

COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday 6th November 2025 held at Tanyard Hall 30 Station Road Gomshall GU5 9LF.

Present: Councillors P Tompkins (Chair), J Cross, J Hutton, T Florent, R Findlay, Q Jayne, G Reffo and R Smith

Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Councillor and Surrey County Council (SCC) Councillor B Hughes.

Guildford Borough Council Councillor D Newson

Three members of the public

Clerk & RFO S Hoyland

25.85 To accept apologies and reasons for absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, s 85(1) (LGA 1972) – Councillors W Esplen, R Davey, M Taylor-Cotter, B Harrap and M Keeble

25.86 Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the [9th October 2025](#) – **Approved and Signed as a Correct Record**

25.87 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) Declarations by Councillors on any of the agenda items below in accordance with The Localism Act 2011, ss.27-34 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. (SI 2012 No. 1464). **Councillor J Cross, as a trustee of SALV, declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 25.92 (b) Shere Surgery, SALV grant application.**

25.88 Brief Report from Surrey County Council (SCC) Councillor and Guildford Borough Council (GBC) Councillors on matters affecting Shere Parish.

SCC & GBC Councillor B Hughes reported the following:

- A traffic safety meeting was taking place in Holmbury St Mary (HSM) on the 7th November with the new Highways Engineer, Parish Councillors, and members of the HSM Speed watch team.
- A lorry ban for Shere Village was still being pursued and he was pushing for a survey to see what route the lorries currently take and what route they would take if there was a lorry ban in Shere.
- Resurfacing on Burchets Hollow, Peaslake was taking place the following week.
- SCC was aware of the abusive graffiti on the tunnel under the A25. A local graffiti artist has offered to replace it with something more attractive and SCC has requested more information.
- The responses to the public consultation for the part pedestrianisation of The Square, Shere have been analysed and it was reported that the responses appeared to support the trial staying. A formal response will be advertised once it has been confirmed.

GBC Councillor D Newson reported the following:

- The railway crossing in Gomshall was causing a backup of traffic on Queen Street but in a meeting, it was stated that it was due to safety improvements.
- The announcement of the two new Unitary Authorities for Surrey was causing concern due to the level of debt for the new West Surrey Unitary Authority. Briefings were taking place to consider the problem. More information on the reorganisation can be found here www.surreycc.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/lgr/plans

Councillor G Reffo reported that the Gomshall level crossing barriers were staying down a long time. GBC Councillor D Newson replied that National Rail were investigating it. The leaf mould train was slower than normal trains, which could be having an additional impact.

25.89 Questions or requests from members of the public to the Council in relation to the business on the agenda or future items for discussion.

- a) A member of the public asked if the average speed cameras being extended to the Clandon Junction could also be extended through Gomshall to Abinger Hammer, as the traffic speed was extreme and dangerous. SCC & GBC Councillor B Hughes agreed and said he would work to make a case for the extension.

Shere Parish Councillors made the following points:

- Councillor R Findlay stressed that speeding was an issue for all Surrey villages and the speed should be reduced to 20mph – SCC & GBC B Hughes was looking at the villages individually.
 - Councillor J Cross stressed that the Coombe Lane junction with A25 was extremely dangerous due to the speed of traffic on the A25 and the bend by the junction.
 - Councillor J Hutton questioned why the average speed cameras were being extended to Clandon rather than towards Gomshall and the response was that it had been requested by residents and businesses on Newlands Corner. SCC & GBC Councillor B Hughes agreed that separate average speed cameras were needed on the stretch from Silent Pool to Gomshall and Abinger Hammer.
- b) A member of the public highlighted an email sent to the council regarding the suggestion for a Shere specific website and improvements for visitors to the village, including better signage for car parks, maps, visitor behaviour guidelines etc. The Clerk **Noted** that it would be on the General Purposes Committee agenda to consider, and the email would be sent out to all councillors for review. It was suggested that the businesses may like to finance a possible new website.

25.90 Finance Matters 2025/26

October 2025

- a) **Approved** income of £20,023.21 and expenditure of £34,388.22 for month ended October 2025 ([Appendix 1](#)).
- b) **Approved** of Lloyds Credit Card cashbook transfer of £570.63 and expenditure of £769.60 for October 2025 ([Appendix 2](#)).
- c) **Noted** bank reconciliations and statement balances (including credit card) for month ended October 2025 ([Appendix 3](#)).
- d) **Noted** [income and expenditure against budget](#) and [earmarked reserves](#) to end of October 2025 ([Appendix 4](#)).
- e) **Noted** VAT expenditure for October 2025 ([Appendix 5](#))
- f) To consider adding Assistant Clerk as Lloyds Bank signatory - **Agreed**
- g) Council Insurance – **Confirmed** Clear Councils Cyber Insurance cover for £410.25 has been paid following the move to Multi factor identification on all emails.

25.91 Finance Meeting – Received and Approved the minutes of the [23rd October 2025 \(Appendix 6\)](#) and consider the following recommendations:

- a) **Adopted** [the draft budget 2026/27 \(Appendix 7\)](#). Councillor T Florent asked about the budget for Pond Lane Car Park surface – the Clerk confirmed that any major outlay would be financed through major projects. **Agreed** to ask for a recommendation and quote from Axtel for a

permeable, hardwearing surface – not tarmac, which would cause an issue with surface water. Report to be added to General Purposes Committee Agenda in January.

- b) **Agreed** the precept for 2026/27 be set at £229,901 ([Appendix 8](#)). Representing (on a Band D property, using current year tax base) a weekly increase of 14p.

25.92 To consider the following items and agree resolutions where appropriate:

- a) Finance committee and Planning Committee – Considered and **Agreed** adding to the Terms of Reference permission for a councillor not on the committee to substitute for a councillor who cannot attend – [Substitution of Committee Members](#).
- b) Shere Surgery, [SALV Grant Application](#) – A brief description of the project was given by Councillor J Cross (Trustee of SALV). **Proposed by Councillor R Findlay, Seconded by Councillor R Smith and unanimously Agreed** a grant of £10,000 for wing extension, providing four additional consulting rooms, subject to the following:
- Contingent on the Surgery/SALV raising the additional funds needed to carry out the project.
 - Contingent on the project going ahead on this scale and scope.
 - The £10,000 would be put into an Earmarked Reserve until the project is ready to commence and then paid to SALV, which would transfer all the money to the surgery as a gift.

Agreed to add the grant to the Parish Council news report on the website and parish magazine to help advertise this worthwhile project.

- c) Holmbury St Mary Traffic Safety Consultation – [Received feedback](#) and Councillor R Findlay gave a short summary. **Noted** site visit taking place on the 7th November 2025. SCC & GBC B Hughes said that the Highways Team was going to look at signage, placement of the village gates by Pitland Street, making the road surface noisier by the entrance of the village. Also looking at road safety from Felbury Houses to the Green. It was also stressed by councillors that the following was needed:
- A 20mph speed limit.
 - Restoration of the kerb height along the Hurtbank area, from Felbury Houses to the Green. The kerb was currently the same height of the road and was extremely dangerous for pedestrians.
 - Consideration given to the installation of an average Speed Camera.

Agreed to add report to the minutes (see above) and on a news post on the website.

- d) Shere Traffic and Parking – to consider the following:
- Feedback from SCC & GBC B Hughes regarding site visit with Highways Road Safety Team had not been received and the site visit may go ahead after the Holmbury St Mary Site visit the following day.
 - Requesting further Double Yellow Lines (DYLs) – it was **Noted** that the most important area to consider was the area opposite the Willaim Bray pub on the bend.
 - **Noted** traffic speed in the village was faster with the new DYLs installed.
 - Petitioned for more parking enforcement – SCC & GBC Councillor B Hughes **Reported** that more enforcement had been requested.
- e) Tanyard Hall (TH) accessibility lift extension – a short explanation was given by Chair P Tompkins and the following items were considered:
- **Noted** verbal response from Building Inspector that the building plans look like they meet fire safety regs compliance (subject to no hob in the kitchenette)
 - [Reviewed of feedback from Drop-in visits to other venues](#)

- **Confirmed** that the upstairs of TH can accommodate sixty people.
- **Received** quote of indicative cost of works.
- **Noted** support from SCC & GBC B Hughes and grant of £25,000 (through Your Fund Surrey Allowance) towards the work to provide accessibility to the hall and for larger community events.
- Considered instructing architect to prepare plans and submit planning application – decision postponed – **Agreed** to obtain the following information:
 - I. Valuation of Tanyard Hall.
 - II. Rental valuation for the downstairs room.
 - III. Business case for the project.
 - IV. Explanation on how the extension would reduce the flood risk.
 - V. Explanation of evacuation procedure.
 - VI. Share report from the Domestic Buildings Research Group Surrey.
 - VII. Send out plans again.
 - VIII. Management & Strategy meeting in New Year to agree a decision matrix for all projects.

25.93 Date of next meeting: 7.30pm Tuesday 13th January 2026 at Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall GU5 9LF.

Meeting Closed 9.20pm