

**DRAFT SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF MAIN COUNCIL ON 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2026**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
ALLOTMENTS & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE  
HELD AT FELPHAM COMMUNITY HALL FELPHAM  
10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026 6.45pm**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: Bob Budd, Kirsty Halls, Gloria Moss, Dave Smart  
Councillor: Russ Marsden-Sear, Pat Young (Ex Officio)

**A 25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillor: Antony Bassett

**A 26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None

**A 27. QUESTION TIME FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:**

None

**A 28. CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

A resident had requested assistance regarding footpath FEL/154/2 where motorcycles with no registration plates are regularly being ridden. Police have advised that signage needs to be in place for enforcement. The Clerk has contacted WSCC to request this.

**A 29. CLERK'S REPORT:**

Recent social media posts have suggested that horses from St. Michael's Island are being ridden inappropriately in Hotham Park, but the riders are not connected to St. Michael's Island.

**A 30. FELPHAM ALLOTMENTS AND GARDENS SOCIETY QUARTERLY REPORT**

The FAGS report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting:

**\*\*FAGS Report to Felpham PC (Allotments and Green spaces) February 2026\*\***

We had quite a big turnover of plot holders at renewal time in the autumn, with a number of people deciding for different reasons to give up their plots. We now have about 12 Felpham residents on our waiting list.

After the long hot dry summer of last year (almost forgotten) we are now contending with a long wet winter. For the majority of the season, it has been almost impossible to get to our plots or do any work on them.

Back in the autumn we were able to plant over-winter crops like broad beans, onions and garlic, and these have pushed their heads up and withstood the onslaught of the rain so far.

Those plot holders who have the use of a greenhouse have been able to avoid the rain while planting seeds to get ready for early spring planting out.

This is usually the time when most people dig over their plots and prepare for spring planting. However, a lot of us will have a busy time when it finally stops raining. That is certainly not yet, as some plots are flooded and all are waterlogged. But, ever optimistic, we hope for enough dry weather for us to be able to get back on our plots to prepare them before spring planting begins.

**A 31. UPDATE ON KING GEORGE V & LONGBROOK PARKS AND OLD RECTORY GARDENS:**

Arun District Council Parks Department are aware of the proposals by Blake's Cottage Trust to place a visitor centre in Old Rectory Gardens and are awaiting further details.

The crazy golf will continue on the putting green in 2026 but will be promoted more effectively.

**A 32. TO REVIEW THE QUOTATIONS AND AGREE REPAIRS TO THE FLINT WALL AT FAGS**

Three quotations were received but only two met the criteria. These were circulated to all councillors in advance of the meeting.

**Councillor Kirsty Halls proposed that councillors recommend the quotation for £6570.00 including VAT. This was seconded by Councillor Gloria Moss and unanimously agreed. This will now proceed to Main Council for ratification.**

**A 33. TO CONSIDER A ST. MICHAEL'S ALLOTMENT AWARD**

Councillor Bob Budd advised councillors that a St. Michael's Allotment Award has been considered, and the committee agreed with the suggested recipient and proposal.

**Clerk to order award which will be presented at the next allotment inspection.**

**A 34. TO SCHEDULE INSPECTIONS OF ST. MICHAEL'S ALLOTMENT PLOTS**

Councillor Bob Budd informed councillors that inspections of allotment plots will take place in April and that committee members will be invited.

**A 35. TO AGREE ST. MICHAEL'S ANNUAL ALLOTMENT RENT INCREASE**

**Councillors unanimously approved a rent increase of 5%.** The cost of a standard plot will increase from £30.04 to £31.54 with effect from April.

**A 35. MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE (WITH THE PRIOR CONSENT OF THE CHAIRMAN).**

Councillor Bob Budd shared a picture of the flowering cherry verge tree that had been planted at Drake Park, Felpham to replace a dead tree. The residents were very pleased with the tree and will be watering it. Councillor Bob Budd thanked the Clerk for working on this.

Councillor Bob Budd advised councillors of the West Sussex County Council Climate Action Update for Parish Councils which will be circulated by the Clerk.

Councillor Bob Budd shared pictures of the pedestrian entrance to King George V near the entrance to Summerley Lane. This is very muddy and inaccessible to residents during wet weather. **Clerk to contact Arun District Council.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Approved.....

Date.....