

**Randwick and Westrip Parish Council**

*Minutes of the meeting of the council held at Cashes Green School on Thursday April 16th 2026.*

**Present**

**Councillors**

*Alun Davies*

*Jo Boldero*

*Nick Lythgoe*

*Petronella Tyson*

*Elisabeth Newman*

*Barry Chapman*

*Rob Davies Chairman (from 7.35)*

*County Cllr Craig Horrocks and District Cllr Jon Edmunds.*

*The meeting was chaired by Cllr Boldero.*

*1/4/26      **Apologies:** Cllr Dooley.*

*2/4/26      **Public Forum:** Two members of the public were present; also Cllrs Horrocks and Edmunds. A parishioner explained his objections to a planning application for 'Hill House', The Stocks, Randwick.*

*3/4/26      **Declarations of interest in items on this agenda:** Cllr Chapman declared an interest in item 12a as a neighbour of Hill House.*

*4/4/26      **Minutes:** The minutes of the parish council meeting held on March 19th 2026 were approved and signed by the Chairman.*

*5/4/26      **Casual Vacancy:** The vacancy had been readvertised. To date there had been no applicants for co-option.*

*6/4/26      **Report from the Officer of the Council:** Cllrs noted the contents of the clerk's report.*

*7/4/26      **Correspondence:** Cllrs noted the correspondence in the clerk's report.*

*8/4/26      **Questions from Councillors:** Cllr Newman reported on the Stroud Local Strategic Partnership meeting she had attended. Provision for youth participation was an issue discussed at the meeting and it was reported that five local charities offered placements for young people.*

*Cllr Alun Davies asked whether the parish council could object to GCC's planned diversion for a road closure to allow for blockage clearance by BT for three days in May. A previous diversion had caused traffic problems in narrow lanes and signage had been inadequate.*

*County Cllr Horrocks agreed to take the matter up with GCC Highways.*

*Cllr Boldero reported that she would attend the next Biodiversity training session at SDC.*

9/4/26 **District and County Councillors' reports:** District Cllr Jon Edmunds and County Cllr Patient had sent written reports.

Cllr Horrocks added to information in Cllr Patient's report: -

The Grassroots fund had been allocated.

A HomeStart course would run for young mothers.

The youth club at Cashes Green would restart.

He emphasised that it was GCC policy to consider the impact on youth in all policy decisions.

He reported that current local government reorganisations were establishing smaller unitary authorities that the whole county model proposed by GCC. GCC also intended to become part of the West of England Combined Mayoral authority. The first stage report on consultation was due in June.

He spoke about proposed 'Neighbourhood Partnerships' which would cover twenty to fifty thousand people. There would be a survey of parish councils' capacities to operate in these.

Cllr Rob Davies joined the meeting at 7.35 pm.

Cllr Edmunds spoke about some of the items in his report, including plans to close the Stratford Park Lido. It had been estimated that it could cost up to five million pounds to refurbish the lido.

Changes to the planning system would restrict district councillors right to 'call in' applications under a particular size – central government had proposed that councillors could only call-in applications over a minimum size of fifty houses.

Cllr Chapman asked for information about reports that there were refurbished district council properties that remained unlet. Cllr Edmunds agreed to look into this.

10/4/26 **Annual Parish Meeting:** The meeting would be held on Thursday May 21st at 8 pm, following the scheduled monthly meeting.

11/4/26 **Lease for Randwick Playing Fields:** Cllrs discussed aspects of the lease including the registration of Randwick Village Hall at the Land Registry.

**Action:** The clerk to make a Field Change Request Application to Fields in Trust and notify the solicitor advising the council.

12/4/26 **Planning:**

a) **Planning applications:**

S.26/0424/FUL - Far Westrip Farm - Build a roof and cast concrete walls on two sides of a hard standing currently used for maize silage and other forages, adjacent to existing maize silage bunkers – no comment.

S.26/0393/HHOLD Hill House, The Stocks – side extension, rear roof extension and porch – object – conflicts with the Village Design Statement and Conservation Area Management Plan.

*S.26/0569/HHOLD Blue Haze, The Ryelands - Erection of a single storey front extension, garage with terrace over and parking to the front – no comment.*

**Noted:**

*Permission - S.26/0259/HHOLD - High Oaks , Chapel Fields - Erection of replacement porch, terrace, side extension & parking alterations. The proposal to include alterations to the existing parking area had been removed.*

- b) **Community Speedwatch:** There had been no further surveys.*
- c) **Vehicle Activated Speed Sign:** The sign was being checked to see whether it could be repaired.*
- d) **Signage about parking:** Cllrs would consider Cllr Dooley's redraft at the May meeting.*

**13/4/26 Finance:**

*a) **Bank reconciliation:** Cllrs considered the bank reconciliation for March. Closing balance at March 31st was £40,818.03.*

*b) **Internal Financial Controls:** Cllrs reviewed and approved the Internal Financial Controls.*

*The council approves all payments.*

*Two signatories are required on cheques.*

*Cheque stubs and invoices are initialled by signatories.*

*Two signatories are required on the schedule of payments to authorise payments made by internet banking transfer.*

*Two councillors can access the internet banking accounts to undertake routine checks.*

*The RFO sends councillors copies of HSBC bank statements weekly.*

*The RFO reconciles bank statements and accounts monthly.*

*The reconciliation is checked by a councillor who is not a cheque signatory.*

*The council monitors expenditure and reviews the budget quarterly.*

*The Internal Auditor carries out a random sample check.*

*A councillor scrutinises the accounts twice a year.*

*An external audit (Limited Assurance Review) is required when gross receipts or gross payments exceed £25,000. If under £25,000 the council can declare itself exempt from external audit.*

*The approval of the use of each variable direct debit shall be reviewed by the council at least every two years.*

*The approval of the use of BACS or CHAPS shall be renewed by resolution of the council at least every two years.*

***Internal Controls Checklist:** Cllr Boldero had scrutinised the accounts and completed the Internal Controls Checklist on 8/4/26.*

- c) **Annual Statement of Account:** Cllrs approved the Annual Statement of Account.*
- d) **External Audit:** The Council met the criteria for exemption from a limited assurance review (External Audit) in 25/26.*

**Resolved:** To certify the Council exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015. The exemption certificate was signed by the RFO and the Chairman of the council.

e) **Annual Governance Statement:** Cllrs approved the annual governance statement for 2025/26. The Annual Governance Statement was signed by the clerk and by the chairman of the council at the meeting.

f) **Accounting Statements:** Cllrs approved the accounting statements for 2025/26. The Accounting Statements had been signed by the RFO before the meeting and were signed by the chairman of the council at the meeting.

g) **Financial reserves:** Cllrs considered the current earmarked and general reserves. The Financial Reserves Policy had been updated.

14/4/26 **Heritage Trail:** Cllr Newman had found Cllrs' comments about the draft leaflet useful. She reported on progress in finalising the leaflet and discussions with Randwick Historical Association. She proposed that the Heritage Trail leaflet, walking trail and references should be published as downloadable documents on the parish council website rather than as paper leaflets. The council agreed to her proposal. The availability of these would be advertised in The Randwick Runner and at The Vine Tree and Carpenters Arms. Cllr Tyson suggested that a QR code could be used as well.

15/4/26 **Items delegated to the clerk and items for the next agenda:** as above.

16/4/26 **Orders for payment:**

GALC (GAPTC)	subscription
C Curtis	April monthly contract payment plus extra hours for March 26
B Parsons	April salary less tax
B Parsons	Norton Anti-Virus
Rapide System Services	Ink Cartridges

17/4/26 **Next meeting:** Thursday May 21st at Randwick Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

**Signed:**

**Date:**