.00
Within 1 year		
Remove snapped crown/leader in top of canopy.		
T6 - Aesculus hippocastanum – Horse Chestnut	20%	55.00

Description	VAT	Amount GBP
Within 1 year		
Hazard beam split within branch as pictured, remove branch		
Tree 7 - Aesculus hippocastanum – Horse Chestnut	20%	125.00
Within 1 year		
Hazard beam split within branch as pictured, remove branch		
T8 - Fagus sylvatica - Beech	20%	45.00
Within 1 year		
Remove broken branch over informal car park area		
Below are the tree that need to be carried out in 2 years.		0.00
T4 - Betula pendula – Silver birch	20%	185.00
Within 2 years		
Remove minor deadwood from canopy		
T5 - Betula pendula – Silver birch	20%	85.00
Within 2 years		
Remove snapped branches within canopy (non urgent – due to size and limited footfall)		
	Subtotal	780.00
	TOTAL VAT 20%	156.00
	<b>TOTAL GBP</b>	<b>936.00</b>