



Shermanbury Parish Council

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**Minutes of the Shermanbury Parish Council meeting held
Monday 27th July 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.

West Sussex County Councillor R. Noel.

Clerk D. Langston

Eight members of the public, six of whom who left after item 33.26 with the remaining two leaving after item 36.26.

Minutes

29.26 No apologies for absence were received.

30.26 No interests were declared.

31.26 Approval of the minutes for the Annual Parish and Annual Statutory meetings of the parish council held on 21st May 2026. Minutes were accepted by Council and signed by the Chair.

32.26 Review of road safety issues within the parish.

- Council highlighted their concerns with speeding traffic on the both the A281 and Wineham Lane. The original request for a TRO on Wineham Lane was turned down due to costings. Council have offered to make a financial contribution towards any overspend however this offer has been declined. Cllr R. Noel has spoken to WSCC Highways on this matter and has been advised an additional site survey is required. As the initial TRO request was turned down Council have now submitted a Community Highways Scheme for a speed reduction on Wineham Lane.
- Cllr Noel and Cllr Brown both have meetings planned with WSCC Highways Officer G. Fort to discuss this matter.
- Mock Bridge Automatic Warning System there is no further update on this item which remains ongoing.

33.26 Local Government Devolution and Reorganisation.

- Cllr R. Noel who confirmed the Members in charge of LGR have changed in the last few days which may result in a more proactive decision on how the unitary authority will be setup is expected in October. Prior to any decisions being made the Inter Parish group will meet to discuss how we work together as parishes to best support our residents.

34.26 Horsham District Councillors J. Knowles and L. Lambert updated on the following items.

- The consultation running until August 24th is regarding the main modifications to the existing Local Plan in order to be found sound by the Examiner. Hearings for the existing Local Plan will take place between 13th and 23rd October 2026
- There is a call for sites for Horsham District 2045, this is running from 30th June to 25th August.
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- Friday Night Lates events are taking place in the town centre between 6-8 pm on Friday nights and these events are being very well supported by residents.
- Free events happening for children over the summer in both the Horsham and Steyning areas.
- The annual Jobs Fair will be held on 30th September 3:30 – 7:30 pm.
- A Business Leaders forum will be held during October anyone interested in attending can contact Cllr Lambert.

35.26 West Sussex County Councillor R. Noel updated on the following items.

- Councillors have now settled into their new roles at WSCC.
- Recent Cabinet meetings have resulted in appointments to both outside bodies and internal committees.
- Cllr Noel has been raising both PROW enquires for Shermanbury Highways
- Requests for maintenance on unadopted roads will see council insist on residents setting up groups to deal with issues on these roads.
- Libraries have been the subject of anti-social behaviour in some areas. As a result of the investigations into these instances WSCC are going to be highlighting what is available within your local library.
- Trading Standards have been a focus with trade infringements being highlighted as an issue with counterfeit goods being investigated.
- Food waste recycling is proving successful with a reduction in black bin usage.
- WSCC is working at exceptional speed with environmental issues with some schools having to close during the hot weather.
- Street lighting has been investigated with complaints of lights being dimmer with the installation of the new LED bulbs.
- Cllr Rowsell enquired about a recent grant for tree planting within the parish. Clerk will contact Cllr Knowles on this matter.

Horsham District Councillor L. Lambert left the meeting at this point.

36.26 Implications of Mid Sussex and HDC plans.

- Cllr Brown highlighted the two plans bring an additional forty thousand dwellings within this area of West Sussex with shared infrastructure.
- Cllr Brown gave an update on housing numbers discussed at the recent HALC meeting and whether council should be more actively involved with highlighting the impact these numbers will have on local residents.
- Council resolved to support pushing forwards with arranging Inter Parish meetings.

37.26 Cllr Read highlighted the non-material changes to the proposed BESS planning application on Bob Lane/Wineham Lane. Numerous letters have been circulated to MDSC leaders, G. Ball at WSFRS and Elements Green. Council have requested a meeting with Elements Green to discuss the application. Cllr Noel confirmed both West Sussex and East Sussex Fire and Rescue Services are being disbanded and will become part of the new unitary authority. Council will continue to push for safety and environmental issues to be addressed.

Horsham District Councillor J. Knowles left the meeting at this point.

38.26 Following the recent changes to the parish council email addresses and website Cllr Brown highlighted issues experienced and his concerns with future provision. Council reviewed a recently submitted quote and resolved to move to another provider for both emails and website.

39. 26 Update on cemetery maintenance programme.

- Latest bat survey has been carried out with results being expected in the near future.
- Chapel was opened up for a recent funeral service. Council thanked Cllr Few for arranging this.
- Cllr Barling is investigating registering the title deed for the chapel.
- Cllr Brown confirmed a new historical survey of Shermanbury is being investigated by a local archaeologist.

40.26 Finance and Administration.

40.1.26 Council reviewed the balance sheet and budget figures. The confirmed spend for this financial year was £17,747.67 (Seventeen thousand, seven hundred and forty-seven pounds and sixty-seven pence). Balance sheet was signed by the Cllr P. Field.

40.2.26 Payments raised since last meeting:

£ 395.92 D. Langston administration expenses to include venue hire.

£ 45.00 Local Authority Technology CIC Invoice 45UF019-0012 parish online mapping membership.

£1283.09 WSCC invoice 8002073470 salary & pension.

£ 44.00 HDC invoice 23720751 litter bin emptying.

£ 253.00 SLCC MEM258480-1 annual membership.

£1283.09 WSCC invoice 8002078566 salary & pension.

£3000.00 Stephen John Weaver cemetery memorial wall.

£2077.00 Chloe L Weaver cemetery memorial wall.

£4910.00 Brady SR cemetery memorial wall.

£1263.93 Lordan's Timbers cemetery memorial wall.

£ 63.00 Simon Birnsting invoice 080626-2 parish & cemetery maintenance.

£ 690.00 Sussex Tree Surgeons invoice 09553 cemetery tree maintenance.

£ 200.00 Henfield Haven quarterly donation.

£1283.09 WSCC Invoice 8002084434 salary & pension.

£ 80.00 Simon Birnsting invoice 080626-2 parish & cemetery maintenance.

£ 325.50 Wilbar Associates Ltd invoice WA20260250 SID maintenance.

41.26. To confirm date of next meeting as Monday 28th September 2026.