



WEST CLANDON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Terence Patrick, Stoney Royd, Woodstock, West Clandon Surrey GU4 7UJ
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Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: Sam Wreford ("SW"), Eric Palmer ("EP"), Ray Sieber ("RS"), Jenny Wicks ("JW"), Jonathan Murphy ("JM") and Neil Higgins ("NH")

Parish Clerk: Paul Edwards ("Clerk"/"PE")

SCC Councillor Bob Hughes ("BH")

GBC Councillor Dawn Bennett ("DB")

There was 1 member of the public in attendance.

In TP's absence, the Vice-Chairman (SW) chaired the meeting.

25/030 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Ann Dickinson ("AD") and Terence Patrick ("TP"), and GBC Councillors Catherine Young ("CY") and Ruth Brothwell ("RB").

25/031 Declarations of interest

TP is an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Guildford and member of the Village Hall Management Committee. EP is the Chairman of the East and West Clandon Residents Association (EWCRA). JW is an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Guildford.

25/032 Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on March 12th 2025

The meeting approved the minutes of the March meeting without amendment.

25/033 Matters arising from the meeting on March 12th 2025

The following items from the March meeting were discussed:

- 25/019 Flooding – The Clerk and BH updated the meeting on the site visit with the SCC Floods team and a local resident.

- 25/020 Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) – SW stated that there is likely to be a lot of work for the Council to undertake in due course to support this organizational change and agreed with the Clerk that we will need to resource up a project team. JW noted that we don't yet know how many Unitary Authorities there will be in Surrey and how they will operate, so it is difficult to do much work until this is clarified. She also raised the concern about the likely lack of knowledge of the officers in the new Unitary Authorities on local issues and considerations relating to areas such as planning and housing. BH noted that Community Boards may be established to mitigate some of this. He added that some services such as ditch clearing are likely to be better carried out at the parish council level. JW queried what the neighbouring parish councils are currently doing on this subject and the Clerk agreed to ask around. RS offered to act as councillor with oversight of LGR in the event that we decide we need such a role at our May meeting.

25/034 Council Correspondence Sent and Received

The following topics relating to items of correspondence were discussed:

- Alternative forms of transport – A Meadowlands resident attending the meeting gave her thoughts on the current state of the transport options in the parish other than private car use. The bus timetable has recently improved slightly but is still too limited. SCC's Enterprise Car Club and SurreyConnect options do not operate in West Clandon and BH agreed to query both these with SCC. The Clerk mentioned that improved bus services and car clubs were mentioned in the original Garlicks Arch planning application and will ask for more information from GBC's Planning department. SW noted that he had written to South Western Railway and they have confirmed that new rolling stock with improved facilities will operate from Clandon Station on a regular basis shortly. SW also reiterated the need for secure bike lockers at the station and the Clerk confirmed that this was in our list of project requests for Garlicks Arch Section 106 monies.
- KSS Air Ambulance and St. John's Ambulance charity requests – it was agreed not to provide donations currently as both are county-level requests and we should focus any spare funds on more local charities.

25/035 Planning Matters

JM talked through the latest planning applications and rulings. The meeting determined that none needed action at this point in time.

With regards to removal of the village telephone kiosk at the Telephone Exchange, EP noted that he had received a suggestion from the owner of a neighbouring property that the kiosk be repurposed. EP has explained to the resident our previous investigations and deliberations on this subject.

25/036 Financial Matters and Approvals

SW referred to Annex C in the meeting papers relating to the payments made since the last meeting totaling £4,408.12. These were approved by the meeting.

The Clerk noted that our financial year-end was on 31st March and the year-end accounting process has thus begun. Management accounts for the full year will be presented for review at the May meeting.

25/037 Gosden Hill, Garlick's Arch, Wisley Airfield and other Local Plan updates

JW provided an update:

- Gosden Hill – Merrow Residents Association is holding a meeting today with Gosden Hill developers. CY is attending and will feed back to us.
- Garlicks Arch – JW now has a copy of the lengthy Section 106 agreement, which she needs to analyse further.
- Revised Local Plan – GBC have launched a formal 'Call for Sites' exercise. The Clerk agreed to investigate whether the Telephone Exchange could be considered for inclusion (as it is in the heart of the village and considered by many residents to be an 'eyesore').

25/038 Recreation Ground, Playground and Car Park

EP provided the following report:

- The sundry repairs to the play ground are scheduled to late April
- The annual contract with Nurture Landscapes is now agreed. There will be a 5% increase in the cost.
- The Tennis Court Committee have asked for a cut of the hedging around the court. EP noted that we could prune the conifers at the south end of the play ground at the same time and has obtained a competitive quote from a valued contractor of £1200 to do the whole job. The Tennis Court Committee have agreed to paid £800 of this cost. The meeting agreed to accept the quote.

25/039 Footpaths

NH advised that he has now taken over the Rights of Way oversight role from AD and has been briefed by AD and the Clerk. He has reported a couple of path furniture issues to SCC. The 3 footpaths around the golf course and Natural Burial Ground have been scheduled for a first cut in May with our usual contractor. The first grass cut within the Oldlands Copse SANG has already been done.

EP noted the recent parish magazine article about a proposed new footpath from East Clandon to Clandon station. The Clerk agreed to query progress with East Clandon PC.

NH noted that there have been 3 caravans and a lorry parked on the roadside at the foot of the Beechwoods. BH suggested that they had been there for 3 weeks or so and agreed to raise with the relevant officers at GBC and Surrey Highways.

25/040 A247 Matters

SW reported that he attended a local parishes meeting with BH and Surrey Highways in March which had been very informative. He observed that there were many different sections of Surrey Roads & Transport and they did not appear well joined up. He also recommended that residents use the new Fix My Streets online facility for reporting issues (including NH's concern raised about the need for speed restrictions on Tithebarns Lane).

Traffic safety on the Street was again discussed. BH noted that some mitigation options would require some street lighting. JW suggested that, although residents had previously raised concerns about such lighting, there may be an appetite for targeted lighting at key locations of danger.

25/041 AOB

The Clerk reminded the Councillors with portfolios that TP now requires input to the annual Parish Council report.

25/042 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, May 14th 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This will include the Annual Parish Meeting.

CLOSING

There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Parish Council meeting at 21.02.