Worldham Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held on 4th March 2026, 7.30pm
East Worldham Village Hall

Present Cllr R Twining (Chair), Cllr R Bagnell, Cllr S Butler, Cllr W Brock,
Also present Pamela Hibbins, Clerk to Parish Council. 1 member of the public

32.46 **Chairs Announcements-** Condolences were sent to the family and friends of Maureen Comber, former District Councillor and well known in the village who sadly passed away last month. The Chair formally acknowledged her many years of service to the parish and district.

32.47 **Apologies for absence** – Cllr C Sole, Cllr T Godbert

32.48 **Declarations of Interests –** Cllr S Butler declared an interest in item 8 planning application EHDC-26-0082-FUL -Land South Of Wilsom Farm Wilsom Road, Alton, Hampshire.

32.49 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 4th February 2026
Proposed: Cllr B Bagnell, Seconded: Cllr W Brock **Action: Clerk**

32.50 **District Councilor's Report**
None were present.

32.51 **Public Questions** – the Chairman adjourned the meeting to hear public questions.

A member of the Ashdell Residents Association presented their objection to the planning application EHDC-26-0082-FUL -Land South Of Wilsom Farm Wilsom Road, Alton, Hampshire. They noted a similar application was refused in 2015 following significant public objection and an Environment Agency objection. Key concerns relate to increased HGV traffic and highway safety, particularly at the already constrained Paper Mill Lane/Ashdell Road/Mill Lane junction, as well as the adequacy of the Transport Assessment.

Further objections were raised regarding flood risk (with the Environment Agency recommending refusal due to the site's flood zone classification), the absence of evidence demonstrating a need for additional employment floorspace, the scale and height of the proposed buildings near residential properties, potential impacts on residential amenity, ecological concerns including bats along the Caker Stream, and drainage and surface water management. The Association requested that their comments were considered by the parish council when considering their response.

Meeting reconvened

32.52 **It was AGREED to discuss the planning item next**
Proposed: Cllr B Bagnell, Seconded: Cllr W Brock **Action: Clerk**

Planning Applications
Update on previous applications noted in **Appendix 1**

Cllr S Butler left the meeting.

EHDC-26-0082-FUL -Land South Of Wilsom Farm Wilsom Road, Alton, Hampshire,
Erection of four Use Class E(g)(iii) (light industrial) / Use Class B8 (storage and distribution) commercial units, including access, parking, landscaping, drainage works and amenity area, and associated works.
Deadline 6th March 2026
It was **AGREED** to object **t**o this application on the following grounds;-

- Breach of the settlement gap between Alton and East Worldham.
- Traffic

- Noise
- Flooding
- Landscape

The application incorrectly suggests the site is within Alton, whereas most of the development falls within Worldham Parish, designated as countryside under the EHDC settlement hierarchy and subject to stricter planning policies. The proposal would therefore breach the settlement gap between Alton and East Worldham, conflicting with Policy CP23 and undermining the objectives of the Worldham Parish Plan and Priority Statement 4, which aim to preserve the open countryside and maintain the separation of surrounding villages. Concerns have also been raised regarding cumulative development along the B3004, a key gateway into the South Downs National Park, and potential traffic impacts not fully addressed in the Transport Assessment, particularly along routes through East Worldham and Kingsley. The road's deteriorating condition and steep gradient at Worldham Hill already pose challenges for larger vehicles, raising highway safety concerns and potential conflicts with Policy CP31 on transport and rural road protection. Questions remain over whether a four-day noise survey, including two weekend days, adequately represents HGV activity.

The site is directly impacted by the Caker Stream, a designated Main River, with parts lying in Flood Zones 2, 3a, and 3b, including open space and operational areas such as roads and parking, within flood-risk zones. This area has a long history of flooding. The original landscape officer's objection highlighted the site's prominent location at the gateway to the South Downs National Park, noting that large buildings and extensive hard surfacing would be out of character with the valley landscape and wet meadowland. The current proposal also fails to meet site-specific criteria b–e for the EMP2 Land at Wilsom Road as outlined in the East Hampshire District Local Plan: Housing and Employment Allocations.

Proposed: Cllr B Bagnell, Seconded: Cllr W Brock **Action: Clerk**

Cllr S Butler rejoined the meeting.

32.53 **Financial Report:** The Clerk advised that the bank balances are as follows:

Bank Balance as below

Current Account as 28/02/2026: £9,890.21

Instant Access Account (quarterly statements as 31/12/2025) : £23,903.47

Worldham Community Benefit Fund (quarterly statements as 01/01/2006): £29,531.54

Less transfer/s £0

TOTAL £63,325.22

Receipts ledger balance **£63,325.22**

To note –

A transfer of £29,531.54 from the Worldham Community Benefit Fund and a separate transfer of £23,964.01 from the TSB Treasurer's account have been made to the Unity Instant Account was made yesterday and will be reflected in the statements next month. The council will then confirm for the TSB accounts to be closed.

32.54 **Payment Schedule:**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following for payment.

Proposed: Cllr W Brock, Seconded: Cllr B Bagnell **Action: Clerk**

	Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Total
04/03/26	P Hibbins - Clerk	Salary February 2026 (£666.90 (£15.39 an hour) SALARY + WAH £24 - TAX £30.20	£660.50	£0.00	£660.50

04/03/26	HMRC	Tax February 2025 and Employer NIC (£37.48)	£67.88	£0.00	£67.88
04/03/26	P Hibbins - Clerk	Mileage - V.hall hire visit	£7.40	£0.00	£7.40
04/03/26	Paul Grace	V.Hall - Holly Tree	£200.00	£40.00	£240.00
04/03/26	Joe Steel	SpeedWatch SID new battery	£39.95	£7.99	£47.94
04/03/26	Castle Water	V.hall - Water rates	£13.16	£0.00	£13.16
			£988.89	**£47.99**	**£1,036.88**

	Payor	**Description**	**Net**	**VAT**	**Total**
TBC	EHDC	Dstr Cllr Grant -Cllr P. Davies - V.hall Windows	£885.00	£0.00	£885.00
TBC	EHDC	Dst Cllr Grant - Cllr D Ashcroft - V.Hall Windows	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
			£1,885.00	**£0.00**	**£1,885.00**

32.55 **Village Hall Hire Strategy** – To consider and agree any actions

It was **AGREED** to add a page on the Parish Council website, google maps and link in with other clerks.
It was **AGREED** to administer discount codes/advertising the space throughout the year.
It was **AGREED** to administer discount codes for referrals or first-time bookings.
Proposed: Cllr R Twining, Seconded: Cllr S Butler **Action: Clerk**

32.56 **Village Hall**
It was **AGREED** to appoint Contractor B, BT Roofing to supply and repair the guttering at the cost of £650.00 plus VAT.
Proposed: Cllr W Brock, Seconded: Cllr B Bagnell **Action: Clerk**

32.57 **SDNPA's 2025/26 call for projects for CIL funding closes 31st March 2026 –** To agree draft application and submit
It was **AGREED** to submit an application for a replacement bus shelter for the B3004 only with a budget of £8,000 plus VAT.
Proposed: Cllr R Twining, Seconded: Cllr B Bagnell **Action: Clerk**

It was **AGREED** to earmark £2,000 (25% of the total) from Parish Council funds for this project. This amount will comprise £1,248.23 from CIL monies and the remaining £751.77 from the precept or, subject to approval, from an application to the Solar Fund.
Proposed: Cllr R Twining, Seconded: Cllr B Bagnell **Action: Clerk**

It was **AGREED** to also submit an application for EHDC Strategic CIL Funding for a new bus shelter on the B3004 by the 1st May 2026 deadline submission for the same budget of £8,000 plus VAT and earmark £2,000 (25% of the total) from Parish Council funds for this project. This amount will comprise £1,248.23 from CIL monies and the remaining £751.77 from the precept or, subject to approval, from an application to the Solar Fund.
Proposed: Cllr R Twining, Seconded: Cllr B Bagnell **Action: Clerk**

32.58 **To note any reports or updates from Councillors or the Clerk regarding meetings attended or issues raised**

The Chair reported that an update had been requested from SSEN on 14 February; however, only a holding email has been received to date.

A total of 52 community projects across the region had been awarded funding through the Police Commissioner's Community Fund this year, supporting initiatives aimed at improving safety, wellbeing and community engagement. Within East Hampshire, three projects were successful in securing grants, including two local applications submitted by Worldham Community Speedwatch and Worldham Parish Council. The funding will be used to purchase new Speedwatch equipment and a new Speed Indicator Device (SID), providing just over £10,000 worth of traffic-calming measures for the parish. The council recorded its congratulations to the Speedwatch Lead, Nicky Twining, who led on the two successful applications.

The Chair also noted the successful application to the Woodland Trust Community Tree Pack. The trees will be planted in the cleared area at the playground in the autumn

32.59 **Date of next meeting**
Meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month, 7.30pm, at East Worldham Village. The next meeting to take place 1st April 2026.

32.60 **Items for next agenda**

32.61 The Chair closed the meeting at 9.20pm.

Signed: ……

Date: …….

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Appendix 1 – Planning Applications Tracker

Last 15th January 2026					
Planning App. Ref No	**Address**	**Proposal**	**Consultation Expiry Date**	**Parish Council Comments**	**Decision**
SDNP/25/04215/LDE	5 Hartleywood Farm, Surrey Auto Services	Lawful Development Certificate Existing- General-purpose car and vehicle workshop	5th December 2025	No comment	
SDNP/25/02342/FUL	Meadow Farm Fishery Green Street East Worldham Bordon Hampshire GU34 3AU	Demolition of existing temporary agricultural worker dwelling and proposed 3 bedroom, Self-Build, agricultural worker dwelling with car port (amended description).	August 2025	No objection	
EHDC-25-0716-FUL	Land Off Gaston Lane, Upper Farringdon, GU34 3HW	The construction and operation of a 44MW solar PV farm, 2MW BESS and other associated infrastructure	11th July	Objection	
EHDC-25-0127-HSE	Barleywood Farm Barleywood Farm Lane, West Worldham, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 3HW	Conversion of 4No. redundant stables to create 2No. bedrooms with en-suite shower rooms and a study area.	13th May	No objection	
60393	Blanket Street, East Worldham, Alton, Hampshire	New Electricity Substation & Access Road			
SDNP/24/00122/OPDEV	Pookles Cottage, Worldham Hill, East Worldham.	A rudimentary timber open sided structure has been constructed which measures approximately 2 x 2 x 2m in scale. The structure includes a timber floor which is virtually at the existing ground level.0020We have been advised that the structure is to be used as a shelter for those working on the land. In planning terms, the structure has been constructed without the benefit of a suitable planning permission and has therefore led to a breach of planning control. Notwithstanding this fact, it is the Council's opinion that it would not be proportionate or in the wider public interest to take any formal enforcement action seeking the structure's removal.			

		We have discussed this matter with the landowner and have suggested that a planning application be submitted in an attempt to regularise the structure in planning terms.			
23/00794/REVPP	Farnborough Airport , Farnborough Road, Farnborough, Hampshire	Variation of Condition 2 (aircraft movements) and 6 (aircraft weight), replacement of conditions 7 (1:10,000 risk contour) and 8 (1:100,00 risk contour), of planning permission 20/00871/REVPP determined on the 22/02/2022,	17/12/2023	Strongly Object	