

**(DRAFT) MINUTES OF THE PATCHING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 27th JANUARY 2026 at 19:00
THE COMMITTEE ROOM AT CLAPHAM AND PATCHING VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Councillors – Mr Marc Pinnell (MP), Mrs Karen Coleman (KC), Mr David Taylor (DT)

In attendance – Mrs Victoria Pinnell (VP), Mrs Sue Isaacs RFO (SI), Ms Deborah Urquhart (DU)

Members of the public: 1

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Tim Watney, Cllr Stephen Coleman	
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests declared by Councillors pertaining to agenda items. Councillors also confirmed that they are not in arrears with council tax.	
3	GDPR Councillors confirmed that they have read and understood PPC’s GDPR policies: that they do not hold any personal data in any manner contrary to those policies; and that they agree to disclose any known, potential, or perceived data breaches.	
4	APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 04/11/2025. Proposed and signed by Cllr Marc Pinnell, Cllr David Taylor seconded.	
5	CHAIRMAN’S REPORT Local Government Reorganisation – statutory consultation has closed, recommendations have been made to government, and an announcement is expected spring this year. Operational start 2028. Elections in May could be postponed. SDNPA local plan review / Land availability assessment – several sites in Patching were put forward by landowners for consideration, all were either excluded or rejected due to constraints such as location outside settlement boundaries and landscape sensitivity. No sites were identified in the parish as suitable for allocation Roots Allotments – PPC submitted an objection to the retrospective application for three containers and CCTV installation. Community feedback to a PPC consultation undertaken showed overwhelming opposition. The application remains to be determined.	

	<p>Village Hall Extension – PPC submitted its support, planning for extension approved.</p> <p>Cllr Pinnell attended an informative briefing session on local government reorganisation.</p> <p>Cllr Pinnell attended a consultation on Cityfibre’s plans to close the Long Furlong, to be discussed later in the meeting.</p> <p>Surgeons Field – Parishioners previously reported obstructions to Rights of Way in the field. Kissing gates to be installed to increase access and monitored by PROW. Parishioners to be invited to identify further stiles which need better access and report to PROW.</p> <p>Tractor Run – the organisers have contacted PPC about the damage to verges caused by unexpected high volumes of observers of the run through Patching. They have already started works to rectify the damage and have committed to return to complete them. MP to monitor.</p> <p>The Fox Pub – Illegal waste disposal has been reported to ADC and the Environment Agency but has been deemed below the threshold for action. MP to contact the Environment Agency and Becky Cooper about the lack of enforcement action from SDNPA.</p> <p>Flint, brick and slate outhouse at The Worlds End was demolished. MP contacted ADC and SDNPA, planning enforcement was not followed through due to it being deemed not to be in the public interest. MP to contact SDNPA and ADC about the lack of enforcement action.</p>	<p>VP</p> <p>MP</p> <p>MP</p> <p>MP</p>
6	<p>MATTERS ARISING AND PROGRESS ON ACTIONS</p> <p>Cityfibre will be bringing superfast broadband to Patching, this will result in the closure of the Long Furlong Road for 10 days. Concerns expressed to Cityfibre of the village being used for a cut through. Cityfibre has indicated that there will be a village consultation event closer to the date. The slide deck of proposed works will be shared on the PPC web page.</p> <p>Scrambler bikes – KC took pictures and sent them to PCSO, monitoring on going.</p> <p>Hole in the grass verge opposite the bottom of France Lane / The Worlds End Pub – complaints to Southern Water ongoing.</p> <p>Planning application objection submitted re the retrospective application for three containers and CCTV installation, citing harm to rural character, biodiversity, and conflict with planning policies.</p>	<p>VP</p> <p>KC</p> <p>VP</p>
7	<p>PUBLIC FORUM</p>	

	No items raised.	
8	<p>REPORT FROM WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR (if present)</p> <p>Report from Deborah Urquhart included... Update of the WSCC budget – 2.99% increase plus 2% Social Care precept, includes extra funding for highway maintenance and increased funding for Adults and Children’s Social Care and the continuation of Operation Watershed to assist local communities to mitigate flooding. Container spills – clean up continues on the beaches but not on the seabed (Marine Conservation Area). Costs to be reclaimed from the ship's insurers. Thanks given to the volunteers. Children’s Services - strong progress recognised by OFSTED Operation Watershed – PPC to lock in bid as soon as possible Local government review / reform – 1 or 2 unitaries to be announced in March</p>	
9	<p>REPORT FROM ARUN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR (if present)</p> <p>Not present</p>	
10	<p>REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE TEAM (if present)</p> <p>Not present</p>	
11	<p>FINANCIAL REPORT</p> <p>Variances from the budget include... Money still available for training Notice board – supplies to be purchased for future use / maintenance .gov emails – money reserved Salary increase for the administrator Microsoft 365 not previously budgeted for</p> <p>Projected end of year spend remains at £3500 Carols round the coals – money taken from ringfenced Village Society funds Precept submitted and acknowledged June deadline for pensions submissions</p>	
12	<p>PLANNING REPORT</p> <p>Cllr Pinnell read from his report which is to be issued to the PPC web page.</p>	VP
13	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Correspondence relating to burning of waste at The Fox Pub was covered earlier in the meeting.</p>	
14	<p>ANY URGENT MATTERS, FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY, ARISING SINCE THE PREPARATION OF THE AGENDA.</p> <p>Nil</p>	

15	DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday 5 th May includes AGM	VP
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