

Worth Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in the Parish Hub, Copthorne on 19th January 2026 commencing at 7.30pm

Present:	Cllr Coote (Acting Chair)	Cllr Phillips (Vice Chair)
	Cllr Bingle	Cllr Casella
	Cllr Dymond	Cllr Gibson
	Cllr King	Cllr Kipps
	Cllr Pointer	Cllr Stewart
	Cllr Williams	Cllr Wilson
	Mrs L Bannister (Chief Officer)	2 members of the public

Due to the absence of Cllr Dorey, Cllr Coote took on the role of Chair, and Cllr Phillips was appointed as Vice Chair.

086 Public Question Time

A question was asked regarding a planning compliance issue in Crawley Down on Turners Hill Road.

Cllr Williams updated that Mid Sussex District Council has issued a Stop Notice which it is understood has been appealed. Cllr Gibson explained the potential next steps as the recipients could then put in a retrospective planning application. It was explained that the Parish Council is working with Mid Sussex District Council on this matter, who have been dealing with the situation well.

087 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cruickshank, Dorey, Hodsdon and Scott.

Absent – Cllr Lord

The members of the public left the meeting

088 Declarations of Interest

None.

089 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the:

- a. Full Council meeting held on 20th November 2025; and
- b. Additional Full Council meeting held on 12th January 2026

These were duly signed by the Chair.

090 Chairman's Announcements

Cllrs Williams, Dorey, Phillips and Casella were thanked for representing the Parish Council at the District Planning Committee regarding the planning application for the Prince Albert. They all put in a great deal of effort with an incredible result.

091 Correspondence, Action List & Updates

The following were NOTED:

- a. Correspondence received
- b. Update on resolutions/actions
- c. Projects tracker
- d. Latest website data
- e. The latest crime figures for Copthorne, Crawley Down and Turners Hill

092 Committees

The Minutes and actions of the following Committees as circulated were NOTED:

- a. Planning & Highways Committee – 1st December 2025 and 5th January 2026. Next meeting 2nd February 2026.
- b. Finance & General Purposes Committee – 1st December 2025. Next meeting 2nd February 2026.
- c. Amenities & Assets Committee – 15th December 2025. Next meeting 19th March 2026.
- d. HR Committee – 11th November 2025. Next meeting to be set.

093 Working Parties

The notes and actions of the following Working Parties as circulated were NOTED:

- a. Copthorne Village Working Party – 26th November 2025 and 10th December 2025. Next meeting 21st January 2026.
- b. Crawley Down Village Working Party – 19th November 2025 and 10th December 2025. Next meeting 21st January 2026.
- c. Worth Parish Council Working Party – Next meeting 26th January 2026.

094 Reports from other Authorities

Cllr Gibson updated that West Sussex County Council has written to the Government with a request to postpone the elections this year.

Cllr Phillips updated that the next hearings for the District Plan start on 24th February and are planned for three weeks. The Inspector has already forwarded a list of items that he would like amended.

095 Business Plan

It was RESOLVED to approve the Business Plan, Action Plan and Summary Document.

096 Representatives attending outside meetings.

It was NOTED that Cllr Dymond and King attended the District Planning Committee to view the discussion about the Prince Albert. It was reported that the Parish Council was well represented with robust arguments and the shop owner spoke very well.

097 Operation Watershed

Cllr Gibson declared an interest in this item as the County Councillor who approved the application

It was RESOLVED to appoint Landbuild as the contractor for this scheme at a cost of £73,947.36 plus VAT, subject to funding being awarded.

Congratulations and thanks were offered to the Chief Officer for her work in getting to this stage.

098 Policy

It was RESOLVED to approve the following:

- a. Drugs & Alcohol Policy
- b. Bribery Policy
- c. Harassment/Bullying Policy
- d. Performance Improvement Policy
- e. Risk Management Strategy

099 Parish Awards

The update was NOTED.

100 Personnel

The confidential report was NOTED.

101 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 23rd March 2026, at the Parish Hub, Copthorne.

Meeting closed at 7.59 pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____