

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 10th August 2026**, 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 Robert Ashdown (RA)

Attending:

Shadow County Cllr Dineke Vandenbergd (DV)
District Cllr Paula Keay (PK)

Apologies:

Cllr Caroline Gavigan (CG)

In attendance: Katie Leak (KL) Clerk & RFO **MOP:** 0

Minute #	Agenda item	Who
	1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
222	Council resolved to accept apologies of absence from Parish Cllr Gavigan, District Cllr Potter and Budd.	
223	Council noted the resignation of Councillor Prashar and noted the resulting Casual Vacancy. Council thanked Govinder Prashar for his service as Parish Councillor.	
223a	Cllr Winter welcomed Shadow County Cllr Dineke Vandenbergd and discussed concerns over future communication once the Mole Valley District Cllrs cease to hold office in March 2027.	
	2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
224	Cllr Winter declared an interest in the planning application MO/2026/01144. Cllr Laidler declared an interest in the planning application MO/2026/01186.	
	3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
225	Council resolved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10 th August 2026 and the minutes were signed.	
	4. OPEN FORUM	
226	There were no items raised in open forum	

	5. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT	
227	The Council resolved to accept the Police Report.	
228	The Clerk took an action to circulate relevant parts of the Police report to the parish.	KL
	6. TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS, FLOODING AND FOOTPATHS	
	Highways:	
229	• Cllr Vandenbergd shared that she wished to set up a local villages Highways group.	
230	• Clerk took an action to share historic STAR project documents.	KL
	Footpaths:	
231	• Cllr Keay shared that she had raised various footpath improvement tickets on fixmystreet but that these had been closed without satisfactory resolution.	
232	• Cllr Vandenbergd took an action to find out how Parish and District Councils can escalate tickets which have been closed without satisfactory resolution.	DV
233	• Cllr Keay took an action to share the ticket numbers with the Clerk.	PK
	Gatwick:	
234	• Council noted the Clerk report on Gatwick.	
	Flooding:	
235	• Clerk provided an update on the Climate Resilience grant application that Council are through to stage 2.	
236	• Cllr Higgins proposed a topographic survey is completed on the Tranquil Wood lake. Clerk took an action to investigate this option.	KL
237	• Cllr Winter provided an update on the knowledge sharing meeting with BERT and that a meeting was held with the flooding bollard supplier in July.	
	Climate Meeting:	
238	• Cllr Winter provided an update that communications will be issued in the runup to the meeting on 26th October and that following the meeting, a further session is planned to bring together ideas and start to form the Council climate action plan.	
239	• Council resolved to accept costs for hosting the meeting.	

240 241 242 243 244	7. PLANNING Ratification of Planning Observations made since last meeting: There were no applications to ratify since last meeting. Applications: Council resolved not to comment on the following planning applications: Planning Ref: • MO/2026/01144 • Location: GREAT OAKS SNOWERHILL ROAD BETCHWORTH RH3 7AQ • MO/2026/01171 Link • ROSEMARY COTTAGE REIGATE ROAD BETCHWORTH RH3 7HB • MO/2026/01186 • THE OLD HOUSE SOUTH THE STREET BETCHWORTH RH3 7DJ • MO/2026/01222 • LYNCHETS THE COOMBE BETCHWORTH RH3 7BT • MO/2026/01262 • FOUR WINDS PEBBLE HILL ROAD BETCHWORTH RH3 7BP Decisions: Council acknowledged the following Decisions: • MO/2026/00848 • PARKLAND LODGE 8 OAKLEY GARDENS BETCHWORTH RH3 7AZ • MO/2026/00914 • FRYLEIGH SNOWERHILL ROAD BETCHWORTH RH3 7AF • MO/2026/00909 • PEBBLECOMBE LEA PEBBLE HILL ROAD BETCHWORTH RH3 7BP Appeals: Planning Other: • Cllr Wilson and Cllr Higgins reported that some planning comments have not yet appeared on the MVDC planning portal. Clerk confirmed that this has been reported to Cllr Potter who reported back that this has been raised with MVDC planning. Cllr Keay took an action to follow up with MVDC planning. • Cllr Keay confirmed that planning application MO/2026/01018 would go to planning committee for decision if the planning officer were minded to approved it at the initial stage.	PK
245	8. AMENITIES • Council noted that the play equipment was checked.	

246	Council noted that defibrillators were checked. Clerk confirmed that Council did not win a BHF grant for a new defibrillator due to it being an additional machine in the parish. Clerk took an action to prepare a paper on costs for a new machine for Council review.	KL
247	Council resolved to purchase new plants for the Council planters outside the Post Office.	
248	Burial Ground	KL
249	Clerk provided an update on the Burial Ground extension project.	
250	Council approved a tree for the late John Bylett.	
251	- Clerk took an action to ask for help to lay down unsafe memorial 391. - Council acknowledged permit 47.	
252	Tranquil Wood	KL
253	- Council resolved to recommend purchasing the Tranquil Wood. Clerk took an action to consult the Parish. - Cllr Vandenbergd shared a contact from Capel.	
	Cllr Higgins left the meeting.	
254	Village Plan	
	Clerk provided an update that the working group were drafting questions and will meet next week. Questions to be reviewed by Council at the next meeting.	
255	Council acknowledged the Application for Designation of Neighbourhood Area to be the whole Betchworth Parish.	
256	Emergency Plan	
	Council resolved not to proceed with an emergency plan at this time due to resource constraints.	
257	Brockham Big Field	
	Council resolved to take a seat on the Big Field committee if this is offered.	
	9. COMMUNITY & COMMUNICATIONS	
258	Clerk took an action to create an article for Tranquil Wood consultation.	KL
	10. CLERKS UPDATE	
259	There were no questions or comments on the clerk's report which can be located under supporting files on the website.	
260	Clerk provided an update on the website migration to Parish Online. Domain purchase of the website URL was not required.	

261	The ongoing action log was reviewed and updated. Cllr Vandenbergd and Keay left the meeting.																									
	11.FINANCE & GOVERNANCE																									
261	Council acknowledged the financial and budget documents shared as part of the meeting pack.																									
262	Council resolved to acknowledge the following amounts received: <table><tr><td>Bank Interest</td><td>£48.58</td></tr><tr><td>Burial Ground Income</td><td>£915.00</td></tr><tr><td>Allotments</td><td>£0.00</td></tr></table>	Bank Interest	£48.58	Burial Ground Income	£915.00	Allotments	£0.00																			
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263	Council resolved to approve the following for payment: <table><tr><td>IB00875</td><td>Clerks Expenses</td><td>£</td><td>171.82</td></tr><tr><td>IB00876</td><td>Hamilton Room</td><td>£</td><td>25.00</td></tr><tr><td>IB00877</td><td>Regenerative Forestry</td><td>£</td><td>1,626.00</td></tr><tr><td>IB00878</td><td>Betchworth Village War Memorial Hall</td><td>£</td><td>61.00</td></tr><tr><td>IB00879</td><td>Parish Online Website</td><td>£</td><td>520.80</td></tr><tr><td>IB00880</td><td>SSP Direct Signs</td><td>£</td><td>132.78</td></tr></table>	IB00875	Clerks Expenses	£	171.82	IB00876	Hamilton Room	£	25.00	IB00877	Regenerative Forestry	£	1,626.00	IB00878	Betchworth Village War Memorial Hall	£	61.00	IB00879	Parish Online Website	£	520.80	IB00880	SSP Direct Signs	£	132.78	
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264	Council resolved to acknowledge the following scheduled payments: <table><tr><td>HMRC – NI & Tax</td><td>£</td><td>Redacted</td></tr><tr><td>Clerks Salary</td><td>£</td><td>Redacted</td></tr><tr><td>Clerks Pension</td><td>£</td><td>Redacted</td></tr><tr><td>Clerks Mobile</td><td>£</td><td>8.00</td></tr><tr><td>Josh Flynn Maintenance (inc VAT)</td><td>£</td><td>856.50</td></tr></table>	HMRC – NI & Tax	£	Redacted	Clerks Salary	£	Redacted	Clerks Pension	£	Redacted	Clerks Mobile	£	8.00	Josh Flynn Maintenance (inc VAT)	£	856.50										
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266	• Council acknowledged completion of bank reconciliation.																									
267	• Council acknowledged the Risk Register and resolved to accept risk R10. • Council acknowledged the Bank Signatory Mandate update to remove Cllr Prashar and Clerk Vear.																									
	13.URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND FOR INCLUSION ON A FURTHER AGENDA																									
268	No urgent matters were noted for discretion of the chair																									
	14.MEETING DATES to acknowledge and note																									
269	Council resolved to acknowledge the following: Full Council Meeting Dates 2026/27 2026																									

	Monday Oct 12th Monday Nov 9th Monday Dec 14 th 2027 Monday Jan 11 th Monday Feb 8 th Monday Mar 8 th Monday Apr 12 th Monday May 10 th Monday May 17 th (APM) Monday Jun 14 th	
270	MEETING CLOSED AT 21:30	