Chelsham and Farleigh Parish Council 2026/039

Minutes of a meeting of Chelsham and Farleigh Parish Council held on 2nd February 2026 in Farleigh Hall, Farleigh Court Road at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Jan Moore (in the Chair) Cllr Linda Fullerton-Batten Cllr Jeremy Pursehouse Cllr Chris Deefholts Cllr Neil Chambers Cllr Steer

In attendance: Samantha Head (Clerk)

And 1 parishioner

Before formally starting the meeting, the Chairman informed members that Mike Webb had sadly passed away. He had served on the Parish Council for over 30 years. Cllr Moore had sent a condolence card to his widow, Angela, and had subsequently visited her. Mike's funeral would be family only, with a celebration of his life later in the year.

The meeting commenced at 7.03pm

1. **Apologies for absence**

0367/0226 Cllr Andrews had sent his apologies. These were received and accepted by members. Cllr Patel (TDC) had attended last month's meeting so was not due to attend this month. Cllr Chotai (TDC) had sent his apologies.

2. **Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest by Councillors of personal pecuniary interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interests, and whether the member regards the interest to be prejudicial under the terms of the new Code of Conduct. Anyone with prejudicial interest must, unless an exemption applies, or a dispensation has been issues, withdraw from the meeting.**

None

3. **Public participation**

None

4. **To approve and sign the minutes of the previous council meeting held on 5th January 2026**

0368/0226 Members resolved that the minutes reflected a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 5th January 2026. They were duly signed by the Chair.

5. **Officer's report**

None

6. **Matters arising (for information only)**

- Cllr Fullerton-Batten asked when the tree work along Limpsfield Road would be carried out. This was scheduled for 3rd - 4th March.
- Cllr Moore has sent a further email to Chris Peters (TDC) re Article 4 Directions, including full background. Cllr Moore acknowledged that he is busy working on the HMOs in Caterham and Whyteleafe and possibly the 4 in Warlingham.
- Cllr Moore has chased Merton College again about the pond / moat on Farleigh Court Road.
- The ditch from the pond on Chelsham Common has been blocked by a dam built by children and the ditch running down the side of the common is full of leaves so the water from recent downpours is not running away. A local handy man has offered to clear the dam, clear the leaves from the ditch and remove the wood that has been thrown into the pond. He estimates it will be 3 hours' work at £30 an hour.

7. Reports:

a) County Councillor

The ward is currently vacant.

b) District Councillors i) Jeremy Pursehouse, ii) Anna Patel, iii) Perry Chotai

i) TDC has just set a draft Council Tax rate for 2026-27. Band D would be £259.86 which equates to a 2.99% increase (an extra £7.54 p.a.). The Precept increase for Chelsham and Farleigh parish is 9.71% increase which on a Band D is an extra £5.13 p.a., which compares with a 72.1% increase in Warlingham parish which on Band D is an extra £18.71 p.a. Cllr Pursehouse reported that Cllr Bloore (Warlingham PC) had received an update from SCC that there are no plans to fill the ward position left vacant by Cllr Rush's resignation. Cllr Moore asked Cllr Pursehouse if he had received a response from Tim Oliver (leader, SCC).

ii) No report.

iii) No report.

8. Tandridge District Council Local Plan 2024-2044 - Consultation

Details of the consultation had been circulated by the Clerk. Cllr Moore asked for members' comments on this. She noted that she had invited all councillors to a planning meeting last Monday to discuss.

Cllr Steer said she had read the email Cllr Chambers had sent round and thought he would be best placed to draft a response on behalf of the council. Cllr Moore said she agreed with the need for the PC to comment on the consultation but did not agree with Cllr Chamber's comments on the District Council / Councillors. Cllr Moore suggested that if Cllr Chambers wished to make such comments he could do so in his capacity as a private individual.

Cllr Pursehouse said that the HEELA stage of the draft Local Plan was a key moment to comment.

Cllr Deefholts said he was happy to be part of a group / committee to formulate a response.

Cllr Fullerton-Batten suggested that the PC follow the response form circulated by TDC but that it was not necessary to single out individuals in those responses.

Cllr Pursehouse noted that this Local Plan is largely unchanged from the previous failed Local Plan apart from the changes to the Green Belt rules.

It was suggested that option D was probably the most appropriate response option.

0369/0226 Members agreed that Cllr Chambers would draft a response on behalf of the PC. He would circulate to all members by email. A further meeting to finalise the comments would be arranged, if required.

9. CCTV in the parish – update

Cllr Pursehouse had contacted Michaela Blackburn (MB) again, indicating that the PC was still interested in having CCTV installed at fly tipping hotspots in the parish. Cllr Moore had emailed MB and she had responding with lists of prices for cameras and paraphernalia. After looking at the list, it appears that this would be a very expensive undertaking – cameras, camera housing, extension leads, mounts, SD cards, batteries, etc. The cameras would need servicing (battery change / SD card change / camera positioning check) weekly.

0370/0226 Members agreed to put this project on hold for now.

10. Clerk's Appraisal

Cllr Moore had carried out the Clerk's appraisal the week before. She reported that the appraisal went well.

11. Surrey Hills AONB Boundary Variation project – comment (to be ratified)

Cllr Chambers had drafted the comment on behalf of the PC and had circulated to members for approval. The approved comment had been submitted ahead of the deadline by the Clerk.
0371/0226 Members ratified this comment.

12. Installation of gate on PC land (Mill Common)

A quote for the gate & furniture, plus additional panel and labour had been circulated to all members. Members had concerns that the proposed gate would not be sturdy enough. It was suggested that the PC obtains a quote for steel gate with an integral lock.
0372/0226 Members agreed to the above suggestion.

13. Land North of Chelsham Road application - update

The decision on this application has been moved from the February Planning Committee list. The new date has yet to be announced.
Cllr Andrews has circulated a draft article for publication in various newspapers. It was noted that the article should be amended to show that only Kennel Farm field is in the AGLV, not the proposed development site.
0373/0226 Members agreed to submit the article to the suggested list of newspapers, subject to the necessary tweaks by Cllr Andrews.

14. Planning – to determine the Parish Council's position on Appendix A: TA/2026/32/TCA Fairchildes Farm, Fairchildes Lane, Warlingham CR6 9PH T1) – Sycamore – Poorly occluded wound from old cut at crown break with internal decay – Monolith to common break. T2) – Dead multi stem ivy cladded elm – fell to ground level.

0374/0226 Comment: Chelsham and Farleigh Parish Council leave this to the TDC Tree Officer.

15. Finance

i) Items for expenditure

- **Webber's Waste – fly tipped waste removal from Mill Common: £245**
- **HGN45A Healthguard Dual Bin Station (with pedals, Rootfast anchored post and fittings): £524 (plus Vat)**

0375/0226 Members approved the above expenditure (ratified).

ii) Receive monthly bank reconciliations – to be signed by two councillors

The Clerk had circulated the bank reconciliations to all councillors prior to the meeting.
0376/0226 Members received and accepted the bank reconciliations. These were signed and dated by two councillors.

iii) Receive monthly budget v actual Year to Date report

The Clerk had circulated the Budget v. Actual YTD reports prior to the meeting.
0377/0226 Members received the Budget v. YTD spend report.

iv) Payment of invoices:

Samantha Head	Salary- January	£ 425.60
Earth Anchors Ltd	Dual waste bin	£ 628.80 (includes Vat of £104.80)
Lloyds Bank	Fees – December	£ 4.25*
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Webber's Waste	Fly tipping – Mill Common	£ 245.00**

*already paid by DD
**to be ratified
0378/0226 Members approved the payments.

16. Meetings and Correspondence

- The PC had received a request from a resident in Beddlestead Lane for a grit bin to be installed on the verge near the slope.

17. Matters for reporting or inclusion in a Future Agenda or Reports for Facebook or press

- Library report

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

The next Parish Council meeting would be held on 2nd March 2026 at 7pm.