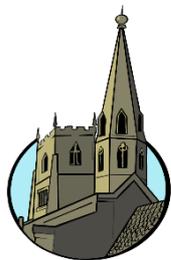


WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL held at
Village Hall, High Street, Wanborough
on Monday 23rd February 2026 at 7pm



Cllrs present: Kathy Glanville (Chair), John Emmins, David Hayward, Gary Sumner, John Warr.

In attendance: Laura Evans (Clerk,) Anne Bradley (Assistant Clerk), and three members of the public.

Minute Ref: FC/26.02/26

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Richard Bellamy, Cllr Omar Mirza and Cllr Colin Offer

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr David Hayward declared an interest in Agenda item 13 as he is an allotment plot holder.

3. Minutes

Cllr David Hayward highlighted two wording issues within the previous minutes, and the necessary adjustments were made.

Resolved: Cllr Gary Sumner proposed the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 26th January 2026 were a true record, seconded by Cllr John Emmins, and unanimously agreed and signed.

4. Review action list from previous meeting

The action list provided by the Clerk was noted. The only comment received related to dog fouling discussed at the January meeting, and the Clerk was requested to publish a reminder on Facebook and in The Lyden.

5. Public Questions

The meeting adjourned for public questions at 7:07pm

A resident in attendance raised concerns regarding Footpath 44, which has remained closed since 2018. The resident noted that they had written to the Rights of Way Officer at Swindon Borough Council, on three occasions but had not received a response. It was understood that the matter was being considered alongside proposed bridge works. Cllr Gary Sumner confirmed he had raised the issue with a senior manager at SBC.

No more questions or queries were raised.

The meeting re-adjourned at 7:14pm

Cllr Kathy Glanville proposed that Agenda Item 17 – Bench Request – be brought forward for discussion. The meeting agreed.

The information provided by the residents was circulated to councillors as part of the agenda pack, including photographs of the preferred bench location in Warnage Wood and the proposed bench style.

Cllr David Hayward confirmed that the suggested location lies on private land owned by the Woodland Trust, and that formal permission would therefore be required. He noted the ongoing difficulty in establishing contact with an appropriate representative at the Woodland Trust.

Cllr Kathy Glanville suggested that an alternative location could be Rodway, where the sculpture had previously been sited before its removal for safety reasons. While the residents expressed a preference for Warnage Wood, they indicated they would consider Rodway as an alternative.

Resolved: Cllr Kathy Glanville confirmed that the Parish Council is supportive of the bench proposal and requested that Cllr David Hayward make a further attempt to contact the Woodland Trust to seek permission, with an update to be provided at the next meeting. This was seconded by Cllr John Warr and unanimously agreed

6. Finance

- a. **Resolved:** Cllr Gary Sumner proposed acceptance of the orders of payment for February, seconded by Cllr John Warr, and unanimously agreed.
- b. **Resolved:** The meeting received and considered the Financial Report and no questions or queries were raised.
- c. **Resolved:** The meeting considered the Quarter 3 budget versus spend report and noted that 90% of the annual budget had been spent.
Resolved: Approval was granted by the meeting for the cost of £65 for the allotment hedge cutting, which had been carried out by a local farmer after Swindon Borough Council confirmed they would not undertake the work.
- d. IRP Recommended Parish Allowance for 2026/27
The meeting discussed the recommendation.
Resolved: Cllr John Warr proposed acceptance of the recommendation, seconded by Cllr Gary Sumner and was unanimously agreed.
- e. To consider and approve the request from the Cricket Club for an electronic scoreboard-invoice not sent – The meeting agreed to defer this item as the information had not been provided by the Cricket Club.

7. Report from Swindon Borough Council (SBC) Ward Councillor

The meeting received and considered the Ward Councillor report. This is attached to the minutes in appendix 2.

Southern Connector Road (SCR) – Swindon Borough Council is continuing to work with the appointed administrator for Buckingham Group. The priority remains to open the road for HGV use only in September 2026.

8. Reports

- a) **Clerk's update** – The Clerk's report was circulated prior to the meeting.
Damaged verge Warnage Green – Cllr Gary Sumner proposed that a letter be sent to the resident requesting confirmation that they will reinstate the damaged grass verge, failing which the Parish Council will take remedial action and recover the costs and for it to be noted that the grass verges are valued by residents and that maintaining them is a neighbourly responsibility. Seconded by Cllr John Emmins and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Gary Sumner raised concerns from residents living between Foxhill and The Gallops regarding the need for the grass verge to be cut.

Resolved: The meeting agreed that the Clerk should contact the contractor to request that the verges be assessed, including whether they can be cut using a standard mower, and to check for any dips in the verge.

File Migration - The Clerking Team requested approval for the cost of £85 + VAT for the migration of files to SharePoint.

Resolved: Cllr Gary Sumner proposed approval of the cost, seconded by Cllr John Warr and unanimously agreed.

The meeting noted that Ridgeway Cottages needs to be included in the road sweeper's next sweep.

The Clerk requested that the Staffing Committee to be part of the interviews for those successful in applying for the Handyperson job.

Wanborough Road- Cllr Gary Sumner suggested that the Wanborough Road hedge needs a cut.

Resolved: Cllr Gary Sumner proposed asking the farmer to cut the Wanborough Road hedge, seconded by Cllr John Emmins and was unanimously approved.

- b) **Chairs update-** Cllr Kathy Glanville expressed thanks to Cllr David Hayward and the volunteers for their work clearing Beanlands Pond.

A meeting has been confirmed with lead of the SBC Active Trials. This will take place on Wednesday 4th March, with a report to follow.

A further meeting has been arranged with the Chair of Covingham Parish Council regarding the allotment partnership agreement on 11th March. It was noted that although funding for fencing had been discussed with Covingham PC, they were not willing to contribute until an agreement is in place. Cllr John Warr proposed that Covingham PC be invoiced for the previous year's allotment contribution, as well as the current years.

The Farmer's Market has agreed to Councillors holding an informal 'coffee & chat' session for an hour each month at the market. The market takes place on the third Saturday of each month.

9. Correspondence

To receive for information only a list of correspondence circulated between Monday 26th January and Friday 20th February 2026.

S/25/0992- The email from the SBC Planning Officer was discussed.

Resolved: Cllr John Warr proposed that the Clerk respond to the request, as the Parish Council confirmed that they **still wish for this application to be called-in**. This position is based on the concerns outlined previously, **particularly the outstanding issues relating to the Scheduled Ancient Monument**, which the PC does not feel have been fully resolved within the revised documentation.

10. Planning

a) To consider the following planning applications received from SBC awaiting comment:

- i. **S/26/0173- Inlands Farm, The Marsh Wanborough Swindon SN4 0AS- Outline planning application with all matters reserved (expect for access into the site) for the proposed development of up to 275 residential dwellings, a new community building (mixed use Class E and F2), open space, vehicular and pedestrian accesses, landscaping, drainage measures and all other associated works** - Councillors reviewed the key issues previously circulated, including the identified housing supply shortfall, the limited delivery of new homes to date, and the site's exclusion from the SBC draft Local Plan on the basis that it is unsuitable. The proposed development would create coalescence between Wanborough and the NEV and lies adjacent to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Concerns were raised regarding the proposal's reliance on car-based travel, which is not considered sustainable, and the absence of adequate educational provision, with the applicant suggesting that existing facilities in Wanborough would negate the need for new infrastructure. Members also noted that the projected increase in dwellings associated with the New Eastern Villages already necessitates a secondary school, with the existing school at capacity.

The Parish Council agreed that the archaeologist's concerns should be reinforced, and noted additional issues including flooding evidence at Lotmead, insufficient community engagement, and unresolved landscape impacts.

Resolved: Cllr Kathy Glanville proposed that the points prepared by Cllr John Warr and Cllr Gary Sumner be submitted to the Clerk to form a combined objection, and that the application be called in. This was seconded by Cllr John Emmins and unanimously agreed

b) To note applications determined by SBC since previous meeting (attached)

- i. **S/HOU/25/1676- 11 Avenell Road, Wanborough Swindon SN4 0BS- Erection of single storey side and rear extensions-** Granted. Cllr Gary Sumner confirmed that the immediate neighbour had not received the planning application.

11. SBC Shared Comms Forum

A Microsoft Teams site is being set up by SBC for the Shared Comms Forum to enable communication between meetings and support two-way sharing (partners amplifying council messages, and the council amplifying partner messages). It is intended to be simple and "forum-style" (posts in channels), rather than a fast-moving group chat.

Resolved: The meeting agreed for the Clerk to join and then add Cllr John Warr as a member to monitor and report back any necessary information.

12. Hooper's Field Club Licenses

The draft licenses have been returned by the solicitor but require further revision as they do not yet align with the operational requirements of Hooper's Field

Resolved: Cllr Kathy Glanville proposed that Cllr Colin Offer and Cllr Richard Bellamy arrange a meeting with the clubs to discuss and progress, seconded by Cllr Gary Sumner and unanimously agreed.

13. Allotments

The meeting considered the quotation for part-fencing the allotments. It was noted that consent from the landowner of the track is required, as the proposed fencing would be positioned close to their boundary line.

Resolved: Cllr Kathy Glanville proposed that contact be made with the landowner to seek the necessary consent. This was seconded by Cllr Gary Sumner and agreed by all members, with one abstention- Cllr David Hayward due to declaring an interest.

14. SBC- Public consultation on the update of the Swindon Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

The meeting noted the consultation on the updated Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. (LCWIP). Cllr John Warr highlighted the continued absence of a cycle/walking routes for Wanborough and shared his proposed response. The response will emphasize the need for Wanborough to be prioritised, including its connection with the Southern Connector Road (SCR). The meeting agreed that the response should be submitted.

15. Footpath above Adam's Meadow

The meeting considered the request to link the footpath above Adam's Meadow to the Oakapple footpath. It was agreed that this does not fall within the Parish Council's responsibility, particularly regarding the section requiring modification. The matter will be reported to SBC Rights of Way.

16. Kite Hill

The meeting considered the proposals to clear the footpath on Kite Hill and agreed that the required maintenance is due to garden materials being tipped over the boundary from the property above. Cllr Dave Hayward suggested that the boundary line be checked, as this path maybe in the property boundary. Members noted the need to prevent further tipping of material and agreed that the road sweeper should be asked to drive over the path.

Resolved: Cllr John Warr proposed, and Cllr Gary Sumner seconded, that a letter be issued to the landowner, and that Contractor be allocated one hour to remove the excess material and was unanimously agreed.

17. Bench Request

To consider suggested locations for installing a bench in recognition of a former Parish Councillor- moved up the agenda – discussed under item 5

18. Cricket Nets Open and Controlled Access Policy

The meeting agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

19. Parish Elections and Annual assembly

The Clerk will be attending an Election Briefing held by SBC on 26th February 2026. Cllr John Warr stated that Parish Councillors should proactively promote the upcoming elections and encourage residents to stand for the Parish Council, noting that Wanborough Parish Council is a non-political council.

Councillors noted the importance of community engagement for the Annual Meeting in May. Invitations will be issued to local community groups.

Cllr John Warr and Clerk to work on a communication plan.

Spring Clean Event – 28 March 2026

A community Spring Clean will take place on Saturday 28th March from 10am–12pm, with details to be shared on the Parish Council's Facebook page. Two meeting points will be arranged, and Foxhill volunteers will be encouraged to participate. Litter pickers can be delivered as required.

Ward Councillor update February 2026:

Litter Picking: Andy Wallis (a resident) who has joined some of our litter picks has offered to organise midweek sessions for those who are retired or find it difficult to help at weekends. They would just borrow our litter pickers and vests, and we can arrange to collect or give access to Hooper's bins to place the collected litter.

Highways: Lots of complaints about the quality of pothole repairs. Numerous blown tyres and car damage at Lotmead entrance.

Greyhound rescue centre: Matter being addressed by the site owner.

Wanborough Road: Complaints from residents about mud on pavement from Lotmead to Redlands Grove and the overgrown hedge – discussed with Simon Anthony who indicated Foxbridge North owner is trying to sell the site. Suggest we ask Julian if he could cut the hedge and if we can arrange a pavement sweep after?

Lotmead: Craig Ballinger (Vistry) provided an update on the ongoing water main connection works on Wanborough Road, which are being carried out by Network Plus under Thames Water's instruction and are not within Vistry's control.

The works were originally scheduled for early December with completion before Christmas, but Network Plus has failed three times to connect the water main successfully, causing delays impacting site progress and local residents.

After another failed attempt on Thursday, Craig Ballinger has instructed MV Kelly to assist Network Plus, aiming to complete the connection by Thursday 26th February, citing MV Kelly's competence as essential.

Once the connection is completed, Craig Ballinger plans to submit a formal complaint to Thames Water regarding delays and poor workmanship.

Craig Ballinger will continue to provide updates.

Redlands: Update from Bellway on play areas:

Bellway instructed landscapers will have completed all outstanding landscaping and planting by the end of this month.

The bridges are still due to be delivered and installed by the end of March. When they have been installed, the hoggin path leading to the bridges will then be laid.

3 play areas, including the basketball pitches are due to commence at the end of Feb, this work will take approximately 3 months. Once completed, they will be handed over to the management company, Dandy Wren.

Footpath 44 etc: As I haven't had a reply since September last year I have now escalated to Martin Fry's Corporate Director (Simon Anthony) in my 1-1 last week. He will ensure something happens.

Gary

Gary Sumner

Ridgeway Ward Councillor