



EAST WITTERING & BRACKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH
OCTOBER 2025 AT 7.00PM AT BRACKLESHAM BARN, BEECH AVENUE,
BRACKLESHAM PO20 8HU.

EWBPC **COUNCILLORS** **PRESENT**

Beverley Ford (BF) Vice Chair
Pamela Kensington (PK)
Doug Holden (DH)
Victoria Ford Coates (VFC)
Joe O'Sullivan (JOS)
Deborah Picken (DP)
Richard Ford (RF)
Chris Ford (CF)

OTHER **COUNCILLORS** **PRESENT**

Elizabeth Hamilton CDC Councillor (EH)
Iain Ballantyne CDC Councillor (IB)

APOLOGIES

Brian Reeves (BR), Joanna El-Batal (JEB), Pieter Montyn WSCC Councillor (PM)

ABSENT

Danny Grigg (DG)

IN ATTENDANCE

Parish Clerk (TG), Deputy Clerk (VM) 8 Members of the Public

25.118 **Apologies** - The apologies for absence were approved. For: 8 Against: 0 Abstained: 0

25.119 **Declarations of Interest and dispensation requests** – None

RF Declared an interest in agenda item 25.138.

25.120 **Public Questions**

None

25.121 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting Held on 11th September 2025** ([appendix 1](#))

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2025 were agreed as a true record and signed by The Chair.

25.122 **Chairman's Announcements**

The CDC Refuse truck drove into the overhead barrier at Downview car park causing considerable damage. This has been made good and quotes for the repair / replacement of the barrier have been requested. CDC has admitted liability the clerks are working with CDC to claim back the expenditure once the insurance claim has been settled.

We have been advised that the work to provide a safer pedestrian crossing on the junction of Bracklesham Lane, Stocks Lane and Beech Avenue will commence in January 2026 and will include tactile paving on the pavements and the central refuge.

Pieter Montyn has shared information regarding a Motion on Shoplifting to prioritise retail crime. The Motion requests that:

Reports of shop theft where there is clear evidence (CCTV etc) are properly investigated

That clear operational guidelines regarding the detaining of suspects is provided to retailers

That Councillors receive a response on how these commitments will be delivered, detailing measurable outcomes, and shared with responsible bodies.

We have been alerted to an outline planning application for the erection of 92 residential dwellings in Runcton. This seriously contradicts the recently finalised Chichester Local Plan that stated that there would be no further housing developments on the Manhood Peninsular, and no developments outside the settlement boundary. The CDC Planning Committee, however, have deferred their decision - not on the basis of this - but rather on whether the original house on the proposed site should be demolished. Could Iain or Elizabeth shed some light on this? Our concern is that if this speculative application is permitted when it comes back to Committee, it could potentially set a precedent for further speculative planning applications, which are designed to create a landbank against future building requirements. The integrity of the recently finalised Chichester Local Plan is seriously undermined by this application.

CDC Councillors will look into this; Iain will ask David Betts to red card the application to ensure it goes back to the planning committee.

The Clerk to request written confirmation from Chichester District Council that it will continue to apply the Local Plan consistently across the District. Share this position with neighbouring parishes, as similar issues may arise along the Manhood Peninsula and write a letter from all the parishes on the Manhood to the Housing Minister, Our MP and Andrew Frost expressing our concerns.

25.123 Update on Actions from Previous Meeting

An update had been previously issued ([appendix 2](#))

- 25.124** IB – The Government has introduced mandatory food waste collections. CDC will be providing every household with a 5lt bin for inside, decomposable sacks and a 23lt lockable bin for outside the house. Collections will be weekly. The program will be rolled out between March and May 2026.

There is a newly formed group, The Chichester Harbour Investment and Adaptation Plan who have been designed to coordinate Councillors and officers from CDC and Havant Borough Council.

EH – Funding is once again available for free trees. CDC have agreed to fund 50% of the Community Warden costs.

25.125 Reports from Parish Councillors on meetings attended since 11th September 2025

Planning Committee Meeting on 15th Sept & 6th Oct – no objections to any of the applications

Christmas Afternoon Tea Working Party Meeting held on 2nd October – preliminary thoughts are down on paper, dependent upon the budget allocation by Council at this meeting

DP – GLAM and MPP meetings – Minutes have been circulated

25.206 Budget Update

1. Bank reconciliation approval for September 2025 ([appendix 3](#))
 2. Statement of current financial position and budget monitor ([appendix 3.1](#))
 3. Summary of payments made between 01/09/2025 and 30/09/2025 ([appendix 3.2](#))
- Council **APPROVED** the list of payments from 01/09/25 to 30/09/25, totalling £100,057.18
4. Quarter 2 Financial Report ([appendix 3.3](#))
- Council **REVIEWED** the report.

25.127 Introduction from the new Community Warden Barry Faust

Barry introduced himself to the meeting and was welcomed by the council.

25.128 Introduction from the new Youth Worker Mandy Connor

Mandy introduced herself to the meeting and was welcomed by the council.

25.129 To receive an introduction to a proposed seaweed cultivation project from Southcoast Seaweed Ltd

Representatives from Southcoast Seaweed Ltd introduced the project to Council. A question and answer session followed. The Council are happy to support the project in principle and requested regular updates be provided.

25.130 To consider a request for a non turf Cricket pitch on Bracklesham Park

A representative from West Wittering Cricket Club introduced the project to Council. A question and answer session followed. The Council are happy to support the project in principle. West Wittering Cricket Club will start investigating further, consult with the football clubs and members of the public and update the Council accordingly. The Clerk will provide information regarding the pipework associated with drainage and heat pump.

25.131 To note the conclusion of The Internal Auditors Interim Report

Council NOTED the report.

25.132 To consider contributing to the costs of running The Help Hub

Mike Nichols thanked Council for the funding towards the costs of the youth worker. He explained the Selsey Community Forum and the work they carry out in The Witterings.

Council AGREED to help financially support the project and will include £4,200 in the 2026/27 budget to be allocated to The Selsey Community Forum. Council also suggested that Mike contact the neighbouring parish councils to ask for additional funding.

25.133 To agree to transfer £800 from the Community Picnic Budget into the Christmas Afternoon Tea Budget

Council AGREED to reallocate £800 from the Community Picnic Budget into the Christmas Afternoon Tea event.

25.134 To review the charges for Bracklesham Barn

Council AGREED to increase hire rates by an inflationary figure of 4% rounded up to the nearest 50p from 1st January 2026.

25.135 To consider purchasing additional battery storage for the energy generated by the solar panels

Council AGREED to the purchase of 3 additional storage batteries at a cost of £3300 + vat. Funded by CiL 2018 EMR.

25.136 To agree to the provision of a new bus shelter on Stocks Lane

Council AGREED to purchase the Hassocks Bus Shelter at a cost of £13,119.60 which includes the installation costs. Funded by CiL 2018 EMR

25.137 To comment on the draft Chichester Infrastructure Business Plan

Council had no comments to make other than to once request the removal of IPB/1144 and IPB/906.

25.138 To consider a request for funding for the Christmas Tree Lights

Council AGREED to fund the Christmas Tree Lights to the value of £1,247.66. Funded by the interest received from the CCLA Investment. This is a one-off funding allocation for this year only. This decision does not set a precedent, and no additional funding will be considered in future years.

The request to assist some of individual shops with the expense of having a Christmas Tree was DECLINED as funds can only be used for assisting the community as a whole and an individual or individual business.

25.139 Request for volunteer marshalls for the Christmas Lights Switch on – 28th November 2025 5.30pm

JOS, VFC, BF, TG offered to assist at the event.

The meeting closed at 8.57pm

Minute ref	Action	Responsible
25.122	Request written confirmation from Chichester District Council that it will continue to apply the Local Plan consistently across the district. Share this position with neighbouring parishes, as similar issues may arise along the Manhood Peninsula and write a letter from all the parishes on the Manhood to the Housing Minister, Our MP and Andrew Frost expressing our concerns.	The Clerk
25.130	Provide information regarding the pipework associated with drainage and heat pump.	The Clerk
25.132	Include £4,200 in the 2026/27 budget to financial assist The Selsey Community Forum with the Help Hubs they run in The Witterings	The Clerk
25.133	Reallocate £800 from the Community Picnic budget to the Christmas Afternoon Tea budget	The Clerk
25.134	Increase The Barn hire charges by 4% from 1 st January 2026	The Clerk
25.135	Purchase 3 additional solar panel storage batteries	The Clerk
25.136	Purchase The Hassocks Bus Shelter	The Clerk
25.137	Request IBP/1144 and IBP/ 906 be removed from The Infrastructure Business Plan	The Clerk
25.138	Fund the purchase of the Christmas Tree Lights	The Clerk

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 13th November 2025 at 7.00pm, Bracklesham Barn



T Glithero, Parish Clerk, 13th October 2025.