

WARBLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Warbleton Parish Council held on Thursday 26 March 2026 7pm at Dunn Village Hall, Rushlake Green

1. **Attendance:** Councillors Katy Waterman (Vice-chair), Chris Wells, Buster Ansell, Liz Ansell, David Turton, David Jarrold, Bob Bowdler (arrived 7.30pm) and Jeanne Peterson (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Councillors Andy Long and Tom Guyton-Day

Other attendees: District Councillors Diane Gould.

District Councillor Greg Collins was unable to attend, and there were no members of the public present.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None

3. **Minutes**

3.1. **It was resolved** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 26 February 2026 were a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

3.2. **Matters Arising:** None

4. **Public Participation:** None

5. **Reports**

5.1 **County Cllr Bob Bowdler:** arrived to the meeting at 7.30pm and gave a verbal update for March 2026 after Item 7. A written report will be circulated and attached to the minutes as Appendix 1.

5.2 **District Cllrs**

Cllr Diane Gould:

- The decision by Government on how the unitary reorganisation will work in East & West Sussex and Brighton & Hove has been deferred. They were not happy with the presented options and further consultations will take place.
- The Ward Grant Scheme re-opens on 1 April 2026 with the year's new funds and all local groups are encouraged to apply.

5.3 **PCSO:** There was no report available.

5.4 **Reports from Parish Councillors:**

Cllr Jarrold:

- Bodle Street Green village hall Steering Group had now applied for planning permission to take forward their plans to install solar panels on the existing roof, and an Electric Vehicle charging point in the car park. They also plan to install a satellite uplink to enable the use of two laptops.

General:

- It was noted that the grass beneath the picnic benches at Rushlake Green had not been cut at the same time as the green's cut. The clerk was asked to contact the contractor to ask that this is carried out as a matter of course.

5.5 **Clerk's Report:** A written report had been circulated and taken as read.

6. Committee reports

The proceedings of the following committee meetings were noted:

- 6.1 Planning & Development – minutes of the meeting held on 17.02.2026 had been circulated and taken as read. The draft minutes for 10.03.26 will shortly be circulated.

7. Annual Parish Assembly 2026

It was reported that promotional signs are now up and displayed in the parish and information about the event also included on local social media sites. A piece in the local parish Magazine will be published at the end of the month.

The order of events was agreed: the Chair will open the meeting at 7.15pm with a welcome to attendees and guest speaker, and a report from Warbleton Parish Council. The guest speaker would then be given the floor. After a refreshment break there would be local committee reports and a chance for attendees to comment and ask questions about parish issues.

The clerk was asked to enquire whether Bodle Street Green already had any notice boards at the hall to use for a display about local work on highways issues.

Copies of the ESCC Highways Toolkit leaflet would be made available (Cllr Waterman) and Hedgerows Policy and guidelines (Clerk).

Refreshments procurement would be Wine (Cllr Ansell), soft drinks (Clerk) and snacks (Cllr Waterman).

8. Social Media

It had been agreed at the February council meeting to set up a Warbleton Parish Council Facebook page to increase its communication stretch throughout the parish. Potentially Cllr Guyton-Day is to set this up and run it for an initial three months. This is yet to be actioned and follow up management to be decided.

Cllr Waterman, in the meantime, will attend the Part One ESALC Social Media Training.

The council agreed that it should operate within clear local authority guidelines, it reviewed its existing Social Media Policy along with the clerk's suggested additions. Subject to minor corrections the policy was approved, and the clerk was authorised to update and publish the policy.

9. Speed Watch

It was reported that two further recruits had been enlisted to establish a new Warbleton Parish Speed Watch team: so along with Cllrs Long and Waterman, the team can now be moved forward to the next phase of training within the four-member minimum guideline.

The clerk confirmed that a previously interested volunteer was not now able to commit time.

The ESCC Highway's formal speed data surveys had been budgeted for by the council to be carried out in the parish during the year 2026/2027. Arrangements for timing to be discussed at a future meeting.

10. Finance

- 10.1 **It was resolved** to authorise the bills for payment March 2026.
- 10.2 **It was resolved** to approve the Finance Reports at February 2026: bank reconciliation, and the budget monitor and reserve movements report (reports circulated).
- 10.3 It was noted that arrangements are in hand to agree a date for the Internal Audit to assess this year's end of accounts 2025/2026.

11. Highways/SLR

The SLR meeting had taken place on 24 February 2026. Draft Minutes had been circulated and published. Updates had been received from Highways on actions subsequently taken and will be assessed against the faults reported.

Of particular note was the success for the council to apply for Access Protection Marking along the drop-kerb length outside Osborne House car park and the property Sunnymeade. Both properties wholly supported the initiative which will be funded by Warbleton Parish Council.

Deer signs have to be erected by Highways, the council was asked to let the clerk know of specific locations to inform them.

12. Wealden Draft Local Plan Consultation

As agreed at the council meeting held on 26 February 2026, Cllrs Long and Waterman had collated and submitted a response to the Wealden Draft Local Plan. Cllr Waterman will circulate a copy of the details.

13. Use of Rushlake Green

13.1 Warbleton & District Horticultural & Poultry Society – The clerk confirmed that along with the application, all relevant paperwork had been received.

It was resolved to approve the application from the Horticultural Society to use Rushlake Green for its annual event to be held on 27 July 2026 with set up from 26 July 2026

14. Rushlake Green Village Notice Board – engraved plaque

The council acknowledged that two quotes had been received but requested the clerk to obtain another.

15. Urgent matters at the discretion of the Chairman for noting and/or inclusion on a future agenda - None

16. Date of next Council Meeting

Thursday 23 April 2026 at Bodle Street Green Village Hall 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.45pm