

FARNHAM ROYAL PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FARNHAM ROYAL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7.30PM AT FARNHAM ROYAL VILLAGE HALL, FARNHAM LANE, FARNHAM ROYAL, SL2 3AX

Present

Tony Birkett (Chair)
Katherine Damsell
Stuart Dennis (from 25/103/PC below)
Amandeep Dhillon
Gurdeep Singh Grewal (from 25/103/PC below)
Clive Robinson
Paul Rowley
Mukund Sondagar

In Attendance

Judith Hall (Clerk)
Buckinghamshire Councillor Dev Dhillon
Two members of the public

A period of fifteen minutes was made available for members of the public and Buckinghamshire Councillors to comment on any matter. A summary of matters raised can be found at the end of these minutes.

The meeting was declared open at 7.30pm.

25/99/PC Apologies for absence

To receive, and consider for approval, apologies for absence and reasons given

No apologies were received.

25/100/PC Declarations of Interests

Members are reminded to declare any interest in any item on this agenda at this time, or at any time during the meeting, in accordance with Farnham Royal Parish Council's Code of Conduct.

No Declarations of Interests were received.

25/101/PC Items to be taken in private session

To decide which items, if any, on the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded under S.1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 in view of their confidential nature

RESOLVED No items on the Agenda will be taken with the public excluded.

25/102/PC Minutes of last ordinary meeting

To receive and sign the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 29 September 2025

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2025 are a true record of the meeting.

25/103/PC Co-option of members to the council

To consider the co-option of members to the parish council

Gurdeep Singh Grewal, as a nominee, was invited to make a brief statement. Tony Birkett proposed his nomination as a parish councillor and a vote followed.

RESOLVED The co-option of Gurdeep Singh Grewal was approved.

Stuart Dennis, as a nominee, was invited to make a brief statement. Tony Birkett proposed his nomination as a parish councillor and a vote followed.

RESOLVED The co-option of Stuart Dennis was approved.

25/104/PC Clerk's Report

To receive a report from the Parish Clerk for information only

The Clerk's Report circulated to parish councillors was reviewed.

RESOLVED That the Clerk's Report is received

25/105/PC Items for consideration and resolution

105.1 To ratify the Parish Council's response to Buckinghamshire Council's Draft Local Plan Consultation

Following a brief discussion, Tony Birkett thanked Clive Robinson for his work preparing the response. Clive Robinson requested the authority to discuss the Draft Local Plan with neighbouring parishes to enable a more unified approach to any future consultations on the matter. Tony Birkett moved that the Parish Council ratify the response and authorise Clive Robinson to discuss the Draft Local Plan with neighbouring parishes.

RESOLVED The response submitted by email on 29 October 2025 is ratified and approved and Clive Robinson is authorised to discuss the Draft Local Plan with neighbouring parishes.

105.2 To consider the withdrawal of the Land South of Elm Close, Farnham Common for the Chiltern and South Bucks Brownfield Register

Following a brief discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the Parish Council withdraws its nomination of the Land South of Elm Close, Farnham Common from the Chiltern and South Bucks Brownfield Register.

RESOLVED The nomination of the Land South of Elm Close, Farnham Common is withdrawn from the Chiltern and South Bucks Brownfield Register.

105.3 To consider the withdrawal of The Dell, Farnham Royal from the Chiltern and South Bucks Brownfield Register

Following a brief discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the Parish Council withdraws its nomination of The Dell, Farnham Royal from the Chiltern and South Bucks Brownfield Register.

RESOLVED The nomination of The Dell, Farnham Royal is withdrawn from the Chiltern and South Bucks Brownfield Register.

105.4 To consider preparing a strategic plan for Farnham Royal for 2026 – 2031

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that a strategic plan should be prepared for the parish of Farnham Royal.

RESOLVED A strategic plan will be prepared for 2026 - 2031.

105.5 To consider developing a proposal for the eight Green Belt sites within Farnham Royal included in Buckinghamshire Council's Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA)

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the Parish Council continues to maintain its position that there should be no new dwellings on Green Belt land and therefore on the eight sites included in Buckinghamshire Council's Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA). In addition, he proposed that Clive Robinson develop a proposal for protecting these eight sites.

RESOLVED The Parish Council will maintain its position that there should be no new dwellings on Green Belt land and therefore on the eight sites included in Buckinghamshire Council's Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA). In addition, Clive Robinson will develop a proposal for protecting these eight sites.

105.6 To consider using Gpeto AI Platform to assist with responses to planning applications

Following a brief discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the Clerk arrange a demonstration so councillors can understand how the platform will assist with planning applications and also that the Clerk will discuss the platform with existing users and report back.

RESOLVED The Clerk will arrange a demonstration of the platform for councillors, discuss the platform with existing users and report back.

105.7 To consider the Parish Council's position on Wycombe Wanders Football Club's lease at Farnham Park Playing Fields

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the Parish Council would continue to apply its policy of not engaging in a dialogue with developers bringing forward proposals within the Green Belt prior to the submission of a formal planning application and that Katherine Damsell and the Clerk would continue to liaise with Buckinghamshire Council regarding the licence renewal for the playground at Farnham Park Playing Fields.

RESOLVED The Parish Council will continue to apply its policy of not engaging in a dialogue with developers bringing forward proposals within the Green Belt prior to the submission of a formal planning application and Katherine Damsell and the Clerk will continue to liaise with Buckinghamshire Council regarding the licence renewal for the playground at Farnham Park Playing Fields.

105.8 To consider quote for Topple Testing at St Mary's Churchyard

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the quote of £800 plus VAT from Amersham Town Council, the maintenance contractor, for topple testing is agreed.

RESOLVED The quote of £800 plus VAT from Amersham Town Council is approved.

105.9 To consider installing two additional CCTV cameras in Farnham Royal

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that two additional CCTV cameras are fitted on Farnham Lane in Farnham Royal at a cost of £3,589.56.

RESOLVED The Parish Council will not install the additional CCTV cameras on Farnham Lane in Farnham Royal.

105.10 To consider integrating the Parish Council's CCTV cameras into Buckinghamshire Council's control room

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the existing CCTV camera on Beaconsfield Road in Farnham Royal is integrated into Buckinghamshire Council's control room at a cost of £1,800 per year as part of a five year agreement.

RESOLVED The CCTV camera on Beaconsfield Road in Farnham Royal will be integrated into Buckinghamshire Council's control room at a cost of £1,800 per year as part of a five year agreement.

105.11 To consider upgrading one of the CCTV cameras being supplied by Buckinghamshire Council

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the pan, tilt and zoom CCTV camera being supplied by Buckinghamshire Council should be upgraded to a multi sensor camera (pan, tilt and zoom with four fixed views) at a cost of £3,034.86.

RESOLVED The pan, tilt and zoom CCTV camera being supplied by Buckinghamshire Council should be upgraded to a multi sensor camera (pan, tilt and zoom with four fixed views) at a cost of £3,034.86.

105.12 To consider the budget for The Big Christmas Singalong!

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the proposed budget of £1,500 for The Big Christmas Singalong! is approved.

RESOLVED The proposed budget of £1,500 for The Big Christmas Singalong! is approved.

105.13 To consider a proposal for a new website to ensure full compliance with relevant legislation

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that a new website should be developed and that Gurdeep Grewal

and the Clerk should work together to progress this.

RESOLVED A new website will be developed and Gurdeep Grewal and the Clerk will work together to progress this.

105.14 To consider using CIL receipts to fund a traffic calming scheme

Following a discussion, Tony Birkett moved that the CIL receipts held at the start of the year (£33,319.23) and those received during this financial year (£4,018.70) should be earmarked to fund the traffic calming schemes within the parish that are currently being costed by Buckinghamshire Highways.

RESOLVED The CIL receipts will be earmarked to fund the traffic calming schemes within the parish that are currently being costed by Buckinghamshire Highways.

25/106/PC Items for information only

106.1 Notification of draft plans for a new data centre campus between Beaconsfield and Gerrards Cross

Tony Birkett advised that the Parish Council had been notified of draft plans for a new data centre campus between Beaconsfield and Gerrards Cross. The Clerk confirmed that no response had been made to date in line with the Parish Council's policy not to engage in a dialogue with developers bringing forward proposals within the Green Belt prior to the submission of a formal planning application. The Clerk also advised that the Parish Council has now been invited to take part in a public consultation on the plans. The Clerk was asked to circulate the invitation to all parish councillors for review.

106.2 Notification of initial proposals for the Land East of Beaconsfield Road, Farnham Common

Tony Birkett noted that Buckinghamshire Councillor Dev Dhillon had shared a letter he had received from Berkeley Strategic Land Limited regarding a proposal for around 80 new homes on land east of Beaconsfield Road in Farnham Common and within the Green Belt. Dev Dhillon confirmed that he had not replied to the letter and the Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had not been contacted by Berkeley Strategic Land Limited.

25/107/PC Finance:

107.1 Account balances

To note bank account balances

Current Account	£22,130.74
Deposit (Instant Access)	£223,952.60
Deposit (95 Day Notice)	£ 36,104.15
Total	<u>£282,187.49</u>

RESOLVED That the account balances are noted.

107.2 Payments

To review and ratify payments for October 2025

The schedule of payments for October 2025 circulated to parish councillors was reviewed.

RESOLVED That these payments are ratified.

To review and approve payments for November 2025

The schedule of payments for November 2025 circulated to parish councillors was reviewed.

RESOLVED That these payments are approved.

107.3 Receipts

To note receipts for October 2025

The schedule of receipts for October 2025 circulated to parish councillors was reviewed.

RESOLVED That these receipts are noted.

To note receipts for November 2025

The schedule of receipts for November 2025 circulated to parish councillors was reviewed.

RESOLVED That these receipts are noted.

107.4 Bank Reconciliation

To note the September 2025 bank reconciliation

The September 2025 bank reconciliation was reviewed.

RESOLVED That the September 2025 bank reconciliation is noted.

To note the October 2025 bank reconciliation

The October 2025 bank reconciliation was reviewed.

RESOLVED That the October 2025 bank reconciliation is noted.

107.5 Management Accounts

To review 30 September 2025 Management Accounts

Katherine Damsell asked if there were any questions. No questions were received, and she moved that the 30 September 2025 Management Accounts have been reviewed.

RESOLVED That the 30 September 2025 Management Accounts have been reviewed.

107.6 2026/27 Budget

To review the draft budget

Katherine Damsell presented the first version of the draft budget for 2026/27 focusing on line items that are discretionary rather than those that are ongoing responsibilities and highlighted the assumptions and any risks associated with the figures provided. She confirmed the process for finalising the budget and that the figures would be updated prior to this as when outstanding information was received. She invited questions from other councillors.

RESOLVED That the first version of the 2026/27 draft budget is reviewed.

25/108/PC Planning:

108.1 To note comments on recent applications submitted under delegated powers

The schedule of comments submitted was reviewed.

RESOLVED That these comments are noted.

108.2 To note recent planning decisions

The schedule of decisions made by the Planning Authority was reviewed.

RESOLVED That these decisions are noted.

25/109/PC Items for next agenda

1. Consider 2026/27 Budget and Precept	(K Damsell)
2. Review progress with Green Belt Strategy	(C Robinson)
3. Review progress with Farnham Royal Strategic Plan	(K Damsell)
4. Consider Traffic Calming Scheme	(A Birkett / Clerk)
5. Consider proposal(s) for new website	(G Grewal)
6. Consider new licence for Farnham Royal playground	(K Damsell)
7. Consider proposal for Boundary Copse project	(K Damsell / Clerk)
8. Consider using Gpeto AI Platform	(G Grewal)

25/110/PC Next Parish Council meeting

26 January 2026 at Farnham Common Village Hall at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.28pm

OPEN FORUM

A resident from Stoke Poges provided an update on The Stoke Poges Task Force's work to prevent Wycombe Wanderers Football Club's plans to build a Football Academy on land at the South Buckinghamshire Golf Course.

Dev Dhillon advised that he had asked the Planning Officers at Buckinghamshire Council to provide definitions of Green Belt and Grey Belt land. He also advised that he would ask for further information about the suggestion that there is more protection for a town rather than a parish in the new National Planning Policy Framework.