



Enborne Parish Council

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 19 May 2026, 8:00pm

Falkland Cricket Club (Community Room), Enborne Street, Newbury, RG14 6TW

Present:

Cllr. Giles Whitefield (Chairman)

Cllr. Peter Tompkins (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. Chris Garrett

Cllr. Val Bolan

Cllr. Sam Dibas (until 8.30pm)

Parish Clerk: Kim Lloyd

District Councillor. Ward Member: Cllr. Denise Gaines

Members of the public: 2

1. Election of Chairman for 2026–2027

Cllr. Whitefield was nominated and elected to remain as the Chairman of the Parish Council for the year 2026–2027. Proposed by Cllr. Tompkins, seconded by Cllr. Garrett with all in favour.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman for 2026–2027

Cllr. Tompkins was nominated and elected to remain as Vice-Chairman for the year 2026–2027. Proposed by Cllr. Garrett and seconded by Cllr. Dibas with all in favour.

3. Apologies for Absence. Cllr. Van-Dijk sent apologies.

4. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs. Garrett, Dibas and Whitefield all raised a declaration of interest regarding items on the agenda 8.2 item, 26/00062/COND. Cllr. Tompkins raised a declaration on [26/00810/HOUSE](#) and item 6, RSA 29.

5. Public Participation

A resident raised speeding concerns in the parish. There have been past efforts to address speeding, such as using a speed gun, but these efforts have been ineffective. Suggestion to reduce speed limits to 20 mph on select roads.

6. RSA29 correspondence

Cllr. Tompkins updated members on the Council's position during the Inspector's hearings and highlighted concerns that key evidence supporting RSA 29 appeared to be missing.

Members noted that a response had been received from West Berkshire Council (WBC); however, Cllr. Tompkins considered the response unsatisfactory.

The possibility of forwarding Cllr. Tompkins' letter to those who had contributed to fundraising efforts in support of the legal challenge to RSA 29 was discussed.

It was noted that the legal challenge was based on the assertion that insufficient evidence existed to justify the policy. Documentary evidence subsequently obtained from WBC appears to indicate that key supporting evidence for the policy is missing. Members further noted that the evidence in question had been referenced in an email to the site promoter but was not disclosed in response to a Freedom of Information request.

Members noted that no committee date has yet been set for determination of the planning application.

A proposal was made to hold a public information evening in conjunction with Cllr. Whitefield parish survey.

It was also noted that Connecting Communities Berkshire (CCB) has offered to provide advice and undertake a housing needs assessment for the area.

Councillors then discussed proposed changes to the planning process that would reduce the ability of parish councils and district councillors to call in planning applications for determination by the Planning Committee.

Concern was expressed that it is becoming increasingly difficult for planning applications to be considered by committee. Council noted that the proposed changes are being driven by central government policy and considered that they would reduce democratic oversight of the planning process.

It was further expressed concern that planning officers may increasingly determine applications under delegated powers, limiting opportunities for elected representatives to participate in the decision-making process.

Reference was made to a recent article in the *Penny Post*, which provides further information on the proposed changes to Planning Committee procedures.

7. New Planning Applications

7.1 Application: [26/00810/HOUSE](#)

Fairlawns, Enborne Row, Wash Water, Newbury, RG20 0LX

Proposed first floor rear extension to master bedroom, new rear dormer window and demolition of conservatory.

EPC resolved to no objections.

7.2 Application: [26/00894/HOUSE](#)

Vanners Farm, Vanners Lane, Enborne, Newbury, RG20 0LB

Conversion and alterations to the piggery, installation of stairs to access either end of the stable loft, and reinstatement of access ramp to courtyard.

EPC resolved to no objections

8. Planning Decisions (For Information Only)

8.1 Application: 26/00128/COND

Mount Pleasant Farm, Enborne, Newbury, RG14 6RN

Application for approval of details reserved by Conditions 8 (SuDS) and 20 (Foul Waste) of approved application 24/01999/FUL.

Decision: West Berkshire Council refused permission.

8.2 Application: 26/00062/COND

Land North of Spring Gardens, Andover Drove, Wash Water, Newbury

Approval of details reserved by Conditions 3 (Materials), 4 (SuDS), 5 (Landscaping Scheme), 6 (Landscape Maintenance), 7 (Hard Landscaping), 8 (Noise Assessment), 9 (Dust Mitigation), and 10 (GCN Method Statement) of approved application 23/01361/FULMAJ relating to the installation and operation of a solar farm with ancillary equipment, including inverter and substation house, security cameras, deer fencing, highway access and landscaping scheme.

Decision: West Berkshire Council approved in part and refused in part.

8.3 Application: 25/02677/FUL

The Paddocks Cottage, Enborne Street, Enborne, Newbury, RG20 0J

Retrospective mixed use comprising C3 residential and B8/B2 scrap metal storage use.

Decision: West Berkshire Council refused permission.

Enborne Parish Council: Objected.

{Cllr. Dibas left the meeting at 8.30pm}

9. Approval of Minutes

To minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on [10 March 2026](#) were approved. Cllr. Bolan proposed, Cllr Garrett seconded with all in favour.

10. Payments

The payments shown in Appendix 1 was approved, Cllr. Bolan proposed, Cllr. Whitefield seconded, with all in favour.

Cllr. Whitefield suggested reviewing the contents of the Newbury storage unit to identify items that could be disposed of or sold in order to reduce storage costs. Items discussed included printers, historic files, filing cabinet, a shredder, and confidential documents.

Members considered the potential for digitising paper records to reduce storage requirements, noting that some records must be retained for seven years and others indefinitely. Members noted that the current storage unit is the smallest available and provides a secure, temperature-controlled environment. The Clerk agreed to review the contents of the unit and investigate options for digitising records.

11. Insurance Renewal

The insurance renewal effective from 1 June 2026 to 2027 was approved. Cllr. Bolan proposed, Cllr. Garrett seconded, with all in favour.

12. Bank Reconciliation

To review the bank reconciliation to 31 March 2026 as shown in Appendix 2.

- End of March 31st 2026: £70,405.
- Unallocated funds: £12,335.
- Allocated funds: £1,500 (election fund), £53,000 (bequest fund), £143 (legals), £3,427 (CIL, allocated towards the lych gate).

13. Income and Expenditure 2025–2026 Year End

To review the year-end income and expenditure accounts.

- Budget for 2025-2026: £15,993.
- Actual spending: £15,266 (on budget).
- Additional legal advice cost £51,000 (over budget) but raised via donations towards RSA 29 Legal Challenge

14. Adoption of Policies for 2026–2027

14.1 [Standing Orders](#)

14.2 [Financial Regulations](#)

14.3 [Risk Assessment](#)

All three policies were adopted for 2026-27. Proposed Cllr. Bolan, seconded by Cllr. Whitefield, with all in favour.

15. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2025–2026

15.1 Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement - Section 1 was approved by Council, Proposed by Cllr. Bolan, seconded by Cllr. Whitefield, with all in favour. Cllr. Whitefield and the Clerk/RFO signed section 1.

15.2 Section 2 – Accounting Statements - Section 2 was approved by Council, Proposed by Cllr. Bolan, seconded by Cllr. Whitefield, with all in favour. Cllr. Whitefield and the Clerk/RFO signed section 1.

16. Appointment of Representatives to Committees, Working Parties and Outside Bodies for 2026–2027

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| • Staffing Committee (3 members including the Chair) | -Cllr. Whitefield and Cllr. Bolan. |
| • Public Rights of Way | -Cllr. Garrett |
| • Enborne Primary School | -Cllr Dibas |
| • Neighbourhood Development Plan | -disbanded |
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17. Clerk's Correspondence

- **GreenFest 2026 – Donation Request**

Councillors considered a request for a donation towards GreenFest 2026, an environmental event promoting sustainability and recycling, due to be held in Hampstead Norreys on 24 October 2026.

It was noted that the Parish Council donated £50 to the event in 2025. Following discussion, members agreed to make a donation of £50 towards GreenFest 2026. The Clerk will contact the organisers to arrange payment.

18. Reports from Ward Members

- March 2026 Report – Cllr Dennis Benneyworth was received and circulated.
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19. Reports from Parish Councillors

- **Pumping Station:** Councillors noted that correspondence had been sent to the Environment Agency regarding the depositing of rubble and soil on land to the east of the pumping station. Responses from both the Environment Agency and West Berkshire Council indicated that the matter did not fall within their responsibility.
- An update received via District /Ward Member Cllr. Vickers advised that the Environment Agency is aware of the situation and, as the activity is no longer ongoing, does not currently consider it a priority. It was noted that efforts are being made to identify the landowner.

Enborne Church Lych Gate

Cllr. Bolan noted that an application submitted to The Good Exchange Platform by the Enborne Church Warden Secretary had been refused following a change in policy by Greenham Trust. It was reported that previous verbal agreements are no longer being recognised. Council also noted that it had been hoped that the previously allocated CIL funding could be used to undertake the work. This is still ongoing and the CIL will remain allocated until more is known.

20. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 14 July 2026 – The Barn, Enborne Church

Agenda items,

- Bee monitoring device benefit update, Cllr. Dibas
- 20mph speed reduction request, full council

Tuesday 8 September 2026 – The Barn, Enborne Church

Tuesday 17 November 2026 – Falklands Cricket Club -Budget meeting

Amount	Payee	Invoice no	Date	VAT
	Kim Lloyd	March	31.03.2026	
£ 63.94	HMRC	March	31.03.2026	
£ 221.53	Berkshire Pension	March	31.03.2026	
£ 12.00	SME Accounting Services	2604	31.03.2026	£ 2.00
	Kim Lloyd	April	30.04.2026	
£ 63.74	HMRC	April	30.04.2026	
£ 207.46	Berkshire Pension	April	30.04.2026	
£ 12.00	SME Accounting Services	2648	30.04.2026	
£ 7.00	UTB	March	31.03.2026	
£ 64.00	Newbury Storgage	March	31.03.2026	£ 12.80
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£ 64.00	Newbury Storgage	April	31.04.2026	£ 12.80
£ 183.71	BALC Annual subscribtion	8354	16.04.2026	£ -
£ 300.00	Zurich Insurance 2026-2027	554849663	06.04.2026	
Donations awaiting deposit				
£ 250.00	WBC Library	From Budget 2025-26	2026	
INCOME				
£ 8,500.00	First Payment of Precept 26-27	20972273	21.04.2026	

Local Council Name: Enborne Parish Council

Period ending **31st March 2026**

Prepared by: KL

Balances per bank statements as at

Unity Trust Bank Current Account	9,003.07	
Newbury Building Society Saving Account	61,402.56	
Total bank & cash balance		70,405.63

LESS: outstanding cheques (current account) at
Payee

Chq No.	Amount
	70,405.63

Balance per Cash Books at

Cash Book Unity Trust Bank Current Account	9,003.07	
Newbury Building Society Saving Account	61,402.56	
Balance inc		70,405.63

Check 0.00

ALLOCATED RESERVES	
By-Election Fund	£1,500.00
Bequest	£53,000.00
Legal Fees	£143.00
CIL Fund	£3,427.38 allocated
Total Allocated Reserves	£58,070.38
Unallocated Funds	£12,335.25 (Balance of bank recon minus - allocated reserves)

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Kim Lloyd, Enborne Parish Council, The Barn, St Michael and All Angels Church, Church Lane, Enborne, RG20 0HD
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