

Wareside Parish Council

Minutes of Wareside Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 27th November 2025 held in Wareside Village Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr Nicola Gildersleve (NG), Cllr Paul Goodman (PG) (Chairman), Cllr Kim Nicholson (KN), Cllr Stuart Richards (SR) and Cllr Mike Ryan (MR)

Others: Rebecca Burdick (Clerk) (RB)

Members of the public: None.

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Cllr Kerry Raworth (KR)

2. Declarations of interest and dispensations

a) To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda (including non-pecuniary).

MR - agenda item 8 - due to living in close proximity to the old school site being discussed.

b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests.

None.

c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

None.

3. To approve and sign meeting minutes

a) Thursday 22nd May 2025 - unanimously resolved and signed by PG

b) Thursday 30th June 2025 - unanimously resolved and signed by PG

c) Thursday 17th July 2025 - deferred until January meeting, amendments to be made

d) Thursday 25th September - unanimously resolved and signed by PG

c) Thursday 16th October - deferred until January meeting, amendments to be made

4. To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public

None.

5. Planning

a) To consider planning applications received by EHDC received between 16th October - 27th November

Application: 3/25/1672/HH

Proposal: Two storey side extension and single storey link

At: 5 Helham Green Cottages Scholars Hill Helham Green Wareside

WPC comments: None

Application: 3/25/1759/PNHH

Proposal: Notification of proposed single storey rear extension; Depth extending from the original rear wall of 8.00 metres, a maximum height of 3.86 metres and an eaves height of 3.00 metres

At: The Annexe 7 Helham Green Cottages Scholars Hill

WPC comments: None

Application: 3/25/1651/HH

Proposal: Erection of outbuilding for domestic storage following demolition of existing structure

At: Legges Cottage Fanhams Hall Road Wareside Hertfordshire SG12 7SD

WPC comments: None

b) To review planning decisions made by EHDC received between 16th October - 27th November
None.

6. To receive reports from County Councillor and District Councillor

County Cllr Eric Buckmaster emailed his report - please see appendix for full report. No District Cllr report received.

7. To receive updates from Councillors/Clerk on:

a) Little Oak Heath

i. LOH Maintenance

Grassland area cut - PG updated the PC that Nicolas Buxton has agreed to cut the open grassland area of LOH again for no cost, he will let PG know when this will be possible.

Brambles - PG updated the PC that the contractor had planned to spray the brambles in November. Awaiting update if this was possible with the wet weather. PG to find out if any additional work is required after the brambles have been sprayed and costs.

ii. Playground maintenance

Broadmead Leisure have fixed the two rotten fence posts and the damaged horizontal paling along with the stair rails on the Toddler Activity and Junior Activity as instructed by the PC. They completed an inspection in October and the report was shared with the PC. It was unanimously agreed to instruct Broadmead Leisure to fix the rotten fence post and the rotten top beam of the gate. RB to email them to let them know. The inspection report also noted that the "Cradle Swings" had "damage to all seat corners monitor, renew if seat condition deteriorates" at a cost of £320. This maintenance was noted by the PC and it was agreed action would be taken when Broadmead Leisure stated it was necessary. RB has shared the annual inspection with Broadmead Leisure and awaits their feedback.

iii. Bench - locality budget grant

The PC were successful in their application and have been awarded £300 towards benches on LOH. RB presented a selection of outdoor benches to Councillors, RB could not find any benches below £300 so each option would require the PC to top-up funds in order to purchase one bench. The PC unanimously agreed to purchase one "modular bench straight" black, 180cm bench £262.80 and "Soft Ground Anchor Kit with Tools" £66.00 from Earth Anchors, delivery cost £57.50. A total cost of £386.40 including £64.40 vat. Although delivery is expensive and it would be more cost effective to purchase the two/three benches the PC would like at the same time it was agreed that it is best to purchase one bench first in order to determine that the quality and suitability was adequate for the PC's needs.

b) Larkshill

SR, MR and KR have met a couple of times at LH and plan further tidy-ups in the new year. It was agreed that money should be allocated in the next FY for professional work as there are trees on the land that require a tree surgeon's expertise. PG to contact Ben, a local tree surgeon. MR suggested that a plan be put in place for the area, so that in years to come when others take over the management it is clear what the vision was/is. PG agreed and suggested this be drafted at the next tidy-up.

8. To receive update on Wareside CofE School, Sports & Playing Field.

No material update.

9. To discuss Councillor vacancy on the PC

RB updated the council that an election will not be required to fill the vacancy left when Bob resigned. The PC are able to fill the vacancy by co-option as has been done previously.

10. To review street lighting maintenance reports from HCC

HCC has provided structural surveys and maintenance reports for the street lighting that the PC is responsible for (this had been requested over a year ago), RB shared this with councillors via email. It was agreed that the information provided contained the information the PC required for insurance and precept purposes and the PC noted they were pleased that the relevant checks were being undertaken on the street lights via HCC. The PC is invoiced yearly for maintenance on the street lights along with any electricity costs. As the PC, up until now, had not received any evidence of maintenance undertaken on the street lights the relevant costs had not been paid for the last two years. As this information has now been received, it was unanimously agreed to pay HCC the maintenance costs for 23/24 and 24/25. RB to reply to the email from HCC with questions regarding the two street lights that are damaged and not providing any light.

11. To agree Parish Council 2026 meeting dates and venue

It was unanimously agreed that PC meetings in 2026 would be on the third Thursday of every month except in January and June when the meeting would be on the fourth Thursday. There would be no meeting in August or December. RB advised that she had had communication from the VH committee that the price of hiring the hall would increase from £15 per meeting to £20 per meeting. As the PC had used the church for one meeting this year it was discussed if this would be a possibility for 2026. PG said he would check with the Rector. It was agreed that any cost for hiring the church should be donated to the Friends of Wareside Church charity - which supports the maintenance of the building.

12. Finance

a) To approve signing of orders for payment online via BACS

Payee	Work done/goods received	Amount
Rebecca Burdick	Salary (October)	£279.28
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Broadmead Leisure	Repairs - Invoice 3023	£498.00
Broadmead Leisure	October inspection - 3014	£78.00
E-Scapes Landscapes	October grounds maintenance	£372.00
Paul Goodman	Reimbursement - Poppy Wreath	£20.00

b) To review the financial position for the current FY
Deferred until the next meeting.

c) To review the draft budget and discuss the precept for 2026/27
Deferred until the next meeting.

13. Urgent matters not included on this agenda (for full discussion on the next agenda)

None.

Meeting finished at 8.45pm

Next meeting 22nd January 2026 at 7.30pm

Signed:

Date:

Chair Cllr Paul Goodman.