



WARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Shaw E-mail – clerk@warnham.org.uk

MINUTES of the Full Council's Ordinary Meeting of the Warnham Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 19.45pm in the Parish Rooms, St Margaret's Church, Warnham

Members:

Cllr Sally Pavey (SP) (C) (P)	Cllr Lewis Sage (LS) (A)
Cllr Fiona Robinson (FR) (A)	Cllr Ian Gurling (IG) (VC) (P)
Cllr Tom Bickford (TB) (P)	Cllr Richard Collins (RC) (A)
Cllr Sarah Williams (SW) (P)	
Cllr Gregg Maxum (GM) (A)	

In attendance: Mrs Shaw (Clerk)

Also present: One MOP and DCllr Kasia Greenwood were present.

1. Apologies for absence –

CCllr Christian Mitchell and DCllr Tricia Youtan sent in their apologies. Cllrs GM, LS and FR sent in their apologies prior to the meeting and were duly accepted. Cllr RC was absent.

2. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Sally Pavey declared an interest in all matters in relation with Gatwick and CAGNE.

3. Public Participation

Cllr IG asked the MOP about Hogweed and what their plan is for this year. The MOP informed the council that they are due to hold a meeting with the tenant farmer next week and will work with them in formulating a plan and let the parish council know.

4. To receive updates and reports from the County and District Councillor.

- CCllr CM sent in his report and the clerk circulated to council prior to the meeting and is listed at the end of the minutes. Cllr SP stated that she was going to follow up on the flooding issues and the matter of devolution later in the meeting.
- DCllr KG - Mentioned that HDC had not heard back from the Planning Inspectorate and therefore can not update the parishes. The council asked DCllr KG to chase the following planning applications for Marches Lane, Kingsfold Garden Village and the appeal for the 2 houses at the Oak Public House. Cllr SP asked whether the Parish Council could apply for the Community Grant for supplying new recycle bins within the community. DCllr KG will find out and report back to council. Cllr SW mentioned about solar panels for the village hall and stated that she would contact Cllr FR to find out if the Village Hall will be applying for any. The Clerk mentioned to DCllr KG whether she would be able to chasing the email sent to HDC in relation to air quality for Kingsfold and Bell Road. DCllr KG confirmed she would look into it and report back.

5. Minutes of Previous meeting.

Council received, approved and accepted any recommendation from the minutes of the following committees:

a. Full Council held on the 17th December 2024

It was UNANIMOUSLY agreed that the Council accept and approve any recommendations and Full Council minutes as a true record of the meetings. The Chair duly signed the minutes.

6. To consider any urgent matters arising from the last meeting on the 17th December 2024 that cannot wait until the next meeting

- a. To receive any updates from external committees/meetings attended by the Clerk or Councillors.
– Cllr SW attending the Incinerator meeting on the 18th December 2024. Groundwork may commence in the second quarter of 2025. Cllr SW also mentioned about the A264 level of rubbish. Cllr SW stated that WSCC and HDC do not talk to each other in relation to grass cutting and litter picking, resulting in two separate days for both services, causing highways and traffic issues. Cllr SP requested that the Clerk contact the Cllr CM and copy in DCllr TY and KG. Cllr SP and the Clerk attended the recent HALC meeting, where Devolution was discussed. The Minutes from the meeting were circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk will arrange a meeting with local organisations to discuss a resilience plan. **Action: The clerk**

- b. To discuss the Parish Day 12th July 2025 - No further update.

- c. To discuss celebrations for VE Day on the 8th May – The Parish Council are unaware of any plans in place for this and asked for the clerk to contact the Church, the Village Hall and Cllr IG.

Action: The clerk

- d. To discuss any donations to CAGNE re Sound Round for Gatwick and to set a limit for the total amount – **Cllr SP left the meeting at 20.32pm**

The members discussed whether the council would provide a donation to help with the legal challenge against Gatwick's second runway. Cllr IG stated that this would be an ongoing cost until a final decision is made on Gatwick. Cllr TB stated that the council is responsible for protecting the parish at all costs. Cllr IG asked two questions – 1. Do the council wish to continue to support CAGNE and 2. How much would the council donate for this round. Cllrs SW and TB both stated that they would be happy to support CAGNE for the community and asked how much the council gave last time and to date. The Clerk stated that £2000 was donated at the last round. The Members concluded that they would donate the same amount again.

Two MOP's left the meeting at 20.39pm

Cllr SP rejoined the meeting at 20.40pm

The Clerk asked Cllr SP whether she thought that the money raised to date had been well spent. Cllr SP confirmed that she thought it had. The latest round of costs were £71k which provided in-depth legal support. Cllr SP also confirmed that the parish council had, to date donated £2000 and stated that all councils who donated, vary in the amount.

- e. To discuss the option of funding a Community Volunteer Scheme – Cllr SP would like to discuss a community volunteer scheme for helping with projects round the community. Cllr SP suggested a voucher system and that the church would help to manage the scheme. Cllr SP suggested meeting with the Church to discuss further. The Clerk will arrange a meeting with the Church and Cllr SP.

Action: The clerk

7. Finance

To approve the councils finances for December 2024

- a. Payments for approval since the 1st December 2024 of £13,463.74 at the time of publication of agenda.
- b. Bank Reconciliation for December 2024:
Lloyds Treasure Account : £48,111.12
Lloyds Bus Bank Account: £61,318.36
Lloyds Deposit Account: £323,046.62
Virgin Account (General Reserves): £217.83
It was UNANIMOUSLY agreed that the Council accept and approve the payments for December 2025
- c. To authorise the moving the remaining Virgin funds into another savings account. The Clerk provided the paperwork from Virgin in relation to moving £217 and to close the account. Cllrs IG and SW Signed the paperwork.
- d. To authorise and sign the Lloyds paperwork. The Clerk provided the council with the new paperwork from Lloyds for Cllr IG and FR to sign. Cllr IG signed his section and confirmed he would give the paperwork to Cllr FR to complete.

With no further business the meeting closed at 20.56 pm

Chairman..... Date.....

Item 4a.

Report to Warnham Parish Council

Report to Warnham Parish Council

Cnty Cllr Christian Mitchell

Tuesday, 21 January 2024, 7:45pm

Ends Place, Byfleets Lane - drainage issue (Ref 3054917)

I raised this with officers on 13 January 2025 and I was updated by Mr George Fort that the drainage issue is already on officers radar and appropriate actions have been initiated to address the ongoing concerns. An investigation into the area has been conducted, and it has been determined that the root cause of the problem lies with the ditching and drains further upstream. WSCC's senior steward has raised work orders to restore the ditching to a fully operational state and to have the pipes jetted and cleaned to the highest standards.

I raised if there could be an upgrade to the drain and Mr Fort advised that following officer's recent investigations into the drainage issue that once the work on ditching and jetting is completed then WSCC will be in a position to assess whether these measures have resolved the problem and should further complications arise, WSCC will continue to investigate the system to identify any additional issues that may need to be addressed. The budget for the current financial year has already been allocated, and any additional work required will likely not be feasible until the next financial year.

Devolution

The Cabinets of the three Sussex upper tier Councils have today agreed to submit an expression of interest to be considered for the Government's Devolution Priority Programme indicating support for a Sussex Mayoral Strategic Authority which could unlock new powers for the region.

The Government's white paper on English Devolution states that Mayoral Strategic Authorities will bring funding and local decision-making powers down from central government to deliver on economic growth, jobs and skills, housing and transport.

Whether or not WSCC, ESCC and Brighton & Hove Council are on the Devolution priority programme, the Government will be writing to all councils in two tier areas later this month – Counties, Districts and Boroughs – as well as smaller unitaries such as Brighton & Hove, to invite proposals on local government reorganisation.

Whatever timetable WSCC are on, it is understood that Government will expect all local authorities to work with neighbouring authorities to build consensus around new unitary authority boundaries. It is anticipated that Ministers will make decisions regarding which places are part of the Devolution Priority Programme by the end of January 2025.

The expected timeline following the submission of the proposal is:

- A devolution consultation would be held before the end of March 2025.
- The results of the devolution consultation will be assessed in the Spring 2025 following which a Ministerial decision will be taken as to whether to proceed with a Mayoral Strategic Authority (prior to unitary reorganisation). The Spending Review will then confirm future mayoral investment funds for new mayoral areas.
- Relevant legislation will be laid before Parliament in relation to the creation of Strategic Authorities.
- In March 2026 notice of mayoral elections will be given for a Mayoral election in May 2026. A decision whether to move to a Mayoral Strategic Authority under the reorganised arrangements would follow.

There will follow a separate process of local government re-organisation

- A formal invitation to submit reorganisation proposals will be issued to all authorities in January 2025.
- At the end of 2025 and in early 2026 Ministers will consider unitary proposals and delivery phasing with statutory consultations being undertaken on the first tranche of proposals.

Business of the County Council

Full Council last met on Friday, 13 December 2024 [here](#).

The next meeting of full Council is Friday, 14 February 2025 at 10:30am [here](#).

ENDS