



WESTHAMPNETT PARISH COUNCIL

Serving Westhampnett, Maudlin and Westerton

Clerk to the Council: **Beccy Anderson**
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Minutes of the Westhampnett Full Parish Council Meeting held at 7pm on Monday 12th January 2026 at Westhampnett Community Hall, Hadrian Drive, Westhampnett, PO18 0FP

Present:

Parish Councillors: Cllr D Plummer (Chair), Cllr Neil Jackson (Vice Chair), Cllr S Burborough, Cllr Stephen James, Cllr J O'Meara, Cllr Nigel Harris, Cllr C McLeish & Cllr Kevin Allsobrook

The meeting was Clerked by Beccy Anderson, Parish Clerk

13 members of the public attended, Cllr Jeremy Hunt, Sue Nell, Sophie & Andrew Ball from Rolls Royce Motors

Minute No.	Item
1	OPEN MEETING & TAKE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Plummer opened meeting at 7pm. Apologies from Cllr H Potter
2	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS Cllr S Burborough – as an employee of Rolls Royce Cllr D Plummer - noted a connection to an employee (Joe Shopland) of NJS
3	ELECTION OF CHAIR OF WESTHAMPNETT PARISH COUNCIL (i)Councillors considered and approved Cllr DP's offer to be Chair (proposed by NJ seconded by CM). Cllr DP completed and signed an Acceptance of Office form and continued to Chair the meeting. (ii)Councillors considered and approved Cllr NJ's offer to be Vice Chair (to take over from Cllr DP) – proposed by JoM, seconded by SJ
4	CO-OPTION OF A NEW COUNCILLOR: Councillors considered approved the application from Kevin Allsobrook to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor (proposed by CM seconded by NH) Cllr KA completed and signed an 'Acceptance of Office' form and 'Members Register of Interests' form.
5	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A MOP enquired as to the refurbishment of the notice boards. SN responded stating one notice board is ready to be delivered back to the PC (arranged for 13/01/2025) and the other board is a work in progress and will be ready shortly. <p>Action – The Clerk to arrange for the notice board to be installed at the March School</p>
6	REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL BODIES: Rolls Royce Report from Andrew Ball (AB) - Report attached below Cllr Jeremy Hunt (JH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr JH reported in person regarding the blocked drains on Stane Street, stating WSCC Highways had informed him the drains/gulleys had been cleaned in 1st August 2025. JH asked councillors to monitor the flooding at the site and send any evidence of the drains not clearing after rainfall onto him so he can take up with WSCC. JH informed the meeting a further response will come from WSCC Cllr Joy Dennis regarding the issues raised concerning the traffic at Rolls Royce entrance at Stane Street. Cllr NH commented he had been in contact with the local PCSO asking him to visit the site at the shift change time to witness the traffic issues that block Stane Street to through traffic. JH updated the meeting regarding Local Government reform – update below. <p>Action Councillors to monitor Stane Street flooding</p>
7	CONFIRM MINUTES Councillors confirmed and approved (i)Parish Council meeting of 10 th November 2025 – proposed by NH seconded by SJ

8	<p>ROLLS ROYCE MOTORS Councillors discussed the recent complaints regarding the development works noting most had now been resolved. Cllr CM raised an issue with the lighting at the Maudlin entrance stating it is intrusive and unnecessary. AB agreed to look into this. Councillors discussed and noted the report from Andrew Ball. A MOP asked about bus services during any road closures.</p> <p>Action The Clerk to enquire as to any bus diversions</p>
9	<p>PLANNING (i)Councillors approved the Planning Consultancy service from S&L Land Planning Services @ £200pcm and £150ph for ad-hoc Large Applications & Enforcement consultancy work. (ii)Councillors approved the December 2005 planning reports from S&L Land Planning (ii) Councillors were updated with the response from CDC Enforcement re enforcement issues at Old Place Lane. Cllrs noted Madgwick Lane had been closed for 2 nights but they hadn't received notification of this. Cllrs noted they would monitor the site and send on any concerns to the Clerk to forward to CDC.</p> <p>Action Cllr JH will send on WSSC Highways notification re the road closure to the Clerk</p>
10	<p>PAYMENT APPROVAL Councillors approved:- (proposed by NJ, seconded by SJ) (i)January 2026 online payments – (authorised online by SJ)</p>
11	<p>BANK RECONCILIATIONS Councillors approved: (i)Bank Reconciliation for November 2025 - (signed by NJ) (ii)Bank Reconciliation for December 2025 - (signed by NJ)</p>
12	<p>BANK SIGNATORIES Councillors approved:- (i)Signatories for the NSI Account. Councillors approved new signing rules for the NSI account to be:- Cllr David Plummer, Cllr Sharon Burborough, Cllr Claire McLeish and the Clerk Rebecca Anderson (ii)Signatories for the Barclays Current Account. Councillors approved the removal of WH and the addition of David Plummer (Signatories to be - BA, DP, SB, SJ & CM) (iii)Signatories for the Lloyds Current Account. Councillors approved the removal of WH and the addition of David Plummer (Signatories - BA, DP, RS and AO)</p> <p>Action – (i)Councillors to complete and sign the forms for the NS&I account at the Finance meeting on 22/01/2026. (ii) The Clerk to look into issues re SB online access to the Barclays Bank Account.</p>
13	<p>MADGWICK PARK ALLOTMENTS (i)Councillors were updated regarding the land transfer which is still a work in progress. Councillors noted there had been a water leak/burst pipe in the toilet block. Cllr NJ commented that toilet block floor needed tiling (currently bare concrete)</p> <p>Action The Clerk to monitor the land transfer and take the request for tiling and a further pre-completion check to BDW</p>
14	<p>COMMUNITY HALL (i) Hall Manger report on general matters – see below (ii)Community Hall Development – Cllr DP updated councillors that 3 quotations for the development works had now been received. These will be reviewed with the aim of recommending a preferred contractor for approval at the next PC meeting in February 2026 (iii)Parking for Little Blue Door Nursery. Councillors discussed the parking arrangements stating they were happy with the current arrangements and the income of £250pcm</p> <p>Action (ii) The Clerk to send on the 3 quotations onto councillors</p>
15	<p>WESTHAMPNETT VOLUNTEERS (i)Councillors discussed the need to recruit more volunteers. It was noted CM will send a flyer (asking for volunteers) to the Clerk to be published on the PC website and on notice boards and the Clerk was asked to enquire as to obtaining a banner.</p> <p>Actions 1)CM to send a flyer to the Clerk to publish 2)The Clerk to enquire as to purchase of a banner to erect outside the Community Hall 3) The Clerk to look into training for Volunteers.</p>
16	<p>TRAVELLERS SITE Cllr NJ reported from the meeting of 26th November 2025 with WSSC and CDC noting (i)all previous complaints had been dealt with (ii)A warden will be onsite everyday (iii)New tenants will receive an induction (iv)Longest stay available is 12 weeks and average length of stay is 4 weeks(v)Next meeting will be May 2026</p>
17	<p>ITEMS FOR NOTING OR REFERRAL TO A FUTURE MEETING Cllr NJ stated his apologies for the January 2026 Finance meeting and the February PC 2026 meeting</p>
19	<p>DATE OF NEXT FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Monday 9th February 2026, 7pm</p>
20	<p>CLOSE MEETING The Chair closed the meeting at 08.40pm.</p>

Signed

Date

ITEM 6 ROLLS ROYCE REPORT JANUARY2026

Westhampnett Parish Council ('WPC') 12/01/2026 v2

Operations

- **Status.** Normal operations (offices).
- **Production.** Re-starts Tuesday 13 January.

Planning applications

The following applications are Pending Consideration:

Relocation of existing fencing and erection of additional fencing and gates. 

Rolls Royce Motor Cars The Drive Westhampnett Chichester West Sussex PO18 OSH

Ref. No: 25/O2852/FUL | Received: Wed 26 Nov 2025 | Validated: Mon 08 Dec 2025 | Status: Pending Consideration

Discharge of Condition 12 (Phase 1 Surface Water Drainage Scheme) of planning permission WH/23/O1855/FULEIA. 

Rolls Royce Motor Cars The Drive Westhampnett Chichester West Sussex PO18 OSH

Ref. No: 25/O2818/DOC | Received: Thu 20 Nov 2025 | Validated: Thu 20 Nov 2025 | Status: Pending Consideration

Non material amendment to planning permission WH/23/O1855/FULEIA – to amend Conditions 4 (approved plans), 5 (Phase 2 Parameter Plan) and 24 (Car Parking – Phase 1) – refinements to the final design, and operational / process changes in Rolls-Royce production. 

Rolls Royce Motor Cars The Drive Westhampnett Chichester West Sussex PO18 OSH

Ref. No: 25/O2810/NMA | Received: Wed 19 Nov 2025 | Validated: Wed 19 Nov 2025 | Status: Pending Consideration

Discharge of condition 11 (Scheme of Design for the Photovoltaic (PV) Panels), 17 (Details of External Lighting) and 18 (Mitigation of Escape of Interior Light) from planning permission WH/23/O1855/FULEIA. 

Rolls Royce Motor Cars The Drive Westhampnett Chichester West Sussex PO18 OSH

Ref. No: 25/O2628/DOC | Received: Fri 31 Oct 2025 | Validated: Fri 31 Oct 2025 | Status: Pending Consideration

[Details from CDC Planning Portal.](#)

Extension

- **Status.** The works are on schedule, and the building is now watertight. Significant fit-out of the new building is complete. Work is ongoing.
- **Extended Working Hours.** The following has been agreed by CDC, effective 11 December 2025 for 14 weeks. This is for internal fit-out works (not external to the building):

06:30 – 23:00 Monday to Friday

06:30 – 23:00 on Saturday (on an ad hoc basis as and when necessary)

No works on Sunday, public holidays or bank holidays

The scope of the works during the additional hours are:

- Painting steelwork
 - Resin flooring finish
 - Connecting and commissioning services
 - Soft flooring installation
 - Internal fit-out works
- **Swale Redesign.** Due to additional works required to the swale (to the west of the extension building), Footpath 417 will in part be diverted along the bridleway for up to six months. Planning permission for the additional works is currently Pending Consideration. Westhampnett Parish Council has been briefed, and we are working closely with both CDC and WSCC. Further details will be communicated to the community as soon as possible.
 - **Reprofiling of A285/Roman Road Junction.** Application has been submitted to WSCC after detailed pre-discussions with them. We are awaiting further details and will communicate commencement date once received.

Community Liaison Officer Notes

- **Community Liaison Forum.** The monthly Community Liaison Forum (CLF) continues to be very useful. The last meeting was held on 18 December at the Home of Rolls-Royce, attended by Jamie O'Meara and David Plummer.
- **Traffic Congestion on Stane Street.** We continue to monitor traffic flows on Stane Street and seek further improvements where possible.
- **Community Newsletter.** Our second newsletter was delivered to more than 700 houses in December and we welcome feedback. The next newsletter will be delivered in Q1 2026.
- **Community volunteers.** We recently hosted the local community volunteer group at the Home of Rolls-Royce and celebrated all the excellent work they do.
- **Sustainability.** To celebrate Rolls-Royce's Sustainability Week, a group of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars colleagues took time to organise litter-picking tours around our site and surrounding roads. With new litter-picking kits, they gathered several bags of rubbish and ensured everything was disposed of responsibly.
- **Chichester 10K.** We are supporting the Chichester 10K on Sunday 1 February 2026. Our Stane Car Park will be made available to organisers, stewards and participants from 7.00am – 1.00pm. This will hopefully encourage visitors not to park on local roads.

Recent News – Selection of Headlines

[ROLLS-ROYCE HERITAGE: FROM 1904 TO TODAY – AND BEYOND](#)

[ROLLS-ROYCE COMMEMORATES 150 YEARS SINCE THE BIRTH OF CHARLES SYKES](#)

[CELEBRATING THE CENTENARY OF AN ICON: A YEAR OF PHANTOM STORIES](#)

To view all press releases: www.press.rolls-roycemotorcars.com

Contacts

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ITEM 6 Cllr JEREMY HUNT LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION UPDATE JANUARY 2026

Deferral of CC Elections in May 2026

Firstly, this is about elections that are meaningful, understood by voters, and capable of producing stable government. That is why it is important to be absolutely clear about what is happening in West Sussex.

First of all, West Sussex County Council has not cancelled or deferred elections. Only Government has the legal power to make that decision. What we have done, responsibly and transparently, is advise Ministers that, in the context of major Government-led local government reorganisation and devolution, we do not have the capacity to run a full county council election at the same time without undermining delivery, value for money and democratic clarity. That distinction matters.

West Sussex is undergoing the most significant period of structural change in local government for a generation. Government is reshaping councils through local government reorganisation, creating new unitary authorities, while at the same time placing Sussex into a devolution priority programme that will establish a new strategic authority working alongside East Sussex and Brighton & Hove.

These reforms are not cosmetic. They involve redesigning governance, reallocating responsibilities, transferring staff and assets, setting new budgets, and establishing entirely new democratic institutions. Done well, they have the potential to improve accountability and bring decisions closer to local communities. Done badly — or rushed alongside competing demands — they risk confusion, delay and poor outcomes.

In our submission to Government on local government reorganisation in September 2025, West Sussex was clear: attempting to deliver this scale of reform while simultaneously running a county-wide election would stretch capacity beyond safe limits. That position remains unchanged.

Elections are not simply about polling day. They require months of preparation, significant officer time, senior leadership focus and financial resource. They also have unavoidable consequences for decision-making, both before and after the vote. In normal circumstances, that is a price worth paying for democracy. In the middle of wholesale structural reform, it becomes a genuine risk.

West Sussex County Council continues to deliver vital services every day — adult social care, children's services, highways, public health and support for vulnerable residents. These services do not pause for elections or reorganisation. At the same time, officers and elected members are working intensively to design the future shape of local government and establish new strategic arrangements across Sussex.

To pretend that all of this can be done simultaneously, without consequence, would be dishonest.

Also, councillors elected during this period would be elected to an authority that effectively only has a year to run in its present guise. Their mandate would be very short and immediately overshadowed by the elections for a shadow unitary, or unitaries, in May 2027, which no doubt many of them will be standing for. That will be followed by mayoral elections in May 2028. Voters deserve clarity about what they are voting for. Asking residents to vote for councils that will shortly be replaced, while new institutions are being created in parallel, risks confusion and disengagement at a time when public trust in politics is already fragile.

Then there is the question of cost. County council elections cost millions of pounds. That is taxpayers' money. At a time when councils face intense financial pressure, rising demand and difficult budget decisions, it is right to ask whether running elections under these circumstances represents responsible stewardship — particularly when elections to the successor authorities will follow.

Some critics argue that raising these concerns amounts to "cancelling democracy". That is a serious charge — and a mistaken one. Defending democracy is not about rigidly clinging to process regardless of context. It is about ensuring elections are credible, consequential and properly supported.

Our responsibility, as local leaders, is to tell the truth about capacity, risk and consequence. Doing so is not anti-democratic. On the contrary, it is how we protect the long-term health and credibility of local democracy in West Sussex.

West Sussex has been open with Government about the practical realities of delivering major reform. Ministers will decide shortly whether elections can realistically be run alongside reorganisation without damaging outcomes for residents.

ITEM 10 JANUARY 2026 PAYMENTS

Date	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
12/01/2026	GreenClean	Comm Hall cleaning 26/12/25 to 25/01/2026 *	472.00
12/01/2026	Richard Skillern	Hall Mgr hours December 2025	768.00
12/01/2026	R M Huntingford	Grass cutting 06 & 20/11/25	560.00
12/01/2026	West Sussex County Council	Clerks' salary & oncosts December 2025	3,539.17
12/01/2026	Green Thumb	Village Green Grass treatment	872.50
12/01/2026	S&L Planning Services Ltd	December 2025 retainer	200.00
12/01/2026	NJS Partnerships	Comm Hall & VG Lighting electrical repairs	1,354.41
12/01/2026	NJS Partnerships	Comm Hall PCSA Fees - final payment	9,213.90
12/01/2026	Mrs LM Wilcock	Locum Clerk Fees December 2025	462.50
12/01/2026	Mark Short	Comm Hall window cleaning	70.00
12/01/2026	Mulberry Local Authority Services	25/26 Interim audit fee	315.00
		* Includes £4 underpayment in Nov 2025	TOTAL 17,827.48

ITEM 14 HALL MANAGER REPORT**Hall Manager Report January 2026**

Bank Balance @ 02/01/26=£16124

Balance @ last PC Meeting 10/11/25=£12659

£3465 Income since last meeting @ 12/11/2026

DECEMBER 25 PRIVATE HIRERS 15

DECEMBER 25 WEEKLY HIRERS 9

ANTICIPATED JAN HIRERS 10