

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 8th June 2026**, 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 Robert Ashdown (RA)

Attending:

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

Apologies:

County Cllr Helyn Clack (HC)
Cllr Alice Laidler (AL) Vice Chair
Cllr Govinda Prashar (GP)

In attendance: Katie Leak (KL) Julie Vear (JV) Clerk & RFO Facilities Clerk **MOP: 1**

Minute #	Agenda item	Who
	1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
68	Council resolved to accept apologies of absence from Parish Cllrs Laidler & Prashar and County Cllr Clack.	
69	The chair welcomed MOP to the meeting who had expressed an interest in becoming more involved with the Parish Council.	
	2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.	
70	There were no declarations of interest	
	3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
71	Council resolved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11 th May 2026 and the minutes were signed.	
	4. OPEN FORUM	
72	There were no items raised in open forum	

	5. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT	
73	The clerk advised that the police report had not been received and Council had been advised that SCC would no longer be providing a detailed report of events. The clerk had looked at the data available publicly on the Surrey 'your area' webpage as suggested as an alternative to the report but detail was limited. Surrey police have advised that they would like to attend one Parish meeting a year to hear feedback from residents. Council asked District Cllrs for their feedback as councilors felt the loss of the report in addition to there being no police presence or report for the annual parish meeting impacted the link between the police and the community. It was recommended escalating with County Cllr Clack.	
	6. TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS, FLOODING AND FOOTPATHS	
73	Highways: Council acknowledged the recent accident in The Street and concern raised by residents for safety. Council discussed the options for the 20 zone and street calming measures and the clerk took an action to follow up again with SCC who had said following the Pebble Hill initiative they would look at options and plans for The Street. The differences in speed limits around the village was discussed following comments at the APM and it was agreed that it would be helpful to revisit plans for limits generally. Cllr Winter took an action to recirculate the SCC information on the speed restriction requirements and 20's Plenty recent info.	JV
74	Footpaths: Council were advised by a parishioner of overgrown hedges encroaching onto the road. It was acknowledged that the hedges are the responsibility of the landowner. An action was taken by the clerk to feedback that issues should be raised with the SCC and the Parish Council will follow up if no action is taken. We will also put an article in the Parish News reminding residents of their responsibilities and how to log concerns of this type.	EW
75	Gatwick & Heathrow: There has been no update	
76	Flooding: Council were advised that Cllr Prashar is keen to support on actions to progress ideas to support the village in times of flooding.	

7. PLANNING	
77	<p>Ratification of Planning Observations made since last meeting (0): There were no application to ratify since last meeting.</p>
78	<p>Applications (1): Council resolved not to comment on the following planning application MO/2026/00700 Link 3 HOME FARM CLOSE BETCHWORTH RH3 7DX T1 Cedar - Reduce over long laterals by 1-2m to match the rest of the crown. Lift lower limbs to give 2m clearance from roof.</p> <p>Decisions (5)</p>
79	<p>Council acknowledged the following Decisions</p>
80	<p>MO/2026/00515 Link HIGHRIDGE BROCKHAMHURST ROAD BETCHWORTH RH3 7AP Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed development in respect the erection of a detached outbuilding for use as a temporary honey house. REFUSED</p>
81	<p>MO/2026/00168 Link GROAT HOUSE 10 OAKLEY GARDENS BETCHWORTH RH3 7AZ 386 - Black Pine - Hypholoma and Ganoderma west of tree, poor resonance when tapped. Fell. 389 - Sycamore - Pollard at 4 metres retain as habitat stick. APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS</p>
82	<p>MO/2026/00452 Link APRIL COTTAGE STATION ROAD BETCHWORTH RH3 7DF Internal alterations to provide a ground floor shower room and first floor bathroom. Application for Listed Building Consent. APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS</p>
83	<p>MO/2026/00454 Link THE CEMETERY THE STREET BETCHWORTH T2 - Oak with large split down middle and fungal infection and to be removed. T3 - Ash is a completely dead tree and to be removed. Following not within conservation area; T1- stumps to be removed, T4 - Cherry to be removed, T5 - Oak to be uplifted to 2m. NO OBJECTION</p>
84	<p>MO/2026/00562 Link NIONISLE HOUSE THE QUARRY BETCHWORTH RH3 7BZ Non-material amendment to planning permission MO/2025/0853 to allow changes to fenestration and internal layout. REFUSED</p>

<p>85</p> <p>86</p> <p>86b</p>	<p>Appeals (1): Council acknowledged the following appeal MO/2025/00384 Link Land East of Tranquil House, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, RH3 7DR Erection of a self-build dwelling and associated works. ALLOWED</p> <p>Planning Other (2) Hartsfield Manor Council commented that they are expecting the Hartsfield Manor application for comment very soon and when available they would hold a drop in session for parishioners to discuss the plans to ensure the Parish Councils feedback is reflective of the overall views of the Parish.</p> <p>Brockham Big Field Councillor Winter attended a recent consultation meeting on 13th May and shared a brief update of the meeting with Council.</p>	
<p>87</p> <p>88</p> <p>89</p> <p>90</p>	<p>8. AMENITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council noted that the play equipment was checked. • Council noted that defibrillators were checked. • Council noted that the Burial Group had approved a permit for Plot 485 <p>Tranquil Wood Council acknowledged that the working group is continuing its due diligence on the Tranquil Wood initiative and has commenced stakeholder engagement. The recent APM provided a timely opportunity to gather parishioner feedback, and initial discussions have taken place with solicitors and specialists experienced in this type of land acquisition. While it remains early in the process, initial feedback indicates that parishioners would be supportive of progressing to the next stage, to better understand what acquisition would involve. It was noted that no costs have been incurred to date, as preliminary high-level advice as been provided free of charge but to advance due diligence further, the chair requested that Council approve the setting up of an official project team with representation and support from outside of the Parish Council and expenditure up to £2k to commission the necessary reports and associated costs to inform an appropriate decision on the acquisition. Council approved the requests.</p>	
<p>91</p> <p>92</p> <p>93</p>	<p>9. COMMUNITY & COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>Council agreed articles for the Parish News:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation on footpaths • Tranquil Wood • Grant Spend 2025/26 	<p>EW/ JV/</p>

94	The clerk and chair took actions to draft and submit articles	KL																																									
95	10. POLICIES & PROCEDURES Council resolved to approve the updated Burial Ground policy																																										
96	11. CLERKS UPDATE There were no questions or comments on the clerk's report which can be located under supporting files on the website.																																										
97	The ongoing action log was acknowledged																																										
98	District Cllrs left the meeting																																										
99 100 101 102 103	12. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE Council acknowledged the financial and budget sheets shared as part of the meeting pack. Council had a query on the CIL balance for pot A which the clerk took an action to update. Council resolved to acknowledge the following amounts received: <table border="1" data-bbox="474 1079 1130 1178"> <tr> <td>Bank Interest</td> <td>£46.87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burial Ground Income</td> <td>£1460.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Allotments</td> <td>£80.67</td> </tr> </table> Council resolved to approve the following for payment in June: <table data-bbox="305 1266 1159 1486"> <tr> <td>IB00851</td> <td>Clerks Expenses</td> <td>£ 479.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00852</td> <td>Hamilton Room</td> <td>£ 25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00853</td> <td>Shires Accountants</td> <td>£ 72.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00854</td> <td>Shires Accountants</td> <td>£ 272.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00855</td> <td>Spirafix</td> <td>£ 163.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00856</td> <td>Suregreen</td> <td>£ 377.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00857</td> <td>Chris The Gardener</td> <td>£ 820.00</td> </tr> </table> Council resolved to acknowledge the following scheduled payments for June: <table data-bbox="380 1619 1166 1837"> <tr> <td>HSBC Monthly Bank Charge</td> <td>£ 5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unity Monthly Bank Charge</td> <td>£ 6.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC – NI & Tax Mth 2</td> <td>£ 622.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerks Salary Mth 2</td> <td>£ 2000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerks Pension Mth 2</td> <td>£ 57.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerks Mobile</td> <td>£ 8.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Josh Flynn Services</td> <td>£ 856.50</td> </tr> </table>	Bank Interest	£46.87	Burial Ground Income	£1460.00	Allotments	£80.67	IB00851	Clerks Expenses	£ 479.67	IB00852	Hamilton Room	£ 25.00	IB00853	Shires Accountants	£ 72.00	IB00854	Shires Accountants	£ 272.40	IB00855	Spirafix	£ 163.96	IB00856	Suregreen	£ 377.06	IB00857	Chris The Gardener	£ 820.00	HSBC Monthly Bank Charge	£ 5.00	Unity Monthly Bank Charge	£ 6.00	HMRC – NI & Tax Mth 2	£ 622.75	Clerks Salary Mth 2	£ 2000.00	Clerks Pension Mth 2	£ 57.65	Clerks Mobile	£ 8.00	Josh Flynn Services	£ 856.50	JV
Bank Interest	£46.87																																										
Burial Ground Income	£1460.00																																										
Allotments	£80.67																																										
IB00851	Clerks Expenses	£ 479.67																																									
IB00852	Hamilton Room	£ 25.00																																									
IB00853	Shires Accountants	£ 72.00																																									
IB00854	Shires Accountants	£ 272.40																																									
IB00855	Spirafix	£ 163.96																																									
IB00856	Suregreen	£ 377.06																																									
IB00857	Chris The Gardener	£ 820.00																																									
HSBC Monthly Bank Charge	£ 5.00																																										
Unity Monthly Bank Charge	£ 6.00																																										
HMRC – NI & Tax Mth 2	£ 622.75																																										
Clerks Salary Mth 2	£ 2000.00																																										
Clerks Pension Mth 2	£ 57.65																																										
Clerks Mobile	£ 8.00																																										
Josh Flynn Services	£ 856.50																																										

104	<p>13.URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND FOR INCLUSION ON A FURTHER AGENDA</p> <p>No urgent matters were noted for discretion of the chair</p>	
105	<p>14.MEETING DATES to acknowledge and note</p> <p>Council resolved to acknowledge the following: Full Council Meeting Dates 2026/27</p> <p>2026 Monday July 13th Monday Aug 10th Monday Sept 14th Monday Oct 12th Monday Nov 9th Monday Dec 14th</p> <p>2027 Monday Jan 11th Monday Feb 8th Monday Mar 8th</p>	
106	MEETING CLOSED AT 20.55	