

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 3rd February 2025**, commencing at 8pm in The Hamilton Room, Betchworth

Councillors (Cllrs) present:

Cllr Ed Winter (EW) Chairman
Cllr Alice Laidler (AL) Vice Chair
Cllr Ian Wilson (IW)
Cllr Martin Higgins (MH)
Cllr Mark Targett (MT)

Attending:

District Cllr Keay (PK)
District Cllr Potter (PP)

Apologies:

County Cllr Helyn Clack (HC)
District Cllr Budd (SB)
Cllr Robert Ashdown (RA)

In attendance: Julie Vear (JV) Clerk & RFO

MOP: 0

Minute #	Agenda item	Who
377	1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from Parish Cllr Ashdown, County Cllr Clack and District Cllr. Budd	
378	2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest	
379	3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the meeting held on 13 th January 2025 were approved and signed	
380	4. OPEN FORUM Cllr Potter raised the issue of road safety following the recent collision on The Street. Council discussed the wider issue of road safety and speeding within Betchworth. Central white lines and 20mph limits were suggested as possible solutions. It was acknowledged that speed surveys would help determine the extent of the issue and that the SCC safety team would be best placed to advise on solutions. It was agreed that the issue should be discussed at a scheduled meeting to prioritise schemes and projects	

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381	<p>for 2025/26 that could be raised with SCC. The clerk took an action to arrange.</p> <p>Cllr Potter raised the issue of mud and foliage on The Street footpaths and Council further discussed the issue of the mud by the vicarage, Cllr Laidler took an action to pick up with the clerk to support.</p>	
382	<p>5. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT</p> <p>The police report with incidents from 13th January – 3rd February 2025 was displayed, discussed, and acknowledged. Further to discussions in the open forum, the clerk was asked to obtain further details on the reported traffic collision.</p>	
383	<p>6. TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS, FLOODING AND FOOTPATHS</p> <p>Council acknowledged the highways and footpaths updates as part of open forum.</p> <p>Cllr. Winter updated council that although it had not been possible to agree the alternative bus route for the rail line closure in February, GWR had come through on their offer and confirmed tickets could be used on the 32 bus. Council will ensure this remains high on the agenda for update meetings with Sara Grisewood (Southeast Communities Rail Partnership CIC) and hope that this arrangement can remain in place for future closures.</p> <p>Cllr Laidler advised that following a very successful site visit to Church Path Farm footpath and discussion with walkers along the proposed stretch, a quote was now available for discussion (see confidential items)</p> <p>Cllr Winter advised there was little to update on the Gatwick expansion inquiry other than it is expected permission is likely to be granted for the expansion in the next couple of months. There is a possibility that if Heathrow get granted permission, then Gatwick will no longer be commercially viable and the expansion will not go ahead.</p>	
387	<p>7. PLANNING</p> <p>New Applications</p> <p>MO/2024/2201/LBC Link April Cottage, Station Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DF</p>	

388	<p>Erection of single storey rear extension following removal of boiler room, garage conversion and alterations (application for Listed Building Consent)</p> <p>MO/2024/2202/PLAH Link April Cottage, Station Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DF Erection of single storey rear extension following removal of boiler room, garage conversion and alterations.</p> <p>The applications for April Cottage were discussed and Council chose to comment</p>	
389	<p>MO/2024/2171/PLA Link Orchard Cottage, Gadbrook Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AN Demolition of existing dwelling, garage and outbuilding and erection of 1 No. dwelling with detached garage, bin and cycle store, parking and associated landscaping.</p> <p>The application for Orchard Cottage was discussed and Council had no comment</p>	
390	<p>Decisions</p> <p>MO/2024/2126/CAT Link 1, Fryleigh Cottages, Snowerhill Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AF Fell 1 x Cherry. Standing dead with lower trunk half rotten. MVDC NO OBJECTION BPC No Comment</p>	
391	<p>Appeal Decisions (0) Other Matters (0)</p>	
	<p>8. AMENITIES</p>	
392	Council acknowledged that the play equipment was checked.	
393	Council acknowledged that defibrillators were checked.	
394	Council acknowledged and approved a burial ground permit.	
	<p>9. CLERKS UPDATE</p>	
395	There were no questions or comments on the clerks report which can be located under supporting files on the website.	
396	The ongoing action log was acknowledged.	
397	District Cllrs left the meeting.	

	10. COMMUNITY & COMMUNICATIONS																						
398	The date for the APM was discussed and set for Monday 19 th May at Betchworth Village Hall. A separate meeting is to be held to discuss planning.																						
	11. FINANCE																						
399	The following amounts were approved by council for payment in February:																						
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>IB00744</td> <td>HSBC Monthly Bank Charge</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00745</td> <td>HMRC – NI & Tax</td> <td style="text-align: right;">278.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00746</td> <td>Hamilton Room (Feb Mtg)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00747</td> <td>Employer Pension</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£52.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00748</td> <td>Clerks Additional Expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">291.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00749</td> <td>SES Water</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00750</td> <td>Shires Accts Payroll</td> <td style="text-align: right;">18.00</td> </tr> </table>	IB00744	HSBC Monthly Bank Charge	£5.00	IB00745	HMRC – NI & Tax	278.96	IB00746	Hamilton Room (Feb Mtg)	£20.00	IB00747	Employer Pension	£52.49	IB00748	Clerks Additional Expenses	291.98	IB00749	SES Water	16.94	IB00750	Shires Accts Payroll	18.00	
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	12. URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND FOR INCLUSION ON A FURTHER AGENDA																						
400	No urgent matters were noted for discretion of the chair																						
	13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS (Closed to Public & Press)																						
401	The clerk displayed the quote and options for resurfacing of areas of the Church Farm footpath (457). Following discussion of options, and feedback from walkers, Council voted to resurface 2 of the areas on the path which are particularly high volume and muddy.																						
	14. MEETING DATES to acknowledge and note																						
402	The following dates were acknowledged: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Parish Meeting – Monday 3rd March • Finance Group Meeting – Wednesday 26th February • MVDC Clerk Mtg – Wednesday 5th February – Clerk • SALC Clerks forum - Tuesday 22nd April • SALC Councillors forum - Wednesday 23rd April • Y/E Internal Audit – Tuesday 22nd April – Clerk • Annual Parish Meeting – 19th May 																						
403	PARISH MAGAZINE ARTICLE: March article – Save the dates Litter Pick & APM March Deadline - 10 th February																						
	MEETING CLOSED AT 9.20pm																						