

# HARTING PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of Harting Parish Council held at The Community Hall, South Harting on **Thursday 19 February 2026 at 7.30p.m.**

**Present:** Mr Shaxson (Chair), Mr Bonner, Mrs Bramley, Mrs Curran and Mrs Martin.  
In attendance: Trish Walker, Parish Clerk.

There was one member of public in attendance.

**211. Apologies for absence:** Mrs Cormack, Mrs Maxwell Davies, Mr Miller, Mr Olphert, Mrs Gravely (County Councillor) and Mr O'Kelly (District Councillor).

**212. Declarations of Interest:** All the councillors present declared an interest in Agenda Item 9 as the Council is the land owner and the Council is Sole Trustee of Harting Community Hall.

**213. Minutes from Meeting held on 26 January 2026.**

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26 January 2026 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**214. Questions from the Public:** The member of the public made the following representation:

- A copy of the Clerk's report and an associated tree survey were handed out to the councillors by the member of public who asked why the detailed works had not been completed.  
*The Chair confirmed this would be looked into.*
- Why had the elm resistant trees donated to the Council been allowed to die  
*The Chair confirmed that some of the trees may have failed as they were very large plants in small pots, therefore they were not very practical to plant and tend. There had also been some vandalism to the elms planted at the southern end of South Gardens.*
- Why is the brash pile in the Warren still there when it should have been burned.  
*Mr Shaxson confirmed the ecologist had stated that the brash pile should be left in situ as it is valuable habitat.*
- Why is the Warren such a mess.  
*One of the councillors asked if the member of public was willing to volunteer in the Warren.*
- Why does the Chair do the work of WSCC by clearing drains instead of working in the Warren and why has so much mess been left on the roadside  
*The Vice Chair answered to say that the Chair had carried out a lot of roadside and gully clearance and this had been noted by locals who were very grateful, there had not been any complaints only praise. She also confirmed that this work was done on a voluntary basis and proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.*

Following further personal comments which were deemed to be unacceptable, the member of public was told the 15 minute slot for public questions had been used and he was asked to leave the meeting.

**215. Matters of Urgent Public Importance:** None.

**216. Reports from the County and District Councillor** – There were no formal reports from the County and District Councillors ahead of the meeting. Mrs Gravely had previously sent a Highways report that had been circulated to the councillors.

**217. East Harting Fingerpost**

The finger post on the East Harting village green was recently damaged by a car. The driver had agreed to pay for the cost of repair and the clerk had requested a quote from Ralph Restorations.

*The following proposal was made and agreed:*

*To note the report*

**218. SDNPA Parish Meeting**

The online Parish Meeting, organised by SDNPA was due to take place on 4 March 2026. Two members of the Council were invited to attend.

*The following proposal was made and agreed:*

*That Mr Bonner and Mrs Bramley would attend the online SDNPA Parish Meeting on 4 March 2026*

**219. Harting Community Hall (HCH) Replacement bollards**

The HCH management committee need to replace the metal bollards outside the fire exit at the rear of the hall and also the wooden bollards at the entrance to the car park. The previous metal bollards had been bolted into the surface, but this arrangement was not robust enough and the bollards have been constantly damaged. The replacement bollards will be sunk into the ground and concreted in, hopefully making them stronger whilst ensuring the emergency exit steps are kept clear.

The two wooden bollards will replace those on the left hand side of the car park entrance. These have unfortunately been knocked over by cars cutting the corner. The bollards have been purchased by a member of the Hall Committee and C Read Builders have been tasked to install them.

The cost of materials and labour will be in the region of £800 + vat and the HCH management committee requested the cost of the works should be offset against the grant held in reserve by the Council.

The members considered the request and agreed to gift the cost and installation of the new bollards to Harting Community Hall and to offset the cost against the grant held in reserve.

*The following proposal was made and agreed:*

*That the Council agreed to gift the purchase and installation of four metal bollards by the Hall fire exit and two wooden bollards at the entrance to the car park at a cost of up to £800 + vat and to offset the cost against the Parish Council grant held in reserve*

**220. Finance**

**220.1.** It was agreed that the following payments should be made:

Undisclosed	Clerk and RFO Salary	1387.65
Debra Harknett-Godfree	Hall Bookkeeping (Oct to Dec)	198.75
Harting Festivities	Insurance - Grant	328.01
Mark Adams	HCH bollard replacement - Grant	673.87
Henry Warren Hall	Insurance - Grant	1,802.02

JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog waste bags	212.58
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**220.2.** It was agreed that Mrs Curran and Mrs Bramley would authorise the February online payments.

**220.3. Income to note for January 2026**

None.

**220.4. Bank Reconciliation for January 2026**

It was noted that the bank reconciliation had been scrutinised and signed by the Chairman of the Finance Committee in accordance with the Financial Regulations.

**220.5. Bank balance as of 31 January 2026 - £68,018.78** (earmarked funds £14.1k)

**220.6. Budget statement to 31 January 2026** -Noted

**221. Planning Committee**

The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 15 and 26 January 2026 were noted.

**222. Feedback from WMPF and HCH representatives**

There were no new updates from the HCH or WMPF representatives. The Chair did confirm he had been in touch with members of the WMPF committee about the drain by the gateway to the playing fields and how it would benefit from being cleared out on a regular basis.

**223. Correspondence**

There had been no correspondence other than regular items and those already included in the main agenda.

**224. Clerk's report**

It was noted the village footpath had been flooding during the recent weeks and that the brook needs clearing to stop water escaping.

**225. Items for future meetings**

- Car park wall
- Restoration of water pump
- Car parking
- Bus shelter in East Harting

**226. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting would be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 19 March 2026 at the Henry Warren Hall, Nyewood.

The meeting closed at 8.16 pm.