



Shermanbury Parish Council

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**Minutes of the Shermanbury Parish Council meeting held
Monday 23rd March 2026 at The Bull, Shermanbury
commencing at 7.00pm.**

Present: Cllr T. Brown, Cllr M. Amos, Cllr D. Barling, Cllr R. Few, Cllr P. Field, Cllr A Rowsell and Cllr J. Read.
Horsham District Councillors L. Lambert, J. Knowles and R. Noel.
Clerk D. Langston

Minutes

6.26 Apologies for absence were received West Sussex County Councillor S. Payne.

7.26 No interests were declared.

8.26 Approval of the minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 21st January 2026. Minutes were accepted by Council and signed by the Chair.

9.26 Councillor Brown gave an update on the WASP progression. The recommendation from our planning expert is to update the current policies, finalise the design statement and wait until the housing requirement is clear and favourable.

10.26 The Parish survey and implications. Councillor Brown updated on the parish survey results which highlighted the following themes.

- Protecting the countryside.
- Speeding issues.
- Unwanted large-scale development.

11.26 Horsham District Councillor L. Lambert updated on the following items:

- Waste food collection programme started today. Horsham District Council App will highlight collections 24 hours prior.
- Community Governance Review will be held over six weeks in May and June. Council will give consideration to changing the name of the parish council to Shermanbury and Wineham.
- In September 2022 Council agreed to the installation of solar panels on The Bridge Leisure Centre after a proposal from Community Energy Horsham working in partnership with Energise South, a community benefit society experienced in running community-owned renewable energy schemes. The project is continuing to move forwards with a share offer launch expected in spring 2026.
- HDC has announced a new round of Green LEAP small business grant funding to support local businesses, which will open to applications on Friday 10th April 2026. Through the scheme small businesses can apply for up to £5,000 towards climate-friendly projects to improve their sustainability and reduce their carbon footprint, which in turn will reduce their operational costs and help attract new customers.

- Around the district meetings between Cabinet and SLT representatives and parishes went well. Items discussed were Annual Plan, Local Plan, Local Government Reorganisation and the Community Governance Review. Additional meetings will be arranged in the summer.
- Following HDC's request to re-open the examination of the 2023-2040 Local Plan the examination will take place in two stages:
 - Stage One will focus on housing requirements with examination hearings on this issue commencing on 21st April 2026. The outcomes from these hearings will guide subsequent site selection decisions.
 - Stage Two will take place in September 2026 and will consider the Council's overall strategic approach, including the identification of specific development sites within the plan.

12.26 Council reviewed the following highways projects with the parish.

- WSCC Highways have confirmed the project to install a warning system on the Mockbridge is still under review.
- Following a further crash on the junction of the A281 and B2116 Cllr Brown has contacted WSCC Highways to discuss their response to our request for a speed reduction on the A281. The Highways Officer will liaise with the Highways Engineer on this matter.
- Additional Speed Indicator Devices location. Following recent meetings between WSCC and Shermanbury Parish Councillors it was resolved to apply for a licence to erect a SIDs pole at a site just north of the Royal Oak pub. Council will obtain a quote for these works from Wilbar Associates who already maintain the current SIDs.

13.26 Wineham BESS update. Planning permission granted September 2024 with a large number of conditions attached. Council have been in contact with several bodies including WSFRS regarding the safety implications. As planning has already been granted it is not possible to revisit the application. Council will write to WSFRS and MSDC to highlight the changes to safety legislation and the need for emergency planning around these sites. Council concern is not that the risk of fire is very low but that if there is a fire it is very difficult to put out or deal with the large amount of smoke. Cllr Brown spoke to Mr Livingston who will assist council to highlight the differences between the planning conditions and the new safety requirements. Recommendations from council include writing to the developer asking if they will be complying to recent changes in safety regulations. Asking MP John Milne to raise the matter of safety implications in parliament. A last resort would be to contact press and television.

14.26 Finance and Administration.

14.1.26 Balance sheet handed to all councillors and signed by Cllr Few.

14.2.26 Council reviewed the budget spend for this quarter and confirmed the spend for the year so far as £120,287.18 (one hundred and twenty thousand, two hundred and eighty-seven pounds and eighteen pence).

14.3.26 To confirm payments raised since last meeting:

£ 56.96 T. Brown meeting expenses claim.

£ 477.60 Elan City Ltd Invoice SAJ-UK/2026/03152 SID Warranty

£ 58.00 D. Langston Administration expenses to include venue hire.

£ 20.00 S. Birnsting Invoice 020226-5 Parish Maintenance.

£ 180.00 Wilbar Assoc. Ltd Invoice WA20250847 SID Maintenance.

£ 88.48 D. Langston Administration expenses to include venue hire.

£ 44.20 HDC Invoice 23611782 Litter bin emptying.

£1,167.68 WSCC Invoice 8002057520 Salary & pension.

£ 20.00 S. Birnsting Invoice 020326-1 Parish maintenance.

£ 200.00 Henfield Haven quarterly donation.

£2,867.99 Elan City Ltd Invoice SAJ-UK/2026/03363 Purchase of SID.

£1,167.68 WSCC Invoice 8002059005 Salary & pension.

£3,168.00 Alison Eardley Invoice AEC 0420 WASP Consultation costs.

15.26 Date of next meeting confirmed as Monday 18th May 2026.