



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Property Committee
at the Billingshurst Centre
Wednesday 8 October 2025 at 7pm**

Present

Cllrs Craig Gale (Chairman), Edna Bengier, Phillip Day, Sandy Duck, Craig Jones, Steve Thomas and Doug Waller.

In Attendance

G C Burt, Clerk to the Council
2 Members of the Public

45/25 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman

- a. Advised that the meeting was being streamed to the internet.
- b. Asked Members to raise their hands if they wished to speak and speak clearly.
- c. Mobile phones should either be switched off or silenced.

46/25 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Paul Berry and David Hingamp for approved reasons. On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Doug Waller **RESOLVED** that the apologies and reasons given be accepted.

47/25 Declarations of Interest and Notification of Changes to Members' Interests

None.

48/25 Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale seconded by Cllr Steve Thomas **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2025, previously circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record by the Chairman of the meeting.

49/25 Clerk's Report

None.

50/25 Public Session

Mrs Susan Towsey spoke in support of her request to swap the land she currently occupies under licence at the rear of Cranham Avenue Play Area, with a slightly thinner strip on the southern side, to enable her to access her back garden from the front garden.

51/25 To consider suggestion for amending boundary of Cranham Avenue Play Area with adjoining property

A request to purchase the play area at Cranham Avenue was declined at the last meeting but Cllrs had intimated they were receptive to consider alternatives to assist a neighbour gain a rear access to her garden. She had therefore asked the Council to consider swapping the land she currently occupies under licence at the rear, with a slightly thinner strip on the southern side, to enable her

to access her back garden from the front garden. On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller seconded by Cllr Craig Jones **RESOLVED** that the request be supported.

52/25 To consider request to extend (new) lease for BSRA

Billingshurst Sport & Recreation Association (BSRA) had requested an extended (new) lease of 25 years to enable them to meet funding-criteria from potential grant-awarders. In addition, they had requested that an allocation of CIL money awarded to them by the Council for drainage improvement, be used instead to cover both parties' legal costs. It was understood that major drainage works might be undertaken as part of the Better Billingshurst (BB) program, however, Councillors were concerned that should the BB panel not select that project, that fund might still be required for the said works.

- a) On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale seconded by Cllr Craig Jones **RESOLVED** that BSRA be granted a new lease of 25 years.
- b) On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller seconded by Cllr Craig Jones **DEFER** the request to vire the funds held until the decision of the Better Billingshurst Panel were known.

53/25 To receive property updates for information only

NOTED. The Committee's usual thanks to Officers for their endeavours were noted. The Committee asked that their thanks to Environmental Operative Colin Ellis who was leaving be recorded. The Clerk advised that the contractor constructing the new path at the rear of Station Road Community Gardens had successfully persuaded the adjoining Weald School to fund some additional works to the path leading to Myrtle Lane. This should mean users are less likely to have to wade through water.

54/25 Date of Next Meeting: **10 December 2025**

Meeting finished at 7.12pm.

Chairman

Date