



MINUTES

Confirmed minutes of Full Council Meeting of Binsted Parish Council (BPC)
on Tuesday 10 Mar 2026

26/022	<p>Apologies: Cllr Lock, Cllr White, Cllr Clarke, Cllr Jones, District Cllrs Davies and Ashcroft Present: Cllr Hearne (Chair), Cllr Ibbotson, Cllr Melvin, Mike Mordecai (Clerk)</p>
26/023	<p>Declarations of Interests: Councillors were reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation is granted, they may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on, any matter in which they have a pecuniary interest. They must withdraw from the room when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter. None stated.</p>
26/024	<p>Approval of Minutes from 10 Feb 2026 Full Council Meeting: Proposed Cllr Melvin, Seconded Cllr Hearne, unanimously approved.</p>
26/025	<p>Chair's Announcements- None</p>
26/026	<p>District Councillor Report: None</p>
26/027	<p>Finance and Governance</p> <p>Income, Expenditure and Bank Reconciliations for Feb 2026- Proposed Cllr Hearne, Seconded Cllr Ibbotson, Unanimously Approved.</p> <p>Approved: Asset Register, Audit and Risk Assessment of Financial Systems Policy, Use of Variable Direct Debits/Use of BACS/CHAPS</p>
26/028	<p>Working Group Updates (including written submissions in advance of meeting)</p> <p>Blacknest Fields- Cllr Melvin</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funding applications. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ £742 grant secured from County Cllr Mark Kemp Gee (£260 for pond fencing, £480 for Aggregate). ○ £500 donation has been made to Blacknest Fields from 2025 Binsted Fate proceeds. ○ £593 bid application has been submitted Blacknest Fields signage, as part of £965 bid made to EHDC District Cllr Phillip Davies (£372 for Binsted Rec signage). ○ ReNature funding application has been being submitted to SDNP for Phase II of Glow Worm project. BPC's contribution to this project will be £250 plus £300 match-funding as volunteer labour. 2. Finance and Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Letter to Charity Commission sent 19th February to lodge new Constitution and initiate progress towards transition to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

- o New Charity Bank Account has been set up with HSBC, on which no fees payable.

3. Communications

- o Article has been submitted to April Parish magazine, highlighting spring Socials taking place at the Fields:
 - o Good Friday 3rd April, 10:00-13:00;
 - o Friday 1st May, 10:00-12:00, May Day Social (option to join Barn Owl pub lunch afterwards); and
 - o Mon 4th May, 06:00 start, Dawn Chorus Day Walk & Breakfast at The Fields.
- o Cllr Melvin gave a presentation to annual meeting of Hampshire wildlife recorders in Winchester on 7 March, about impact of HBIC's 2025 £330 grant to Blacknest Fields.

4. Site work

- o Volunteer conservation work parties held on 20th February (planted willow whips, pruned orchard, trimmed Path Strip, cleaned furniture) and 6th March (planted hazel saplings and ox eye daisy plugs).
- o Forestry England has agreed to repair damage from recent FE dead tree felling on bridleway 41. Ben Abbott (arboricultural consultant) to undertake a full survey of BNF trees on 16 March. This will inform any tree safety work required.

Transport Working Group- Cllr Melvin

1. Date for next TWG meeting has not yet been agreed, following postponement of 24 February planned meeting.
 2. Operation Resilience resurfacing: Alison has lobbied hard for Blacknest Road's inclusion in Highways' 2026-27 'Operation Resilience' resurfacing programme, including documenting further reports to Highways (see overleaf) and requesting meeting to discuss issue with HCC Councillors Mark Kemp-Gee and Lulu Bowerman (County Councillor's designated officer for Highways). Any meeting would need to take place before 26 March purdah.
 3. No further news since 10 Feb Highways update about Frith End and Blacknest Speed Calming (£106 funded)
 - o For TRO (legal change to 30mph limit in Frith End), works order expected to be submitted end Feb or early March. Implementation normally 3-6 months from approval of works orders.
 - o Improving HGV signage and the 'lining and signage' works associated with the traffic calming scheme are separate strands of work that will follow when TRO implementation date becomes clearer. Signage & Lining works do not require legal approvals or any further statutory consultations.
 - o BPC cannot progress mooted 'neighbourhood pride' project to encourage residents to restore their verges until the traffic calming works are implemented. Plans to apply for a councilor grant to fund Village Gateway flower tubs/etc deferred because of the delays to Speed Calming implementation.
4. Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs)

- o 7 March was target date for Highways' contractors to extend the height of speed repeater signs at 5 new SID locations (has slipped!) NB: Remaining 50% of costs (£1,725.29) payable on work completion (FHDC CIL).
- o Additional Elan City SID unit will be installed by BPC SID volunteers when Highways have extended post. It will be permanently installed with solar power in BHO, to avoid volunteers needing to change SID batteries fortnightly at this dangerous location.

5. Recent collisions and need for police speed checks

- o No police feedback could be obtained about the Autumn collisions on Blacknest Road bend and A325 BHO opposite garage. Also no progress getting previously promised police speed enforcement sessions.

6. A list of pothole/road condition reports submitted to HCC Highways was supplied.

Police Liaison- Cllr White

No update (see apologies)

Schools Liaison and Bentley Station- Cllr Ibbotson

Met Head at Binsted re: next steps for school parking. He feels it is much improved and that wider 'draconian' steps would not be impactful as the main culprits are very few in number. He's planning a further awareness raising in May for Walk-to-School week. Will also use school councillors in hi-viz to speak to offending parents. He has suggested that support from councillors during this week may be helpful and will send me his plans and how we can help closer to the date.

Invites extended to local primary schools to visit Blacknest Fields.

Artwork in station waiting room has changed. New spring planting emerging in planters.

Application for c£650 grant for permanent station history display is in its second month of consideration- decision expected shortly.

Holt Pound Oval Working Group- Cllr Clarke

Successful meeting with FHDC and representatives from the FA and ECB and the interested local sports club to outline our ambitions for the site and to better understand the potential for grants from these organisations. Key action following the meeting include obtaining contacts and meetings with Waverley BC to enable a more comprehensive fundraising/grant application plan.

We have received a holding reply from Greene King re-land leasing options- Clerk has sent chaser whilst Cllr Clarke is on holiday.

Recreation Ground- Clerk

Arranged for Lengthsmen to clean bike shelter and clear out pavilion gutters. Contractors booked in to quote for veranda repairs. Rotton "Dragon's Teeth" posts replaced.

Cllr Hearne and Clerk met Rowledge Cricket Club, substantive points agreed, and final draft of contract is being drafted for sign-off.

25/029	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>SDNP/26/00680/DCOND- No comment</p> <p>SDNP/26/00674/CND- A number of residents were in attendance objecting to the application. Decision: Object</p> <p>SDNP/26/00642/DCOND- No comment</p> <p>SDNP/26/00484/FUL- No comment</p> <p>EHDC-25-1426 HSE- No comment</p> <p>SDNP/26/00436/HOUS- No comment</p>
25/030	<p>Clerk's Notices, Matters Arising, Actions from Previous Meeting:</p> <p>A31 Alliance public meeting was well attended. Actions: To add presentation and letter to website, follow up with further Facebook posts (to encourage people to write to EHDC/MPs etc), and to follow up with residents who offered support for further action.</p> <p>Clerk attended Fete Committee Meeting on 6 March. Indications were that a new volunteer committee could be formed and there may be a fete in 2026.</p> <p>IT and IT Policy Project: New IT policies to be submitted to FCM when outstanding queries from current IT suppliers re compliance statements are received.</p>
25/031	<p>AOB, Chair's Closing Remarks, Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 14th April.</p>


