

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 12th January 2026**, commencing at 7pm 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)
Cllr Robert Ashdown (RA)

Attending:

District Cllr Budd (SB)

Apologies:

County Cllr Helyn Clack (HC)
Cllr Govinda Prashar (GP)
District Cllr Keay (PK)
District Cllr Potter (PP)

In attendance: Julie Vear (JV) Clerk & RFO **MOP:** 0

Minute #	Agenda item	Who
350	1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Council resolved to accept apologies of absence from Parish Cllr Prashar, District Cllrs Keay & Potter and County Cllr Clack	
351	2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. There were no declarations of interest	
352	3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Council resolved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 1 st December 2025. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as a correct record.	
353	4. OPEN FORUM Nothing was raised in open forum	

	5. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT	
354	The police report with incidents was displayed, discussed and acknowledged with no further action required.	
355	Council also acknowledged correspondence from Surrey police, further to their request in November to understand if there was any link in the two burglaries in Betchworth. Council was advised that although hard to say with any certainty if they were related, the locations suggest that they may have been as the items stolen were similar. The circumstances of the burglaries do match with those in the southeast region where the criminals target large houses that are just off main arterial routes (A25).	
	6. TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS, FLOODING AND FOOTPATHS	
356	Pebble Hill Consultation: The recent serious head on incident on the northbound corner of Pebble Hill was discussed. The clerk advised reminder comms for the consultation closing date of the 23 rd January 2026 would be shared on the village email.	
357	Footpaths: Council acknowledged the resurfacing works recently carried out on footpath 457 - Church Farm (a joint venture with SCC) and the great work that had been completed to continue to improve the footpath to and from Brockham.	
358	Cllr Wilson advised that the signpost for footpath 458 was down and Cllr Winter requested he reported it. Cllr Laidler also took note.	IW
359	Gatwick: Cllr Winter updated Council on the recent GACC event hosted by the Parish Council on the Gatwick expansion (slides available on the website). Despite the weather, the turnout was excellent with around 50 residents and clrs. Support from residents for the judicial review to challenge the application appears strong with personal donations from residents made on the evening. Cllr Wilson proposed a donation to GACC towards their costs and Council voted in favour.	
360	Flooding: Council requested District Cllr Budd who is heavily involved with BERT (Brockham emergency support team) advise if there was any support Council could give to help when the bridge was considered close to flooding. Cllr Budd advised that it is very difficult to get permission to close a bridge but BERT was having signs designed and made to advise of the risk. Cllr Budd agreed to provide signage to the Parish Council and they can then work with residents to get these put out when there is a flood event.	
361	Cllr Wilson raised the continuing flooding at the junction of Sandy Lane and Wonham Lane. Evidence total destruction of the Wonham Road sign and one of the wooden bollards) suggested that 2 vehicles failed to stop at the	

	<p>junction presumably caused by ice which formed on the cold road surface as a result of water spread on the road from the flooded area in Wonham Lane. Request to be made to Highways to add to the wet spot list.</p>	
362	District Cllr Budd left the meeting	
363	<p>7. PLANNING</p> <p>Ratification of Planning Observations made since last meeting (1): Council had reviewed the following applications and resolved not to comment: MO/2025/02714 Link SUTHERLAND, ROOTHILL LANE, BETCHWORTH, RH3 7AT Demolition of existing kitchen and garage. Erection of two storey side extension and erection of replacement garage.</p>	
364	<p>Applications (1): Council reviewed the following applications and resolved not to comment: MO/2026/00017 Link LAND ON THE WEST SIDE OF STATION HOUSE STATION ROAD, BETCHWORTH, RH3 7BZ</p> <p>Council acknowledged the following:</p> <p>Decisions (6) MO/2025/02546 Link BETCHWORTH QUARRY TRANSFER STATION THE QUARRY BETCHWORTH RH3 7BZ Partial discharge of Condition 10 of approved planning application MO/2023/1085 for the removal of condition 6 of approved planning permission MO/2022/1992 for conversion of the existing quarry machinery and grinding room to a single 3 bed dwelling with external alterations, landscaping and parking MVDC SPLIT DECISION (TREE OR CONDITIONS) BPC No Comment</p>	
366	<p>MO/2025/02124 Link HOLMECROFT PEBBLE HILL ROAD BETCHWORTH RH3 7BW Demolition of existing outbuildings and the erection of a single storey dwelling. MVDC APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS BPC No Comment</p>	
367	<p>MO/2025/0389 Link Betchworth Quarry, The Quarry, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7BP Re-clad existing sheds for ancillary office use (application for Listed Building Consent). MVDC APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS BPC No Comment</p>	
368	<p>MO/2025/02583 Link PARKLAND LODGE 8 OAKLEY GARDENS BETCHWORTH RH3 7AZ Erection of single storey rear extension, insertion of 1 No. dormer window to rear</p>	

	<p>and 2 No. roof lights to front to provide storage space above garage, creation of 2 No. Juliet balconies to first floor rear and changes to fenestration.</p> <p>MVDC APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS BPC No Comment</p>	
369	<p>MO/2025/0389</p> <p><u>Link</u></p> <p>Betchworth Quarry, The Quarry, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7BP</p> <p>Re-clad existing sheds for ancillary office use (application for Listed Building Consent).</p> <p>MVDC APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS BPC No Comment</p>	
370	<p>Appeals (1):</p> <p>MO/2025/02111</p> <p><u>Link</u></p> <p>Gadbrook Cottage, Little Abbots Farm, Snowerhill Road, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7AQ</p> <p>Demolition of outbuilding and the erection of 1 No. detached dwelling with associated parking and landscaping.</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. • There were no Burial Ground Permits to approve. 	
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	<p>9. COMMUNITY & COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>374 Cllr Wilson proposed a GACC event article for the Parish News and Cllr Winter agreed to submit this.</p>	EW
	<p>10. CLERKS UPDATE</p> <p>375 There were no questions or comments on the clerk's report which can be located under supporting files on the website.</p> <p>376 The ongoing action log was acknowledged</p>	
	<p>11. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE</p> <p>377 Council had received a full budget pack prior to the meeting. The Chair and Clerk provided an overview of the finance committee's recommendations for approval of the 2026/27 budget.</p> <p>378 Council approved the clerks salary for 2026/27, including the support clerk salary role until September 2026 to support greenspace and facilities improvement projects.</p> <p>379 Council approved allotment fees for 2027/28</p>	

380	Council approved Burial Ground fees 2026/27																									
381	Council approved administration fees 2026/27																									
382	Council approved the full budget for 2026/27																									
383	Council approved the Precept for 2026/27 at £29,448.69																									
384	Council approved the Financial Risk Register for 2026/27																									
385	Council acknowledged the signing of bank reconciliations and bank statements in accordance with the Finance regulations by Cllr Laidler for Q3																									
386	Council resolved to acknowledge the following amounts received:																									
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Allotments</td> <td>£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bank Interest</td> <td>£50.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burial Ground Income</td> <td>£8710.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VAT Return</td> <td>£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MVDC Precept & Grants</td> <td>£0.00</td> </tr> </table>	Allotments	£0.00	Bank Interest	£50.97	Burial Ground Income	£8710.00	VAT Return	£0.00	MVDC Precept & Grants	£0.00															
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387	Council resolved to approve the following for payment in January:																									
	<table> <tr> <td>IB00816</td> <td>Clerks Expenses</td> <td>£</td> <td>191.53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00817</td> <td>Hamilton Room Jan Mtg</td> <td>£</td> <td>25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00818</td> <td>Hamilton Room SCC Mtg</td> <td>£</td> <td>25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00819</td> <td>Gardening Services</td> <td>£</td> <td>40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00820</td> <td>Austin Winkley Ass.</td> <td>£</td> <td>3540.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IB00821</td> <td>SCC (N Knox Plant)</td> <td>£</td> <td>5217.00</td> </tr> </table>	IB00816	Clerks Expenses	£	191.53	IB00817	Hamilton Room Jan Mtg	£	25.00	IB00818	Hamilton Room SCC Mtg	£	25.00	IB00819	Gardening Services	£	40.00	IB00820	Austin Winkley Ass.	£	3540.00	IB00821	SCC (N Knox Plant)	£	5217.00	
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388	Council resolved to acknowledge the following scheduled payments for January:																									
	<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>412.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerks Salary</td> <td>£</td> <td>1075.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerks Pension</td> <td>£</td> <td>57.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerks Mobile</td> <td>£</td> <td>8.00</td> </tr> </table>	HSBC Monthly Bank Charge	£	5.00	Unity Monthly Bank Charge	£	6.00	HMRC – NI & Tax	£	412.59	Clerks Salary	£	1075.25	Clerks Pension	£	57.65	Clerks Mobile	£	8.00							
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389	12. URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND FOR INCLUSION ON A FURTHER AGENDA																									
	No urgent matters were noted for discretion of the chair																									
390	13. MEETING DATES to acknowledge and note																									
	Council resolved to acknowledge the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG working group project Mtg - 21st January • SALC Clerk Forum - 20th January • Cllr Forum - 21st January 																									

Full Council Meeting Dates 2026/27

2026

Monday Feb 9th
Monday March 9th
Monday April 13th
Monday May 11th
Monday May 18th - AGM

Monday June 8th
Monday July 13th
Monday Aug 10th
Monday Sept 14th
Monday Oct 12th
Monday Nov 9th
Monday Dec 14th

2027

Monday Jan 11th
Monday Feb 8th
Monday Mar 8th

391

MEETING CLOSED AT 21.13