



WEST CLANDON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Terence Patrick, Stoney Royd, Woodstock, West Clandon Surrey GU4 7UJ
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Clerk: Paul Edwards, Amberleaf, Clandon Road, West Clandon. GU4 7TL
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Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 11th July 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: Terence Patrick ("TP"), Eric Palmer ("EP"), Ray Sieber ("RS"), Jenny Wicks ("JW") and Neil Higgins ("NH")

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

SCC Councillor: Bob Hughes ("BH")

GBC Councillors: none

There were 2 members of the public in attendance.

25/071 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Sam Wreford ("SW"), Jonathan Murphy ("JM") and Ann Dickinson ("AD") and GBC Councillors Catherine Young ("CY"), Ruth Brothwell ("RB") and Dawn Bennett ("DB").

25/072 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.

25/073 Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on June 11th 2025

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

25/074 Matters arising from the meeting on Jun 11th 2025

The following items from in June meeting were discussed:

- 25/060 – attendance by our MP Zoe Franklyn at a future Council meeting – the Clerk noted that we are currently targeting next April or May. JW made the point that if sufficient information is known on our key issues of speculative developments, local government reorganization and traffic, then we should try to bring the attendance forward.

- 25/061 – Dangerous dogs – the Chairman reported that he has spoken to CY, who assured him that the issue was progressing within the dog licensing and environmental team within GBC. The Clerk agreed to obtain more detail from CY on the status of the petition.
- 25/061 – Glebe Cottages bus shelter bench - BH advised that he was expectant that a grant could be forthcoming from SCC but was waiting for a new grant scheme to be established. EP noted that he would await confirmation before progressing with the bench purchase and installation.

25/075 Potential Large Housing Development in West Clandon

EP reported that he had held a meeting on 2nd July with TP, JW, JM and the Clerk to share thoughts on what the Council can currently do to prepare for an expected planning application on the fields between Green Lane and Lime Grove. This was followed by a meeting on 8th July under the governance of the EWCRA (East & West Clandon Residents Association), which established an Action Group. It is expected that EP, JW and JM will represent the Parish Council on this Group.

EP proposed that we support the EWCRA Action Group by providing funds for professional advice and also allow use of the parish website for the Group's communications. **Resolved:** The Council agreed that our website could be used and that £5,000 of Council funds could be spent in principle subject to specific proposals being presented.

25/076 Council Correspondence Sent and Received

The following topics relating to items of correspondence were discussed:

- GBC's Tall Buildings SDP consultation – JW queried whether the scope of the SDP should be extended to the whole of the Borough rather than just Guildford town centre.
- Request for a banner on the recreation ground fence for the Clandon Music Festival – the meeting agreed that it would be appropriate to allow this request.

25/077 Local Government Reorganisation

RS referred to his briefing note sent out ahead of the meeting and also circulated some summary slides. He summarised the 2 available options for the creation of Unitary Authorities and noted that the current Government consultation, which parish councils are invited to respond to. The meeting discussed the 'pros and cons' of each option, notably the expected financial savings and the impacts on local democracy and engagement. Concern was raised at the large debts held by Woking, Spelthorne and Runnymede councils.

The Clerk suggested that the design of the proposed Neighbourhood Area Committees would be key for us. JW was sceptical about the effectiveness of them based on the experience of the old Guildford Community Boards. BH noted that 4 pilots for these committees are currently being set up within Surrey and that should help refine the proposals. RS opined that, regardless, it was critical for us to establish close links with the councillors of the new Unitary Authorities. He recommended that we respond to the consultation and that he, JW and the Clerk form a sub-group to draft the responses for review. The meeting agreed to this.

RS also noted that we now need to understand the assets and services (relating to our parish) that GBC and SCC own and provide.

25/078 Planning Matters

The Clerk referred to JM's email updates sent before the meeting on the latest planning applications and rulings. The meeting determined that we should submit an objection to 25/P/00942 (Land to the West of Waterfields) using the text in JM's email of 7th July.

25/079 Financial Matters and Approvals

The Chairman referred to Annex C in the meeting papers relating to the payments made since the last meeting totaling £1,205.68. These were approved by the meeting.

The Clerk noted his email of 7th June which recommended that, for efficiency and cost-savings purposes, we close our remaining legacy bank accounts with NatWest and move all our funds to Unity Trust Bank, which has operated our day-to-day banking arrangements for the past 8 years. NH noted that under the Deposit Guarantee Scheme we would only be protected up to £85,000. The Clerk accepted that we are close to the limit across all our balances but would not usually hold so many reserves. **Resolved:** The meeting agreed to the closure of the remaining NWB accounts. The Clerk agreed to add an item to the Risk Register, which would allow the risk of any build-up of reserves to be monitored.

25/080 Gosden Hill, Garlick's Arch, Wisley Airfield and other Local Plan updates

A resident suggested that BlackRock had bought up a large number of houses in Garlick's Arch for rental purposes. He added that electricity supply issues are currently slowing further development.

25/081 Recreation Ground, Playground and Car Park

EP reported that we have replaced the wooden post in the car park with one that folds down in case access is required in future to the recreation ground for vehicles. Also, SW has now treated the Pound gate with some stain and will apply a further coat if required.

25/082 Footpaths

NH noted that the first vegetation cuts of the growing season on the footpaths around the golf course and natural burial ground have now been completed. Also, he has spoken to the owner of Tithebarns Cottage who has agreed to cut back the vegetation by the access gate off Tithebarns Lane on Footpath 69.

25/083 A247 Matters

It was noted that part of Clandon Road is due to be closed for resurfacing work on Friday 11th July.

25/084 AOB

The Clerk reported that a 1961 Ordinance Survey map of West Clandon has been donated to us by a local collector (via East Clandon Parish Council) and suggested that we may want to frame it and display it in the Village Hall or RBL Club. He agreed to bring it along to the next meeting.

JW noted that the removal of epicormic growth from some of the lime trees in Lime Grove had been missed by the SCC team undertaking the pollarding in the spring. BH agreed to take the issue up within SCC.

The Chairman requested that we discuss the outstanding work required for the RBL ground lease at the next meeting.

25/085 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, September 10th 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

However, the Chairman noted that there was a provisional date of 13th August in case we need to hold an extraordinary meeting to discuss any planning applications.

CLOSING

There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Parish Council meeting at 21.14.