

Wanborough Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 30th July 2025 at 7.45pm in Wanborough Village Hall

Meeting started 7. 30pm

Those present: James Henry (chairman JH), Oscar de Chazal (OC), Robert Drummond (RD), Martin Bramley (MB), Sallie Barker (SB), Kim Sweeting (clerk KS)

Apologies: Matthew Harrison (MH), Matt Furniss (MF)

Members of the public were present.

1. **E-016 Minutes of the last meeting on Tuesday 29th May 2025 to approve and sign.**
JH confirmed that everyone had received the draft minutes. The minutes were agreed as true and accurate and signed by JH.
2. **E-017 Matters arising**
JH asked if anyone had anything not covered on the agenda. No one did.
3. **E-018 Update from SCC and GBC representative**
SB said that, in absence of MF, she would provide a brief update on behalf of SCC as well.

Community governance after the reorganisation.

SB stated that Guildford Town centre would become the only area of the Borough that will not be covered by a parish council, as a result of the change to 3 or 3 unitary authorities. Therefore, there will be a consultation with the city centre residents to establish if there needs to be one, albeit involving additional cost to local rate-payers. SB had already suggested an alternative cheaper structure of chartered trustees to help protect the mayoral heritage and ceremonies. In response to a question from RD, SB said she expected any such city centre representatives to be elected and unpaid. JH asked if there will be any consultation with people outside the city centre? SB didn't think so, but felt it was valid question in respect of the mayoral impact.

Wanborough Fields Enforcement update

At a meeting this afternoon, with SB and MF, the GBC Planning Enforcement team confirmed that, following the issue of a further three enforcement notices relating to plots in the lower Wanborough Fields, they are now in a position to progress with legal action.

SB reported that GBC officers will attend a court hearing tomorrow, Thursday 31st July 2025, to apply for an injunction against 37 known and unknown plot owners. The proposed injunction will prohibit the erection of any further permanent structures or hardstanding on the site. Should the court approve the injunction, it is anticipated that notices will be served on Friday 1st August 2025. Any breaches of such an injunction would be a criminal offense.

SB noted that two members of the GBC Planning Enforcement Team were working full-time on the Wanborough Fields enforcement issues. Due to the ongoing and very aggressive behaviour directed at GBC staff and local residents by certain individual plot owners, GBC has asked the police to upgrade the status of the site to that of a police operational matter.

On behalf of WPC and local residents, OC and JH both expressed their gratitude to the GBC enforcement team, as well as to MF and SB, for the long-term efforts made to reach this stage. JH said he hoped this would be significant step forward towards reversing the damage done by unauthorised development activity, that is so urgently needed. MB added that this legal action would set a positive precedent for addressing similar planning breaches in other areas of the borough.

Local residents in attendance expressed strong support for this proposed legal injunction, but urged GBC to back up this course of action with a wider injunction to also cover the upper Wanborough Fields area which remained vulnerable to an expansion of the unauthorised development activity already seen. Some members of the public said they were ready to provide GBC with additional legal and financial support. In response to requests for more information about the injunction, once served, SB said she would provide clarification regarding (i) details of the injunction wording; (ii) what would constitute a breach; (iii) how and to whom (GBC and/or police) expected breaches should be reported. It was agreed that a specific case reference would be useful.

JH thanked SB and those in attendance for their contributions.

4. E-019 Planning and enforcement updates

Status of recent applications

25/P/00843 – Broadmeade Copse

Agreed that WPC has no objection. MB declared interest as direct neighbour to site.

25/P/00953&954 – Wanborough Springs

Agreed that WPC has no objection

25/P/00435 West Flexford Farm

Agreed that WPC has no objection

25/P/00515 - Wayover, Hogs Back

RD declared interest as a close neighbour and expressed concern regarding planning compliance of proposed upper floor north facing windows.

Action: JH to circulate proposed comments for final review by councillors prior to submission to GBC portal by KS.

Proposed Normandy residential development by Taylor Wimpey

JH reported that Taylor Wimpey were running a short pre-application consultation process for a significant new residential development of approximately 900 houses in Normandy, north of Wanborough Station between Glaziers Lane and Westwood Lane. JH stated that such a large development would have a significant impact on local infrastructure and traffic and urged everyone to get involved and input comments. A full planning application is expected in Q4 2025.

Status of Enforcement

APP/Y3615/W/25/3366788 & APP/Y3615/C/25/3369001 - land to east of Down Lane, Compton. Appeal re refusal (of 24/P/00495) and enforcement notice.

Agreed that WPC should restate reasons for original objection.

APP/Y3615/C/25/3368985 – lower Wanborough Field plots 10a, 11 & 14, Lot A1

Although this site is subject to the legal action reported by SB above, it was agreed that WPC should reiterate the original objections to the unauthorised development to the inspectorate.

A member of the public asked if the personal details of those submitting comments can be kept anonymous. It was thought personal addresses can be redacted upon request to GBC. JH

stated that WPC's response would include a comment re the ongoing intimidation of local residents.

5. E-020 Traffic and road matters

Litter

JH noted that a resident had emailed WPC with concerns over litter. The ongoing ad hoc litter picking by some kind individuals was noted. KS reported that, after conducting a poll, weekend afternoons would be preferred for future community litter picks. Therefore, KS proposed the weekend of 6/7th September, which would allow people to be back from holiday, ahead of Heritage Weekend and Great Barn opening to the public on 13/14th September. This was agreed.

The same resident requested that WPC consider a regular paid litter-picking service. KS will talk to Normandy Parish council to investigate potential costs etc.

Rights of way.

JH reminded WPC that, at the previous meeting, a member of the public had queried the status of an old footpath to the hamlet. Since then, KS and OC investigated the matter to find that the route in question was not considered a public right of way by SCC. The member of public stated that approaching WPC was a first step and, if the council were in favour, he would pursue the next steps to try to have this historic footpath reinstated. JH stated that WPC currently had no available time or resources for such a project, but had no objection to the member of the public reviewing the issue in more detail for future presentation to WPC.

6. E-021 Finances and cheques

Payments made since the last meeting:

£313.29	Zurich insurance annual renewal
£119.62	Surrey ALC subscription
£897.75	Clerk payment Q2 2025

JH confirmed that the March 2025 annual accounts, and AGAR Form 2, approved at the last meeting had subsequently been signed off by internal auditor and submitted by KS to the relevant authority.

7. E-022 Consultations

No outstanding consultations.

8. E-023 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 23rd September

Tuesday 25th November

Please note that the next two meetings will be held on a Tuesday (rather than a Wednesday)

9. E-024 Any other business

No councillors had any further business to raise.

KS, on behalf of the Wanborough Barn Committee, stated that the Treasurer is stepping down. The committee is therefore seeking new members to support with public open days, various events, and the general upkeep of the Barn. Anyone interested in joining the team is encouraged to get in touch with the committee directly.

A local resident raised an ongoing concern regarding a tree leaning on a power cable, on the lane by Manor Cottages. It was agreed that WPC should write to both the landowner and the power company to request that the problem be resolved.

Another resident wished to raise awareness of a tragic RAF plane crash in 1945 and sought WPC support for a commemorative plaque in the hamlet to mark the 80th year anniversary. ON 23rd August 1945 and RAF Mosquito aircraft broke apart at 19,000 feet while on a test flight with a two-man crew. While the pilot ejected and landed safely, the observer, a scientist named Henry Becker, was killed when the aircraft crashed at Green Cut Copse. Unfortunately, the fallen wreckage resulted in the crash of an Army lorry that killed four servicemen from the Coldstream Guards. The resident suggested that the upcoming Heritage Weekend might be an appropriate opportunity for the unveiling of some form of memorial, which was likely to attract some support from the military. JH thanked the resident for sharing this history and agreed that it was an event worth recognising, publishing and commemorating. JH suggested that this event could and should be detailed as a new exhibit within the Great Barn (similar to those prepared regarding the SOE). Although timing looked too tight for Heritage Weekend 2025, the installation and unveiling of a memorial in due course did seem appropriate, subject to details of design, cost and funding.

JH confirmed there was no further business and closed the meeting at 20:48 hours.