BINSTED

MINUTES

Confirmed minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Binsted Parish Council (BPC) on Tuesday 13 Oct 2026

26/092	**Apologies**: Cllr Lock, District Councillors Ashcroft and Davies **Present**: Cllr Hearne (Chair), Cllr Melvin, Cllr Ibbotson, Cllr White, Cllr Clarke, Cllr Jones, Mike Mordecai (Clerk)
26/093	**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. Regarding S137 grants: It was noted that Cllrs Clarke and Jones are members of the Binsted Tennis and Croquet Club, Cllr Lock is a member of the Cricket Club, and that Cllr Hearne and Clerk volunteered (unpaid) for the Rugby and Football clubs respectively. None of the above parties were responsible for writing or submitting the applications, and in the event that a unanimous agreement on grant amounts could not be reached, councillors concerned would not be able to vote on individual amounts for the clubs they are associated with.
26/094	**Approval of Minutes of 8 Sep FCM:** Proposed Cllr Ibbotson, Hearne, Seconded Cllr Jones, unanimously approved.
26/095	**Chair's Announcements**- Cllr Hearn welcomed PSCO Jess Hornsby and PC Harry Millard, as well as residents who wished to make representations regarding the Mad Swans licensing application.
26/096	**District Councillor Report:** None
26/097	**Finance and Governance** **Income, Expenditure and Bank Reconciliations for Sep 2026**- On track/slight underspend on budget. Proposed Cllr Melvin, Seconded Cllr Hearne, unanimously approved. **S137 Grants**- We have achieved our objective of attracting a wider and more varied pool of applicants that will benefit a wider cross-section of residents. Whilst the budget for awards was increased, as in previous years, requests for funding exceeded the budget. **Decision:** Awards made: All England TaeKwon-Do Association £500, Tyler's Trust £100, Citizens Advice East Hampshire £400, Home-Start Hampshire £0, Bushy Leaze Family Support £500, Home-Start Waverley £500, Friends of Binsted School £350, Hive Helpers £500, Holy Cross Church, Binsted £450, Binsted Youth Football Club £400, Alton Foodbank £500, 8th Alton Scout Group £250, Alton Rugby Club £250, Binsted Tennis and Croquet Club £400, Binsted Cricket Club £400. **Internal Auditor Appointment: Decision:** to appoint Mulberry as BPC's new internal auditor for one year, with our previous auditor retiring last year. The decision was based on the recommendation from RFO and Clerk, who have sought views from other neighbouring parishes and our previous auditor on Mulberry and other auditors used- in terms of costs, processes, working relationships and responsiveness.

D HEARNE

16/11/26

	27-28 Budget: The Clerk thanked everyone who had submitted their budget estimates. These will be assessed as part of a first cut budget review by the Finance and Governance Committee later this month, with the aim of submitting a final budget for approval at November's FCM.
26/098	**EHDC and SDNP Local Plan updates- Clerk** EHDC have announced (see https://www.easthants.gov.uk/news/2026/new-chapter-planning-east-hampshire) that it is "to restart work on a new local plan – and use a new planning tool to improve the quality of development.... The Council's Cabinet is being asked to approve work on a new local plan for the part of the district outside the South Downs National Park, alongside a new supplementary plan that could bring improvements to the quality of new development much sooner. The proposals, recommended by the Planning Policy Committee, will go before Cabinet on Thursday 12 November. The supplementary plan will focus on good design, local character, landscaping, green infrastructure, climate resilience, parking, movement and nature recovery. Importantly, it can be prepared more quickly than a full local plan. That means the council can start putting stronger expectations around the quality and sustainability of new development into planning decisions while the bigger plan is being prepared." **School liaison- Cllr Jo Ibbotson** Liaising with Rowledge School for update on Travel Plan status. All other school related business- see Transport WG summary. **Bentley Station- Cllr Jo Ibbotson** Won Gold Award at SE Britain in Bloom competition. Completion of History Panels. Community Rail Partnership are keen on a "launch event" of some sort. Damaged tap on platform recently led to big water leak but delighted to see the community involvement in getting it repaired rapidly. **Holt Pound Oval- Cllr Geoff Clarke** Greene King (GK) have now given agreement in principle at Board level to surrender the lease on the piece of land we refer to as the "Area of Interest" (AOI) which will be used to form the car park for the HPO and provide access to the HPO without crossing the GK land – something they were fundamentally opposed to. We are now waiting for the terms of the surrender to be disclosed to BAePS. BAePS have repeatedly said they are ready to move quickly and need no further approvals for the sale of the land to BPC. I have asked my contact at BAePS to ensure that GK do not seek to include terms on the surrender of the lease which might adversely affect the project. We are now discussing a number of topics with Hampshire Legal Services, including whether they will be able to carry out any necessary conveyancing work on our behalf, and if so at what cost; the legal situation regarding access from the AOI onto the small lane, which is unadopted but for which we have been unable to find any ownership information – despite extensive searches; re-routing of the 2 footpaths which cross the HPO; and with EHDC in general on planning matters – re the car park and other grant funding matters. We are also working with partners to investigate other sources of funding and how to cover early stage professional/legal costs. **Blacknest Fields- Cllr Alison Melvin** • SDNPA has confirmed funding to remediate pond cracks within this Financial Year. • SDNP rangers have mowed Back Field at no cost.

- 4 Duke of Edinburgh volunteers now undertaking volunteer conservation work at BNF.
- Successful field study spider survey undertaken in September.
- Trustees met with Clerk and RFO to discuss various matters including updates on Charity Commission correspondence re changing status, trustees' insurance, new bank accounts, and 27-28 budget.

Transport Working Group- Cllr Alison Melvin

- Transport Working Group meeting held on 22 Sept.
- Plans taking shape for public drop-in event at Pav on Wed 18 Nov in road safety Week. Hants Constabulary, both schools & CycleAlton confirmed they will participate. Article advertising event sent to Binsted parish magazine and Rowledge Review.

Invitations have been sent to guests invited for lunchtime sandwiches.

Parish map showing road speed limits, speed data and traffic volumes in preparation.

- Police enforcement: 1st police speed enforcement session run in Frith End in Sept.
- ATC data from Isington & River Hill: ATC data received (yet to be analysed).
- Highway works
    - B3004 resurfacing with Green Street closure completed on schedule by 2 Oct.
    - Blacknest Rd resurfacing is currently underway – seems to be running to plan.
- Rowledge and Binsted school road safety issues
    - Binsted: Parking signs handed over to school in early Sept were well received. We have thanked County Cllr Antonia Cox for the grant that funded the signs.
    - Binsted: Patching of potholes scheduled (with road closure) on Wed 21 Oct 19:00 – Friday 23 Oct 07:00. On 8 Oct, Alison has asked Highways whether it is possible to defer the work until School Half Term holiday (26-30 October) and if the planned repainting of ZigZags could take place in same week. No response so far.
    - Rowledge: Highways extended signpost height in School Road Rowledge and our SID volunteers put up new Elan SID. Letter of thanks received from school Head.
- Zoom meeting held with C18 Road Group (Froxfield) to share resources for their quest to reduce national speed limit on C18 road.

Police Liaison and Local Safety

Ryan Moore (an Isington resident) who is the lead of an Isington Neighbourhood Watch scheme- a group that we were unaware of until now, got in contact to try and understand if there were other NW schemes operating locally.

Our neighbourhood police team, PSCO Jess Hornsby and PC Harry Millard introduced themselves. They reported that although crime levels are relatively low compared to the national picture, crimes are often "high impact", and there have been a number of thefts of quad-bikes and farm equipment, and hare coursing remains an issue in the district. Criminals also often use rural backroads to escape detection to

D. HERRIDGE
10/11/26

	avoid ANPR cameras. They stated that more in-depth crime statistics for specific areas can be found at police.uk, and reiterated the importance of reporting crime- although every crime can not be acted upon due to current resourcing levels, longer-term resources are prioritised based on these reports, so it's important to report crime. **Action:** Clerk to contact PCSO Hornsby to find useful crime reporting information for residents that can be communicated more effectively. **Recreation Ground and Pavilion- Clerk** Cllr Jones has obtained one quote for the pavilion kitchen refurbishment, with another company visiting to provide a quote today. Clerk has received quotes and commissioned works for hedge trimming, verti-draining, wooden security posts replacement and allotment site upkeep. Clerk and Cllr Jones have discussed minor repairs to car-park. Clerk has received the annual Playground Safety Report- minor works required, and Clerk and Cllr Jones have discussed a rolling programme of replacing some playground equipment that is starting to deteriorate, in consultation with Friends of Binsted School. Clerk has obtained quote for upgrading the broadband connection from BT and monthly charges. Current copper connection will stop being supported in the New Year, and it looks like a new contract will be cheaper than we have currently.
26/099	**Planning Applications** SDNP/26/03652/FUL- No objections SDNP/26/03773/APNB- No objections SDNP/26/03202/FUL- No objections EHDC/26/0712/HSE- No objections SDNP/26/03653/LDP- No objections SDNP/26/03250/HOUS- No objections
26/100	**Clerk's Notices, Matters Arising, Actions from Previous Meeting:** • Communications- Parish Magazine article- Road safety Week event, updates on the Bentley Station award and Binsted School parking. • Parish Correspondence- See below re Mad Swans licencing application. Also, some correspondence around regular water supply outages/low water pressure. **Action:** Clerk to contact local residents in Thurstons and Clements Close to understand the issue better, as this where we have heard that the issue is worst. • Mad Swans Licencing Application- Clerk has received a lot of correspondence from residents opposing the plans. We have provided some guidance on our website to help people with making comments. The deadline for comments is the day after FCM. I have been copied into correspondence between FHDC officers and Cllr Ashcroft, who has raised concerns- we await further details as to whether and when this will be considered at Committee- we understand that there is an opportunity to raise concerns in person at Committee.

	• Hay Place Planning Enforcement- Clerk has received reports that works at Hay Place are not adhering to tree care management plan, and has reported it to EHDC Planning Enforcement, but has yet to receive a reply. **Action:** Clerk to follow up. • Rowledge War Memorial and Remembrance Sunday- Clerk has commissioned new quote from HCC re paving the surrounding area and is awaiting a response. We have also received various emails from relatives of veterans named on the memorial requesting that the memorial is cleaned. We have attempted to provide them with relevant background re ownership of the memorial, costs and planned next steps. MPs Greg Stafford and Damian Hinds wish to assist via attending a session to help clean the memorial in advance of Remembrance Sunday. We I would like to use this as a publicity event to try to attract a wider pool of local residents to form a fundraising group/long term group to maintain the memorial. • Cllrs Clarke and Melvin will attend Remembrance Sunday services and lay wreaths. **Action:** Clerk to find out timings of events. Mad Swans Licensing Application: We have had significant numbers of residents contacting the Parish Council objecting the application, with several residents attending the meeting to also raise objections. The objections primarily relate to the considerable increase in late night opening and events, particularly outdoor events, which will result in increased noise and disturbance to residents on a far more regular basis (which cannot be sensibly mitigated) and is inappropriate for this location within the SDNP. **Decision:** BPC to object, and to seek a hearing at the Licensing Committee.
26/101	**AOB, Chair's Closing Remarks, Date of Next Meeting** The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 10 Nov.

D Hearne.

10/11/26.