West Itchenor Parish Council
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Minutes of a meeting of West Itchenor Parish Council held on Monday 27 July 2026 at Itchenor Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Mr R Dyer, Mr C Mead-Briggs, Mr A Spencer (Chairman), Mrs S Taylor

In attendance: Mrs C Smith (Clerk), Mr M Chilton (CDC), Mrs E Hamilton (CDC), Ms I Mayne (WSCC)

55/26C Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

56/26C Public session.

Nothing raised

57/26C District and County Councillor reports on matters affecting the Parish.

Mr Chilton (CDC) spoke about Local Government Reform. He also highlighted the proposed new planning reforms which take away local power from the process. Making a national basis on the way that delegated decisions are made. Split into two tiers, one where decisions have to be delegated, or cases that fall into a number of other groups will go to a planning committee. Red cards will cease to exist. He thought that the influence of Town and Parish Councils will decrease.

Mrs Hamilton (CDC) spoke about business development grants that finish at the end of the month.

Mrs Mayne (WSCC) spoke about the unauthorised access to WSCC buildings locally, fairer funding motion for West Sussex Schools, and the West Sussex Fire and Rescue services to check households.

58/26C Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr P Taylor and Cllr Keep.

59/26C Councillor Vacancy

No-one had come forward.

60/26C Declarations of Interest.

Declarations of interest.

None.

Dispensation requests made to the Parish Clerk

None.

61/26C Minutes

On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11 May 2026 are confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting and they are signed by the Chairman.

62/26C Actions update.

An update on outstanding actions was given.

63/26C Planning Committee meetings

The Minutes of previous Planning Committee meetings were noted.

There have been three planning meetings. Despite objections the Harbour Way Tennis Court has now been approved. Updates were given on other applications reviewed.

Notification has also been received about a purchase on Shipton Green, indications are that the site was purchased with a view to seeking planning permission. It was suggested to meet with the owners to establish the facts.

64/26C The Common.

Nothing to report.

65/26C Environment Working Group.

Nothing to report.

66/26C External meetings

None attended.

67/26C The sea wall.

Nothing to report.

68/26C Policy Adoption and Review.

On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** to confirm the use of the following policies.
IT Policy
Reserves Policy
Councillor Officer Protocol
Complaints Policy
Training Policy
Volunteer Policy

69/26C Clerks Report.

The Clerk gave a brief update on the NALC conference attended. The conference focused on the key challenges and opportunities facing parish and town councils, particularly devolution, local government reorganisation, financial sustainability, planning, climate action and the evolving role of local councils within their communities.

Baroness Sharon Taylor of Stevenage highlighted the impact of Government reforms and the need for parish and town councils to play an active role in shaping future local governance. The importance of ensuring councils are adequately resourced and empowered to meet increasing community expectations was also emphasised.

Presentations from Bridgwater and Northampton Town Councils explored their experiences of devolution, community engagement and service delivery, while Exmouth Town Council gave an interesting presentation on tackling the climate and nature emergency.

The Clerk advised she would be on leave the following week.

Communications had been received from the County Council about the continuation of the mobile waste service, advising on the costs going forwards. On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** to continue to support the service.

70/26C Finance.

Schedule of Payments and Receipts

On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments totalling £9250.88 be authorised for payment.

Bank reconciliation

On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation.

Budget monitoring statement

A review of the budget to date was undertaken. On a proposal from Cllr Spencer, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring statement.

71/26C Items for the next Parish Council meeting.

Consideration of more 20mph speed limit signs**.**

There being no further business the meeting finished at 8.15 pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairman