



Committee Meeting held on:	1 st September 2025
At:	Church Room, St Nicolas Church
Committee members resent:	Simon Edge (Chair), Les Huett, Margaret Lawson, Neil McDowall, Diane Poole, David Cox, Carolyn Elson, Geoff Tranter, David Armstrong.
Councillors present:	C Cllr Clare Curran, Cllr Andrew Matthews, Cllr Laurie Penny
Guests present	Paul Kennedy
Apologies received from:	Keith Whale, John Dowman, Christine Milstead, Julia Dickenson

Corrections from previous meeting

Item 1	No corrections

Actions from previous meeting(s):

Reference (date / number)		
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Agenda

Item	Minute
2. Management Group	<p>2.1 Finance: Subscriptions £8.7 k , refurbish benches £1.8k, £100 donation to Lions, in the bank £22.3k.</p> <p>2.2 Secretariat: Les Huett advised that the Annual Return was being prepared. John Dowman had been appointed a Director. A booklet on the history of BRA was being written. The November Newsletter was being prepared. John Holder had taken on the role of Web Site Management.</p> <p>2.3 Membership: Carolyn Elson stated that membership was about the same as last year, although more was expected when the next Newsletter was published next November.</p>

Item	Minute
<p>3. Planning</p>	<p>3.1 Council Planning System: It was understood that the new system was suspect and could not be used with confidence.</p> <p>3.2 Howard of Effingham School: Dianne Poole was concerned about the proposed position of the special needs wing being designed by Berkeley Homes for the new school, the design of which is being drawn up between Berkeley Homes and the Howard Partnership Trust.</p> <p>3.3 Preston Farm: John Dowman had advised that there had been no further developments to report. However, the proposed building of new houses on the site remained a concern.</p>
<p>4. Local Government Reorganisation</p>	<p>The MVDC were preparing a Survey to assess residents reaction to the new two Local Government Structures to replace the current SCC and District Councils. It has yet to be decided who will administer a number civic amenities such as playing fields, allotments etc. There appears to be some who suggest that all towns and villages should be administered by Town or Parish Councils. John Dowman has agreed to formulate BRA's response to this proposal.</p>
<p>5. Policing and Community Safety</p>	<p>Anti Social Behaviour is still being experienced in the Bookham's but less than in surrounding areas. A new problem is excessive speeding along the A246 Road between Bocketts Farm and the Beckley Parade.</p>
<p>6. Environment</p>	<p>6.1 Blue Hearts: Diane Poole announced the intention to supply daffodil bulbs for planting in the Bookhams. The open area around Lower Shotts seemed a possibility as adequate supply of water was to hand.</p> <p>6.2 Size of Grass Verges: Still to be finalised with SCC.</p>
<p>7. Youth/Education</p>	<p>7.1 Youth Centre: David Cox advised that hoardings had now been erected around the former Youth Centre, prior to work commencing, to secure the site. The next phase would be the issuing of the Planning Application, hopefully its approval then construction work to be completed by September 2026. During this time, David Cox asked if one MVDC Councillor could act as a two-way communication lead for other Councillors.</p>

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	<p>7.2 Education: Polesden Lacey Infants School was now out of danger and was now under the Leo Trust.</p>
<p>8. Projects</p>	<p>8.1 Benches: Geoff Tranter stated that 5 benches had now been fully refurbished with another 5 to be done. The benches completed were at Allan Road, Downsway, Lower Shotts and opposite Wheales. A bench in Beales Road was thought to be irreparable.</p> <p>8.2 Christmas Lights: £1,500 had been promised by MVDC and further contributions were expected from the shop keepers and SCC.</p> <p>In addition to the High Street it was hoped to set up lighting on the St Nicolas trees along the side of Lower Rd, and possibly the trees at Lower Shott.</p> <p>It was noted that work on the public toilets had now been completed.</p>
<p>9. Other Organisations updates</p>	<p>Nothing to report.</p>
<p>10. Councillors Updates</p>	<p>10.1 East Wick Park Ave: Cllr Andrew Matthews reported that the spur road off Eastwick Park Avenue leading to Hamilton Court was not adopted and needed repairs.</p> <p>10.2 Motor Cycles: Motor Cycles and cars driven at excessive speed were causing a problem, particularly along the A246.</p> <p>10.3 National Flags: A campaign was underway throughout the Country displaying both Union Jacks and the red cross of England.</p> <p>10.4 Bookham Station: The installation of disabled access to platform 1 is still seen as a necessary consideration.</p> <p>10.5 Local Government Review: C Cllr Clare Curran stated that HMG were due to announce the result of their decision next October, elections in 2026.</p>
	<p>10.6 Road Improvements: The A246 had been laid with surface dressing from Bocketts Corner to Rectory Lane. Surface dressing had also been laid in Eastwick Road. The results were considered to be very satisfactory. The Lower Road from the Squarabout to some 100 yards eastwards was to be completely re-laid taking a 3 to 4 days closure.</p> <p>10.7 Bookham School: The Nursery Section had now been completely refurbished.</p> <p>10.8 Cllr Penny's Submissions: During his discussions prior to his recent election, Cllr Penny reported that residents had no major issues other than satisfaction that the crime rate was low in the Bookhams, some concern over the housing development in nearby Effingham and the reduction in train service.</p>

Item	Minute
11. Chairmans Updates	The Rotary Club were holding a "Spirit of Christmas" this year with hopefully free parking and the closure of the High Street.

2025 Committee Meetings

Date	Location
3 rd November	St Nicolas Church Room 7.30 pm.
1 st December	St Nicolas Church Room 7.30 pm