

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 4th August 2025**, commencing at 8pm in The Hamilton Room, Betchworth

Councillors (Cllrs) present:

Cllr Ed Winter (EW) Chairman
Cllr Ian Wilson (IW)
Cllr Martin Higgins (MH)
Cllr Alice Laidler (AL) Vice Chair
Cllr Govinda Prashar

Attending:

District Cllr Keay (PK)

Apologies:

Cllr Mark Targett (MT)
Cllr Robert Ashdown (RA)
District Cllr Potter (PP)
District Cllr Budd (SB)
County Cllr Helyn Clack (HC)

In attendance: Julie Vear (JV) Clerk & RFO

MOP: 1

Minute #	Agenda item	Who
	1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
144	Council resolved to accept apologies of absence from Parish Cllrs Targett and Ashdown, District Cllrs Potter & Budd and County Cllr Clack	
	2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.	
145	Cllr Winter declared an interest in the ongoing planning appeal for Great Oaks Cllr Laidler declared an interest in application MO/2025/0749/CERTLB	
	3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
146	Council resolved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 7 th July. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as a correct record.	
	4. OPEN FORUM	
147	Cllr Wilson raised an issue of recent live music events at The Dolphin as he had been approached by residents regarding noise levels. The clerk took an action to review the outdoor music licence.	JV

August 2025

155	possibility of a similar opportunity to complete work by Betchworth PC on the Church farm footpath. Cllr Winter advised that it is expected that the Gatwick runway expansion will be approved. GACC and GAGNE continue to raise funds for a potential judicial review. There is some hope that the Heathrow 3rd runway will make the Gatwick expansion less commercially viable and make investors in Gatwick more cautious.	
156	7. PLANNING Due to the MVDC Planning Portal being unavailable to review documentation of applications, Council resolved to review applications and make any comment by delegated authority as part of the weekly updates sent by the clerk.	
157	The following were noted for consideration, but no comments could be agreed as insufficient information was available:	
158	Applications to Consider (2): MO/2025/0749/CERTLB Link The Old House South, The Street, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7DJ Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed development in respect of repairs to the damage to an external perimeter wall and pier (Listed Building)	
159	MO/2025/01002 Snowerhill Farm, Snowerhill Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AG Prior notification for the change of use of part of the building from agriculture to Storage and Distribution (Use Class B8) Council acknowledged the following:	
160	Decisions (1) MO/2025/0443 Great Oaks, Snowerhill Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AQ Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed development in respect of the erection of two outbuildings and the laying out of hard surface. REFUSED	
161	Appeals (1): Planning Ref: MO/2025/0477 Location: The Old Barley Mow, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7LW Status: Application under appeal Application Type: PIP - Permission in Principle Others Decision: REFUSED, SUBJECT TO APPEAL Proposal: Application for Permission in Principle for the erection of 4-6 dwellings (including affordable housing).	

162	8. AMENITIES - Council noted that the play equipment was checked. - Council noted that defibrillators were checked. - Council agreed to the Burial Ground working group as Cllr Winter, Wilson, Higgins and Prashar. The clerk took an action to set up an initial meeting of the group. - Council discussed the requirement to adopt a new allotment policy to commence 01/04/2026. The clerk took an action to work with Cllr Wilson and the current allotment tenants to ensure appropriateness of the policy for the site. - Council acknowledged Re-Betchworth will be holding their scything workshop at Goulburn Green on Saturday 9th August as one of their regular events. https://www.re-betchworth.org/Articles/718693/Scything_for_all.aspx	JV
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165		JV IW
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	9. COMMUNITY & COMMUNICATIONS	
167	The clerk displayed Cllr Winters proposal for Councils response to the Government reorganisation consultation. Council resolved to approve and Cllr Winter took an action to submit.	EW
168	D Cllr Keay reminded Council of the MVDC consultation on the Community Governance Review https://www.molevalley.gov.uk/cgr/	
169	Council requested the clerk take an action to prepare a Parish News article on the reporting of footpath issues.	JV
	10. CLERKS UPDATE	
170	There were no questions or comments on the clerk's report which can be located under supporting files on the website.	
171	The ongoing action log was acknowledged.	
	11. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE	
172	Council acknowledged the signing of bank reconciliations and statements for Q1 (April – June) by Cllr Laidler in accordance with the Councils financial regulations.	
173	Council resolved to approve the clerk's wage increase and backpay in alignment with the local government pay claim and contract	

174	Council resolved to acknowledge the following amounts received: <table><tr><td>Allotments</td><td>£0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Bank Interest</td><td>£59.32</td></tr><tr><td>Burial Ground Income</td><td>£6,690</td></tr><tr><td>VAT Return</td><td>£0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Other</td><td>£0.00</td></tr></table>	Allotments	£0.00	Bank Interest	£59.32	Burial Ground Income	£6,690	VAT Return	£0.00	Other	£0.00															
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175	Council resolved to approve the following for payment in August: <table><tr><td>IB00790</td><td>Clerks Expenses</td><td>£</td><td>119.70</td></tr><tr><td>IB00791</td><td>Hamilton Room</td><td>£</td><td>25.00</td></tr><tr><td>IB00792</td><td>ICCM Membership</td><td>£</td><td>79.00</td></tr><tr><td>IB00793</td><td>Fast Hosts</td><td>£</td><td>42.00</td></tr><tr><td>IB00794</td><td>SES Water</td><td>£</td><td>18.56</td></tr></table> Council resolved to acknowledge the following scheduled payments for August:	IB00790	Clerks Expenses	£	119.70	IB00791	Hamilton Room	£	25.00	IB00792	ICCM Membership	£	79.00	IB00793	Fast Hosts	£	42.00	IB00794	SES Water	£	18.56					
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176	<table><tr><td>HSBC Monthly Bank Charge</td><td>£</td><td>5.00</td></tr><tr><td>Unity Monthly Bank Charge</td><td>£</td><td>6.00</td></tr><tr><td>HMRC – NI & Tax</td><td>£</td><td>356.15</td></tr><tr><td>Clerks Salary</td><td>£</td><td>1046.75</td></tr><tr><td>Clerks Pension</td><td>£</td><td>54.71</td></tr><tr><td>Clerks Mobile</td><td>£</td><td>8.00</td></tr><tr><td>Josh Flynn Gardening Services</td><td>£</td><td>856.50</td></tr><tr><td>Hosting Charges</td><td>£</td><td>8.46</td></tr></table>	HSBC Monthly Bank Charge	£	5.00	Unity Monthly Bank Charge	£	6.00	HMRC – NI & Tax	£	356.15	Clerks Salary	£	1046.75	Clerks Pension	£	54.71	Clerks Mobile	£	8.00	Josh Flynn Gardening Services	£	856.50	Hosting Charges	£	8.46	
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	13.URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND FOR INCLUSION ON A FURTHER AGENDA																									
177	No urgent matters were noted for discretion of the chair																									
178	14.MEETING DATES to acknowledge and note Council resolved to acknowledge the following: • Full Parish Meeting 1st September • Clerks Holiday - 25th August • Clerks Holiday - w/c 22nd September one week • SALC/WORKNEST – Employment Rights Bill Training - 18th September • SALC Clerk Forum – 30th September • SALC Cllr Forum – 1st October • SAL Conference & AGM – 13th November D Cllr Keay & MOP left the meeting																									
	15. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS (Closed to Public & Press)																									
179	• Council reviewed and resolved to approve quote for new IT support contract																									
	MEETING CLOSED AT 9.06pm																									