BINSTED

MINUTES

Confirmed minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Binsted Parish Council (BPC) on Tuesday 14 July 2026

26/072	**Apologies**: Cllr White, Cllr Clarke, Cllr Lock, District Councillors Ashcroft and Davies **Present**: Cllr Hearne (Chair), Cllr Melvin, Cllr Ibbotson, Cllr Jones, Mike Mordecai (Clerk),
26/073	**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.**
26/074	**Approval of Minutes of 9 Jun FCM:** Proposed Cllr Melvin, Seconded Cllr Ibbotson, unanimously approved.
26/075	**Chair's Announcements-** None
26/076	**District Councillor Report:** None
26/077	**Finance and Governance** **Income, Expenditure and Bank Reconciliations for Jun 2026-** On track against budget. It was noted that the Clerk's employer pension contributions will start to come from budget in near future due to statutory re-enrolment period coming into force. Proposed Cllr Hearne, Seconded Cllr Ibbotson, unanimously approved.
26/078	**Working Group Updates** **<u>School liaison- Cllr Jo Ibbotson</u>** Binsted: 2nd July meeting with Agata Blazevic (HCC) re Travel Plan updates. Discussed possible strategies for next academic year including national accreditation schemes that reward schools showing excellence in supporting sustainable and active travel, as well as road safety and air quality. Agreed to contact Henry Jennings to send out a full travel survey for parents and children to act as a baseline for next year's initiatives. Agata will lead on collating this and started the survey last week. Rowledge: Discussed with Agata (as above) re: a Travel Plan for Rowledge School. None exists although conversations with her department have taken place. Next step to discuss this with Harriet Paskell. Agata has suggested initiating a similar travel survey to that at Binsted. Email relating to near miss incident with child crossing from car park to school in a collision with a bicycle due to overgrown hedge- needs urgent pruning. **<u>Bentley Station- Cllr Jo Ibbotson</u>** - A full grant award has been made to fund the station history panels and drafts for approval have now been received.

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8/9/26.

- Met with Phil Dominey – regional manager of Southwest Trains and Jade Bower (Bentley Green pop-up café) to discuss station- he was highly complimentary about environment improvements and traveller feedback.

- Station Road SID has been installed at Station Road 'pinch point'.

Holt Pound Oval- Cllr Clarke

In order to navigate the two quite different approaches and objectives to acquiring or gaining access to the Area of Interest (the wooded/scrub land adjoining HPO and pub car park), which would be required to provide a pavilion/storage and car parking, Cllr Clarke has suggested to BAePS that they give or sell us the land; they seem receptive to the idea and have asked what we might pay for it, recognising that this is a community project.

There is now the delicate balance of determining how little we can pay and not overpaying. And it needs to be done in conjunction with Green King surrendering the piece to the Pension Fund.

Research continues to try and find out who actually owns the lane south of the HPO. Forestry England have said they don't think they own it, but they do think they may have rights to it/over it. We are pursuing this to try and get more detail.

A local sports club continue to be active and enthusiastic about becoming anchor tenants. They are arranging meetings with Greg Stafford MP and other possible influencers.

Blacknest Fields- No update this month

Transport Working Group- Cllr Melvin and Clerk

TWG meeting planned for Tue 21st Jul. Cllr Melvin and Clerk took new HCC Cllr Antonia Cox on a "guided tour" of the parish to show her, amongst other things, the highway related issues the parish faces. Cllr Cox is investigating the reasons for the temporary 30mph limit on the Kingsley Road, which is leading to confusion amongst road users.

One of the Speed Indicator Devices is no longer working. It was agreed that this could be replaced, subject to Finance and Governance Committee sign-off. **Action:** Clerk to arrange a FAGC meeting.

Clerk attended an online "Project Edward" meeting (a nationwide road safety initiative/programme). Main points to note:

- Some early stats from the Welsh Assembly re impact of imposing a blanket 20mph speed limit in residential areas: 100 fewer deaths p/a; 22% fewer collisions p/a; average journey times increased, but the vast majority by less than 2 mins; average journey times much more predictable/significant decreases in variability of journey times.

- Presentation from Duncan Knox at Surrey CC, who have been taking a much harder stance on reducing the default 60 mph limit on rural roads. He said that if councils decided to reduce speed limits on these roads, the current national guidance is to look at limits between 30-50mph, but their research suggests that on very narrow roads cars are doing 25mph on average, so given that the 30-50mph is guidance rather than set in stone, they aren't afraid to impose 20mph where they think necessary. Overall they appear to be taking a very proactive stance on reducing speed limits on rural roads, and whilst they get some resistance, in the main it's been welcomed by local communities, parish councils, walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

- Taking this a step further, Essex County Council has undertaken a project to categorise (through mapping tools and obtaining local knowledge/feedback) all of their rural roads to think about

	speed limits. A rural road (as defined by central government) isn't what we'd instinctively imagine- it's defined as any road passing through an area as defined by government as a rural (using population density). So a rural road could be a major trunk road (such as the A31/A325) through to a winding single-track lane. Through this categorisation they're thinking about more blanket speed limits for each category rather than looking at individual cases/petitions from local resident groups or Parish Councils. This approach seems to be gaining some traction, and it appears there is work being done to consider whether this could be rolled at a national level. **Police Liaison**- No update this month. **Recreation Ground- Clerk** - Getting a new defib has proved a saga, due to lack of responsiveness from current supplier. Seeking quotes from new suppliers and have found a new, local electrician to test (temperature controlled) cabinet/potentially install new one. - We are due a required 5-year electrical inspection in the autumn, so also discussed this with electrician. - Clerk contacted neighbouring parishes to find new allotment tenants, having had only one taker locally. 3 out of 4 plots now taken, with one further enquiry still to be arranged. Have offered free rent for 26-27 if they are happy to clear vacated plots (it would cost us more to clear them than the income from annual rent). New contracts include a £100 deposit that will only be returned if they clear the plot on vacating it. - Cllr Jones has performed some repairs to tennis courts and allotment gates. **Jalsa Salana** It was agreed that we would publish some additional communications via Facebook re Jalsa, with Cllr Lock again providing a contact point over the weekend for any residents wishing to alert us to any emerging traffic problems.
25/079	**Planning Applications** SDNP/26/02075/CND- Decision- Object SDNP/26/01934/HOUS- No objection EHDC-26-0406-HSE- No objection
25/080	**Clerk's Notices, Matters Arising, Actions from Previous Meeting:** Outstanding action from last month's FCM- The Clerk has not received all the information needed from EHDC re Assets of Community Value relating to the pub. The Clerk has now spoken to EHDC Enforcement Officer in relation to various complaints about a potential planning enforcement issue on the Straights. The Clerk has been called for Jury Service in Winchester between 10-21 of Aug. The Council wished to express their thanks to the new Fete Committee for taking on the organisation of the fete and for making the event such a success. Action: Clerk to arrange a gift for Lisa and Jonny to say thank you on behalf of the Parish.

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