



**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Billingshurst Parish Council
Wednesday 29 September 2025
7pm at the Billingshurst Centre.**

Present

Cllrs Paul Berry (Chairman), Faye Algar, Sandy Duck, Jeremy Harris, Craig Jones, Trevor Leonard, Anna Rhodes, Kate Rowbottom, Steve Thomas and Doug Waller.

In attendance

G C Burt, Clerk to the Council

Dis Cllr J Trollope

4 Members of the Public

81/25 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman advised that:

1. The meeting was being streamed to the internet.
2. Cllrs wishing to speak should raise their hand and speak loudly and clearly.
3. Mobile phones should either be switched off or silenced.
4. He was attending The Weald School on Friday with Cllr F Algar to discuss civic affairs.

82/25 Apologies

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

Adjournment for

83/25 Public Session (Members of the Public may speak for up to 3 minutes at the discretion of the Chairman).

Mark Betts of the BSRA spoke in support of a children's play area at Jubilee Fields. He said it would complement the existing facilities and help attract more families.

Dis Cllr J Trollope said he looked forward to hearing the Council's views on all the potentially exciting projects.

Resume meeting.

84/25 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 September 2025.

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2025, previously circulated, were taken as read. On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted and signed as a correct record accordingly.

85/25 To consider landlord consent requests from HDC to carry out projects at Jubilee Fields, Station Road Community Gardens and Lower Station Road Recreation Ground, which have been suggested as part of the *Better Billingshurst* community infrastructure program.

The Council was working with Horsham District Council and others to deliver some community infrastructure improvements across the village using s106 and other funds. HDC was leading the project. It had devised a list of possible projects in consultation with stakeholders and had conducted a public consultation over the summer. It was asking the Parish Council if it was willing to host some of the new or improved facilities on its land (landlord's consent) prior to the projects going to a panel for further consideration. Stakeholders at each site had been asked for comments and any received had been circulated prior. The Parish Council would be responsible for all ongoing maintenance. Members welcomed the investment in the parish and its decision on each project are detailed below.

1. On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry, seconded by Cllr Kate Rowbottom **RESOLVED** the following permissions in respect of Lower Station Road Recreation Ground accordingly:

LOWER STATION ROAD RECREATION GROUND		
	PROJECT	DECISION
A1	New ball sport area south of Tennis Courts	AGREE to provision of the ball sport area, but a smaller version, to minimise the impact on the remaining area and other user groups.
A2	New seating area adjoining Tennis Club and Scout Hut.	AGREE to a new seating area, but a slightly smaller version to lessen the impact on the rest of the open area and to other user groups.
A3	New perimeter path	AGREE to the provision of the path, providing that it is level with the current grass. The path should be sufficiently strong enough to be driven over by large vehicles, e.g. for Billingshurst Show and funfairs etc.
A4	New Pump Track	AGREE to provision of pump track – see below.
A5	New Skate Park	DECLINE provision of new skate park at suggested location, due to issue with heave/subsidence being so close to

		watercourse. Area to be used for a larger pump track. [The Council supports the principle of the suggested skate park, but it asks the panel to consider other locations.]
A6	Upgrade existing play area & new signage	AGREE with the upgrade of play equipment and provision of signage, and request that consideration is given to providing equipment suitable for disabled children at this, and/or other sites.

2. On the proposal of Cllr Craig Jones, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry **RESOLVED** the following permissions in respect of Station Road Community Gardens accordingly:

Station Road Community Gardens		
	PROJECT	DECISION
B1	Ball Court resurfacing.	AGREE
B2	Improvements to Youth Shelter seating area	AGREE
B3	Ground level lighting	DECLINE. Prefer conventional columns of perhaps an attractive design.

3. On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry, seconded by Cllr Doug Waller **RESOLVED** the following permissions in respect of Jubilee Fields accordingly:

Jubilee Fields		
	PROJECT	DECISION
C1	New play area with cricket nets relocated alongside.	AGREE. Target audience to be younger children. BPC to maintain.

These decisions were based on the conceptual maps and images supplied. The Clerk would convey this to HDC and liaise according, with Members approving the final designs etc.

86/25 Date of Next Meeting – 5 November 2025.

Meeting finished at 7.40pm