WORTHParish Council

Chief Officer: Mrs Leanne Bannister **Council Offices**

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Issued: 9th September 2025

Notice of Meeting

You are hereby summoned to the **Full Council Meeting** of Worth Parish Council to be held on **Monday 15**th **September 2025** at **7.30pm** in the Parish Hub, Borers Arms Road, Copthorne, when the following business will be considered and transacted.

Mrs L Bannister
CHIEF OFFICER TO THE COUNCIL

AGENDA

1. Public Question Time – To receive comments made by members of the public.

This item will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with individual contribution up to a maximum of 3 minutes.

Members of the public are welcome to ask questions of the Council on matters that arise under its remit. The question should not be a statement, and it would be appreciated to be kept short, to maximise the time for other questions. The chairman will call the question from those who are indicating that they wish to speak.

Members of the public will only be allowed to speak at any other time during the meeting at the discretion of the Chairman, and will be governed by the rules set out in the Council's Standing Orders at all times.

- **2. Apologies** to receive and approve apologies for absence.
- **3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests –** to receive any declarations of interest from Councillors.
- **4. Minutes** to approve the Minutes of the full Council meeting held on 21st July 2025 (attached)
- **5. Chairman's Announcements –** to receive any announcements from the Chairman.
- **6. Correspondence, Action List & Updates –** to note:
 - a. Correspondence received
 - b. <u>Update on resolutions/actions</u>
 - c. Project tracker
 - d. Latest website data
 - e. The latest crime figures for Copthorne, Crawley Down and Turners Hill
- **7. Committees** To receive the Minutes of the following Committee Meetings:
 - a. Planning & Highways Committee 1st September 2025. Next meeting 2nd October 2025.
 - Finance & General Purposes Committee <u>1st September 2025</u>. Next meeting 2nd October 2025.

- c. Assets & Amenities Committee no meetings held since last Full Council meeting. Next meeting 22nd September 2025.
- d. HR Committee no meetings held since last Full Council meeting. Next meeting 19th September 2025.
- **8. Working Parties** to receive the notes from the following Working Parties:
 - a. Copthorne Village Working Party <u>23rd July 2025</u>, <u>6th August 2025</u>, <u>20th August 2025</u>, <u>3rd September 2025</u>. Next meeting 17th September 2025.
 - b. Crawley Down Village Working Party 9th July 2025 (notes to follow). Next meeting 17th September 2025.
 - c. Local Government Working Party 4th August 2025, 1st September 2025, 5th September 2025 (notes to follow). Next meeting to be confirmed.
- **9. Reports from other Authorities -** to receive a written report from:
 - a. County Councillors.
 - b. District Councillors.
- **10. Art Display** To consider a request made by Cllr Coote for the Parish Council to hold an Art Display. Idea to be presented by Cllr Coote.

Note: this would need to be fully scoped for costs, capacity, etc.

- **11. Reports from representatives attending outside meetings** to receive and note reports from Councillors and the Clerk in relation to any meetings attended on behalf of the Council.
 - a. Town and Parish District Plan Update (attached)
 - b. Town and Parish Local Government Review Engagement (attached)
- **12. Bowers Place Parking Solution** to (Finance & General Purposes Committee report attached):
 - a. Approve the budget of £88,737.69 as recommended by the Finance & General Purposes Committee
 - b. Approve the investment of an additional £50,000 in the CCLA as recommended by the Finance & General Purposes Committee, and to delegate authority to the Chief Officer to transfer this amount to the current account when needed.
- **13. Recommendation from Copthorne Working Party** to consider the following:

Members of the Copthorne Working Party feel that the use of the Copthorne Hotel for asylum seekers/refugees/immigrants on a long-term basis is having a negative impact on the village for the following reasons:

- The loss of tourism to the area impacts the local shops, pubs and restaurants
- The hotel was a major local employer, especially for younger people seeking local and first time jobs
- Protests have drawn people from out of the area to attend, and some of these people have been aggressive and caused local unrest
- There is a lack of social cohesion caused by lack of integration
- It seems that there is a disproportionate amount of hotels in the area, and a large amount of people in the hotel in comparison to the population of Copthorne. This leads to a strain on local resources.

Copthorne Working Party therefore request that Full Council engage with West Sussex County Council, Mid Sussex District Council, the West Sussex Association of Local Councils and the National Association of Local Councils to highlight these issues and seek to restore the amenity of the hotel to the village.

14. Date of the next meeting – the next meeting will be held on Thursday 20th November 2025 at the Haven, Crawley Down.

^{*}The press and public may be excluded from this item in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1 due to the confidential nature of the matter to be discussed.