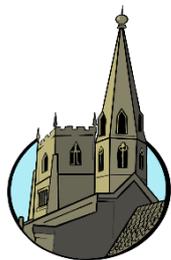


# WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of a meeting of WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL held at  
Village Hall, High Street, Wanborough  
on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7pm

**Cllrs present:** Richard Bellamy, Kathy Glanville (Chair), David Hayward, Colin Offer, Gary Sumner, John Warr.

**In attendance:** Laura Evans (Clerk,) a member of the Village Hall Committee and the Treasurer of the PCC.

**Minute Ref: FC/26.01/26**

## 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr John Emmins, Cllr Omar Mirza, Anne Bradley (Assistant Clerk)

## 2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Dave Hayward as an allotment plot holder and Cllr Gary Sumner as Treasurer of the Village Hall.

## 3. Minutes

**Resolved:** The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025 were approved and signed as true record.

## 4. Matters arising from the previous meeting (5 minutes)

Website- Continuing action, information board has been drafted. Update to be provided at the February 2026 meeting.

Bench Request- in progress.

Allotment Fencing- An update will be provided at the February meeting.

Individual Water Meters for the clubs at Hooper's Field - this is a continuing action.

## 5. Public Questions

**Sent via email:** A concern was raised regarding dog fouling occurring on the football pitches at Hooper's Field and by the telegraph poles, which is particularly unpleasant for young children. Cllr Colin Offer agreed that the Parish Council need to consider possible solutions. The Clerk to contact SBC for advice, place a polite reminder in the Lyden and on Facebook, and liaise with the SBC Dog Warden.

## 6. Wanborough Village Hall

The Parish Council considered the attached briefing note.

Members expressed strong support for the proposals. Cllr Richard Bellamy commented that it was a well-written paper and highlighted the need for a WPC backstop/wind-up clause, noting that the Village Hall would be held by the Parish Council as Custodian trustee.

Cllr Gary Sumner agreed, stating that safeguarding and maintaining such a well-used and well-loved village asset was essential and therefore the principle of Parish Council involvement was sensible.

Cllr John Warr emphasised the importance of ensuring the property remained for the benefit of the village. He recommended obtaining legal advice and establishing a fallback process so that, in the event of a catastrophic issue, control would return to Wanborough Parish Council. He advised engaging a solicitor at this stage to ensure alignment.

It was agreed that both parties would seek legal advice.

The PCC Treasurer raised the point that funds from the Diocese of St Andrew's should remain within the village.

**Resolved:** Cllr Warr proposed that the Parish Council was fully supportive of the initiative, provided the key issues identified were addressed. Cllr Bellamy seconded the proposal and was agreed with a majority vote with Cllr Gary Sumner not voting due to the interest declared.

Cllr David Hayward noted that the church is selling the property to the charity and that the associated funds have been ring-fenced for use within Wanborough.

**It was agreed to include a joint statement in the Lyden Magazine.**

## 7. Finance

- a. To receive and approve orders of payment for January (attached)  
**Resolved:** Cllr Richard Bellamy proposed the orders of payments for January. Cllr Colin Offer seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed.  
BT: The Clerk was asked to explore contract options, confirm the remaining contract term, and note opportunities for a cheaper alternative.
- b. To receive and consider financial report  
**Resolved:** The meeting received and considered the Financial Report, Cllr Dave Hayward highlighted that the allotment rent from plot holders was allocated to the wrong code, should be coded to 65 rather than 4. The Clerk will investigate this and arrange for the entries to be reallocated where possible.

## 8. Precept 2026-27

- a) To receive and consider the draft budget and precept request for 2026/267 as recommended by the Planning, Policy and Finance and Audit Committee held 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026  
**Resolved:** The meeting received and considered the draft budget and precept request for 2026-27.  
The meeting noted and agreed the recommendation from the Planning, Policy and Finance Committee to apply a 5% increase to the club's licence fees.
- b) To agree a budget for 2026/27 -Members noted that the initial draft budget had started at a significantly higher percentage increase and had been progressively reduced. A 7% increase was considered reasonable and in line with other Parish Councils, with the expectation that residents would see visible improvements as a result.  
**Resolved:** Cllr Gary Sumner proposed acceptance of the draft budget, Cllr John Warr seconded the proposal, which was carried by majority vote, with Cllr Dave Hayward objecting.  
During discussion, Cllr Hayward raised a query regarding the cricket nets, suggesting that associated costs should be included within operating expenditure. He also noted that match-funding arrangements are not as favourable as they once were.  
Members reflected on the success of recent initiatives, commenting that the budget supports the continued delivery of opportunities for the village, including the importance of future storage provision at Hooper's as well as Footpaths.
- c) To set the precept request for 2026/27  
**Resolved:** Cllr Gary Sumner proposed to request a precept of £171,407-00 from Swindon Borough Council which represents a cost of £114.83 for Band D household which equates to a 7% increase. Cllr John Warr seconded the proposal and was agreed with a majority vote with Cllr Dave Hayward voting against.

## 9. Report from Swindon Borough Council (SBC) Ward Councillor

The meeting received and noted the report, which is attached to the minutes in appendix 1.

The matter was raised regarding the lack of response from the SBC Rights of Way Officer, despite emails having been sent over several months regarding outstanding issues. The meeting agreed that the Clerk is to write to the Chief Executive of SBC to escalate this matter.

## 10. Reports

To receive and consider minutes, reports and recommendations from the following councillors, officers, committee and working party meetings, including any decisions taken under delegated authority:

- a) Clerk's update  
**Pack Hill:** The Clerk sought confirmation on whether the Parish Council wished the farmer to cut the verges along Pack Hill. The meeting noted that timing is important due to the bird-nesting season beginning on 1st March.

**Resolved:** Cllr Gary Sumner proposed the farmer cut the verge on Pack Hill. Cllr Dave Hayward seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed. The Clerk will contact the Farmer to arrange.

**Internal Audit:** A meeting has been arranged with the Internal Auditor at 9am on 10th February to begin the year-end audit, due to the auditor's workload.

**Church Car Park Bin:** A resident raised concerns about the broken bin in the Church Car Park and the associated issues of litter and dog waste being scattered around it. The Clerk has spoken to Allbuild and confirmed that Glasdon Topsy Royale bins are now being supplied at approximately £290 + VAT, with installation costing around £50 + VAT. Due to the usage level and the condition of the second bin, two replacements would be required. The meeting agreed that there is not sufficient space for two bins but suggested that one larger bin be purchased.

**Resolved:** A delegated budget of £500 to the Clerk, was agreed for bin replacement.

Proposed by Cllr John Warr. Seconded by Cllr Colin offer. All agreed.

**Defibrillators:** Two sets of replacement pads have been ordered — one for Hooper's Field and one for the Village Hall. The current volunteer responsible for the Foxhill defibrillator has stepped down, and a new volunteer has been appointed.

**Elections:** The Clerk will be attending the Election Briefing hosted by SBC on 26th February.

- b) Chairs update – The Chair reported that a meeting is being held with Covingham Parish Council Chair, Cllr John Emmins, and the Assistant Clerk regarding an update on the allotments. The Clerk's probation period was confirmed as successfully completed.

## 11. Correspondence

To receive for information only a list of correspondence circulated between Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025 and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026.

The meeting noted the list of correspondence.

## 12. Planning

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

- i. S/25/0294- Appeal for Creation of a dropped kerb and new driveway- Rowenburgh, High Street, Wanborough, Swindon, SN4 0AE

**Resolved:** The meeting wished to maintain its former objection and wished for it to be noted that the situation is turning unpleasant and causing a neighbourhood dispute. The need for a speedy resolution to also be noted.

b) **Due to time constraints, the below applications were not discussed at the Planning, Finance Committee held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026 and instead discussed at this meeting.**

- **S/HOU/25/1685** - Erection of a single storey rear extension - Cwrt Bleddyn, 1 Slate Meadow Wanborough Swindon SN4 0BY.  
**Resolved:** No objection
- **S/HOU/25/1687**- Erection of a first-floor extension and outbuilding - Bushey House, 37 Church Road Wanborough Swindon SN4 0BZ.  
**Resolved:** No objections, but a comment be submitted stating that a site management plan to deal with the narrow road and to be mindful of avoiding the school buses.
- **S/HOU/25/1676**- Erection of single storey side and rear extensions- 11 Avenell Road, Wanborough, Swindon SN4 0BS  
**Resolved:** Comment neither for nor against, but the concerns raised regarding the proximity to the neighbouring property be noted.

c) **To note applications determined by SBC since previous meeting**

- i. **S/TWC/25/1226**- Works to Trees within Conservation area- The Croft, Church Road, Wanborough- Granted.

- ii. **S/25/1266-** Demolition of existing dwelling & erection of 1no.replacement dwelling, including change of use of part of paddock to residential curtilage- The Bungalow, The Marsh Wanborough- Refused on the following grounds.

*The development by virtue of its siting, scale, form, design and extent fails to deliver high quality design and would result in an unjustified encroachment into the open countryside. It would compromise the non-coalescence area and fail to respect and conserve the natural and historic environment, surrounding character and context, and landscape character. The development is unsuitable for the location and therefore fails to comply with Policies SD1, SD2, DE1, EN5 and NC3 of the adopted Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026 and National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).*

### 13. Cricket Nets

Members considered the draft Open and Controlled Access Policy provided by WCC.

Cllr Richard Bellamy expressed his support for Hooper's but raised concerns regarding governance and the relationship with the clubs. He highlighted that the cricket nets are not the property of the Cricket Club, having been funded by the Parish Council and grants, and expressed concern about personal data being provided to an individual club representative. He noted that the facility is the Parish Council's asset and that the current arrangement presents issues relating to safeguarding, liability, and ownership.

He further questioned whether the Parish Council is effectively managing the facility, noting that the number of clubs using Hooper's Field has grown significantly. Reference was made to the Tennis Club, which manages its facilities under its own arrangements. He suggested that, as part of the forthcoming lease process, management responsibilities should be passed formally to the clubs, ensuring data control and governance are handled appropriately.

The Clerk will circulate the Terms of the Grant for consideration  
The meeting agreed to defer the item to the next meeting.

It was noted that while the existing policy might operate as an interim measure, concerns should be recorded and any future policy should be aligned with the licence and lease management arrangements.

Cllr Bellamy will work with the Clerk to identify and set out the amendments required.

### 14. Hooper's Field Club Licenses

The meeting noted the update regarding the licenses and noted the Clerking Team's concerns that the license provided by the Solicitor does not adequately cover some areas, especially since it is a shared facility. These questions and concerns have been sent to the Solicitor to review.

Cllr Bellamy will work with the Clerk to identify and set out the amendments required.

### 15. Rodway Sculpture

The sculpture has been taped off and notices published on Social Media requesting residents to not go near, due to it constituting a public safety hazard.

The cost for full removal of the sculpture including the foundations is £925 +VAT.

The cost of removal of sculpture and reduce to ground level is £725 + VAT.

Unfortunately, the base of the sculpture is not suitable for a bench.

**Resolved:** Cllr John Warr proposed that delegated authority be given to the Clerk to proceed with the best way possible. Cllr Richard Bellamy seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed.

### 16. Allotments

To consider the quotation from the Contractor for the improvement of the allotment paths

**This item is deferred until the next meeting due to not having costs.**

### 17. Defibrillator

The meeting considered the request from Wanborough Primary School to move the defibrillator to an external location, with costs to be met by the Parish Council. The meeting noted that the Parish Council is already responsible for four defibrillators within the village and that this unit was installed specifically for the use of the school and teaching staff, which is the reason it is not accessible 24/7.

**Resolved:** Cllr John Warr proposed to **not** move the Defibrillator to an external location, Cllr Richard Bellmay seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed.

**18. Take a Stand Scheme- Life Cycle**

The meeting considered the email and information received from Life Cycle regarding the offer of free cycle stands. Members agreed that there are already bike stands at Hooper's Field and the Village Hall, both of which are rarely used.

**Resolved:** The meeting agreed not to proceed with this scheme.

The meeting closed at 9:04pm

Draft

## **Ward Councillor update January 2026:**

**Potholes:** I have reported numerous potholes (particularly on Church Road) and today these have been marked up to be filled.

**Highways:** Rural verge cut from the crossroads to The Gallops in Foxhill has now been done.

**Greyhound rescue centre:** Ongoing noise complaints. I'm meeting with the Planning Enforcement Manager next week.

**Wanborough Road:** Complaints from residents about mud on pavement from Lotmead to Redlands Grove and the overgrown hedge nearer Lotmead. This is the responsibility of the developer at Foxbridge North.

**Lotmead:** SBC Streetworks have agreed that work will start imminently to address the flooding at the entrance to Lotmead prior to the Section 278 works going ahead. They are just awaiting dates and traffic management for the works.

**Fly tipping:** Two more lots of fly-tipping reported and removed at Foxhill.

**Redlands:** The shop unit is now being advertised again by Alder King following the discussions with the planning team whom I approached about it being removed from the website. The primary school will now be passed to an Academy to take forward the project. I'm arranging a meeting with residents to discuss other issues, before arranging a meeting with the developers.

**Footpaths:** As I haven't had a reply since September last year, I have now escalated to Martin Fry's superiors. Very disappointing.

Gary

**Gary Sumner  
Ridgeway Ward Councillor**