

BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **BETCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held on **MONDAY 9th February 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 Mark Targett (MT)
Cllr Robert Ashdown (RA)

Attending:

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

Apologies:

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

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 Cllrs Laidler and Prashar and County Cllr Clack	
51	2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Declarations of interest were received from Cllr Ashdown re: MO/2025/02127 and Cllr Winter re: MO/2026/00141 subsequently Cllrs Wilson & Ashdown declared an interest in the prosed planning application at Hartsfield manor.	
352	3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Council resolved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 12 th January 2026. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as a correct record.	
353	4. OPEN FORUM Nothing was raised in open forum	

354	5. COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT The police report with incidents was displayed, discussed and acknowledged with no further action required.	
356	6. TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS, FLOODING AND FOOTPATHS Highways: Council acknowledged current speed surveys (total of 5 measuring strips) are taking place and expects an update from SCC re results and recommendation for calming measures. Council believes measures introduced in Brockham may have resulted in increased traffic in Betchworth and data from surveys will validate.	
357	Council acknowledged the damaged gateway by the roundabout will be replaced as part of the Pebble Hill works (consultation closed and results expected from SCC).	
358	Footpaths: Cllr Winter advised that the outstanding kissing gate installation had now been completed and thanked the Hamilton Estate for this work.	
359	Gatwick: Cllr Winter advised Council that although no update on Gatwick, there is a consultation on route 4 commencing and he will provide details and an update at the March meeting for Council to comment and respond as appropriate.	
360	Flooding: Council were advised that they will be represented at a meeting later in the month with BERT (Brockham Emergency Response Team) to discuss flood mapper and other possible measures Betchworth can take during flood events. Cllr winter explained that Floodmapper uses live data to create on line maps showing where flooding has occurred and helps communities understand when flooding has or is likely to occur. There are the two local live monitoring stations which measure the river level, one at Kinnersley Manor and one at Brockham. The distance to Kinnersley is very large and there is a weir between Betchworth and Brockham making this quite a difficult section of the river to model but Council are keen to obtain sufficient data (with help from BERT and parishioners) to make this happen.	
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362	Council were also advised that SCC had been approached about the funding and installation of depth markers at key flood spots as hopefully this measure would reduce the number of stranded vehicles during flood events.	

	<p>7. PLANNING</p>	
363	<p>Ratification of Planning Observations made since last meeting (1): Council requested planning paper outside of last meeting mtg be recirculated for comment.</p>	
364	<p>Applications (1): MO/2026/00108 <u>Link</u> ORCHARD COTTAGE, GADBROOK ROAD, BETCHWORTH, RH3 7AN Discharge of conditions 3 & 17 of approved planning application MO/2024/2171 for the 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>	
365	<p>Council acknowledged the following:</p> <p>Decisions (3) <u>Link</u> THE BUILDERS YARD CHURCH STREET BETCHWORTH RH3 7DConversion of an existing building from industrial use (Use Class B2) into 1 No. dwelling (Use Class C3). MVDC REFUSED BPC: Supported</p>	
366	<p>MO/2025/02714 <u>Link</u> SUTHERLAND ROOTHILL LANE BETCHWORTH RH3 7AT Demolition of existing kitchen and garage. Erection of two storey side extension and erection of replacement garage. MVDC REFUSED BPC: No Comment</p>	
367	<p>MO/2025/02333 <u>Link</u> GREAT OAKS SNOWERHILL ROAD BETCHWORTH RH3 7AQ Discharge of Condition 7 approved planning application MO/2024/1487 for the demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling. MVDC: CONDITIONS REFUSED BPC: No comment</p>	
370	<p>Appeals (1): MO/2025/02127 <u>Link</u> GRANGE HOUSE THE STREET BETCHWORTH Convert an existing garage to provide annex accommodation. <u>Appeal Start Date:</u> 29-Jan-2026</p> <p>Planning Other (1) Hartsfield Manor Further to Councils representation at a meeting with Hartsfield Manors consultatnts. The clerk was asked to prepare a feedback letter outling some of the concerns regarding the development, to include access and increased traffic, noise polution, environmental impact, parking and flooding.</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 was advised of an event at Knights Garden Centre where the Village Hall unit had been taken and was on standby, resulting in the need for the pads to be replaced. • Following meetings of the BG working group, Council was provided with an update and advised that papers will be prepared for consideration and approval at the March meeting regarding improvement plans. These include policy updates and perimeter/ground improvement works. Council was advised that all paper records for the ground are now recorded and accessible electronically. Council acknowledged training courses booked, including memorial safety. • There were no Burial Ground Permits to approve. 											
	<p>9. COMMUNITY & COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>374 Cllr. Higgins provided an update on the St. Martins Church level access report that Council approved funding for in 2025. With the report complete, Cllr Higgins can now work with St. Michaels to obtain funding via grants and fund raising.</p> <p>Cllr. Higgins also provided an update on strategic CIL funding for natural flood mgt. District Cllr. Keay advised she could support in better understanding how some of this funding could be accessed.</p> <p>Council proposed a flood event article for the Parish News and the clerk took an action to draft.</p>											
	<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 resolved to acknowledge the following amounts received:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="430 1769 1133 1949"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Allotments</td> <td>£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bank Interest</td> <td>£52.73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burial Ground Income</td> <td>£465.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VAT Return</td> <td>£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MVDC Precept & Grants</td> <td>£0.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Allotments	£0.00	Bank Interest	£52.73	Burial Ground Income	£465.00	VAT Return	£0.00	MVDC Precept & Grants	£0.00	
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385	Council resolved to approve the following for payment in February:	
386	IB00822 Clerks Expenses £ 205.20 IB00823 Hamilton Room Jan Mtg £ 25.00 IB00824 SLCC Membership £ 200.00 IB00825 ICCM BG Training £ 120.00 IB00826 Village Hall Hire £ 61.00 IB00827 Wel Med – Defib Supplies £ 83.52 IB00828 SES Water £ 20.32 IB00829 GACC Contribution £ 760.00	
38	Council resolved to acknowledge the following scheduled payments for February: HSBC Monthly Bank Charge £ 5.00 Unity Monthly Bank Charge £ 6.00 HMRC – NI & Tax £ 451.39 Clerks Salary £ 1384.45 Clerks Pension £ 57.65 Clerks Mobile £ 8.00	
	12. URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND FOR INCLUSION ON A FURTHER AGENDA	
389	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 – 13th February <p>Full Council Meeting Dates 2026/27 2026 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</p>	

	Monday Mar 8 th	
391	MEETING CLOSED AT 21.14	