West Itchenor Parish Council
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Minutes of a meeting of West Itchenor Parish Council held on Monday 9 March 2026 at Itchenor Memorial Hall commencing at 6.00 pm.

Present: Mr R Dyer, Mr L Keep, M C Mead-Briggs, Mr A Spencer (Chairman)
Mr P Taylor, Mrs S Taylor, Mr C Watson

In attendance: Mrs C Smith (Clerk), Mrs E Hamilton (CDC), Mr P Montyn (WSCC)

17/26C Chairman's Welcome
Thanks

18/26C Public session.

19/26C District and County Councillor reports on matters affecting the Parish.
Mrs Hamilton (CDC) spoke about the budget. A query has been raised about CDC reserves? How much can be spent on the district before local government reorganisation. A number of projects have been identified, including Selsey sea wall, the two leisure centres. Funding may be available for applications.

Mr Montyn (WSCC) reported that most of the funding for the sea wall in Selsey is coming in from the Environment Agency. The County Council's budget meeting has been held and it is in a comparatively healthy state. The County Council has not dipped into reserves and have a balanced budget.
Plans for the gas works in October for up to 7 weeks were highlighted. More details will be available later in the year.

The 20mph limit is in operation now. An observation was made that there were insufficient signs and Mr Montyn suggested writing to him and he would see more to be installed.

20/26C Apologies for absence.
None.

21/26C Declarations of Interest.
Declarations of interest.
Cllr Spencer declared a personal interest in the Agenda Item on the sea wall, as a Trustee of land affected.

Dispensation requests made to the Parish Clerk

22/26C Minutes
On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 January 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting and are signed by the Chairman.

23/26C Actions update.
The drainage quote received covers 9/10 days work. There were caveats in the quote which was £10K plus VAT. The plan is to get the pipework flowing and understand more accurately where all the pipes are. Itw as thought there may be a blockage by Ackram.

There was concern that some of this might be the responsibility of riparian owners and that funding might impact the Parish Council's funding of the sea wall.

It was suggested sending a letter to residents stating this is the outcome of the investigations, this is cost warning they may be liable for some of this.

24/26C Planning Committee meetings

The Minutes of previous Planning Committee meetings were **NOTED.**

A brief update on other planning matters was given. There was a new planning application on the site behind the motorhome shop on the Birdham Straight. CDC not going to determine this due to the outstanding enforcement notice.

Stubcroft Farm has come back will be reviewe by planning committee

25/26C The Common.

It was noted that the contractors had planted new trees on the Common outside Greenleas. It was felt that they were not planted in the correct area and they were too close to the culvert. It was agreed that Councillors would go back and speak to the Agent and have the trees moved.

Cllr Mead-Briggs has spoken to Travis Perkins and requested that they regularly rake the edge of the common where trucks have gone over onto the verge. Tim Keen would monitor this.

26/26C Environment Working Group.

The Pond is still working OK. It is important to keep the grill clear, so that it works OK. The trees by church field are all looking good now.

The verges are still suffering due to very wet weather and vehicles driving over the edges.

27/26C External meetings

Cllr Mead-Briggs had attended a meeting about the Local Plan. He spoke about the increase in housing numbers commenting that it was difficult to avoid giving permission for new housing.

28/26C The sea wall.

The Pre-App has been submitted to CDC. A meeting with the Planning Officer has been scheduled for 17 March at 1pm. The working group has also asked for meeting with the Conservancy. Depending on the Planning Officer, consideration may be given to seeking a meeting with Coastal Partners along with a Pre-App to Natural England and Environment Agency.

A report on the second phase is expected at the end of March. The Conservancy is funding £10K of this report. New funding guidelines from Environment Agency were issued last week. One hundred percent may be available for the first £3 million. The working group is still reviewing whether this project will qualify for this funding. The need to give residents and update , identify what has already been spent and what new budgets have been agreed was noted.

On a proposal from Cllr Mead-Briggs, it was **RESOLVED** to earmark expenditure up to £1500 for each pre-app to both the Environment Agency and Natural England.

Mr Montyn and Mrs Hamilton left the meeting.

29/26C Annual Parish Meeting

On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Friday 1 May, at 7pm in Itchenor memorial Hall.

30/26C Policy Adoption and Review.

On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** that the Data Protection Policy and Record of Processing Activitues be adopted with immediate effect.

31/26C Clerks Report.

The Clerk highlighted the fact that the new speed limits were not necessarily being observed. The Community Speedwatch group could undertake a monitoring session but additional volunteers would need to be sought. It was agreed to speak to the Itchenor Society for assistance and put information on the Parish Council website.

32/26C Finance.

Schedule of Payments and Receipts

On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments amounting to £26,312.76 be approved for payment.

Bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliations were **NOTED.**

Budget monitoring statement

The budget monitoring statement was **NOTED.**

33/26C Items for the next Parish Council meeting.

Nothing additional raised.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairman