



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council **Tuesday 14th July 2026 at 7.30pm**

Clerk's Report

Clerk's Forum with SALC – 16/06/26

SALC informed all Clerks that Paul Follows has appointed lead statutory officers to the new West Surrey authority. The shadow council will now be adopting the new strategic policies. SALC are hoping for clarity and guidance in September in regards to the role that parish councils will play ahead of the parish and town council elections in May 2027. The English Devolution & Community Empowerment Act 2026 has landed and West Surrey are now legally required to communicate with parish councils. It should be expected that PPC will be informed as to how a parish councillor from PPC will be represented in the area NAC when it is set up and PPC should consider nominating a councillor to sit on the NAC.

SALC have been told that more grant schemes from SCC may be incoming with more funding available through grants around "community focus".

NALC have launched new policy updates for paternity leave and pay, sickness absence, whistleblowing and bereavement. There is also a new model contract of employment coming out within the next 6 months.

Local Plans are expected to be unified across West and East Surrey by 2030. This will announce housing allocation, alignment policies etc. SALC are hoping for a webinar from SCC to explain this in more detail.

SCC announced a Community Nature Recovery Grant 2026 called Together for Surrey. The Clerk has passed details of this grant to the LPH Secretary and it was said that solar initiatives would qualify for this.

SLCC Meeting in Normandy Village Hall, 17/0/2026

It was announced that the shadow council are currently setting out the new constitution for West Surrey. To date, Woking's debt has not been written off and it may be that an alignment of council tax in the first year may be required to manage this debt. Council Tax bands are likely to be aligned with Waverley where the band amounts are higher. All services will continue in the short term however they ultimately they will merge with some services such as Citizen's Advice which receives 60% of its funding from borough councils will likely cease to receive this funding. Other services to see their funding reduced or withdrawn are nurseries, community centres, community transport. SLCC are looking to coordinate across West Surrey where these services will be reduced to try and assist.

Paul Follows will be writing a paper on the NACs and it is advised that PCs wait for this paper and then form clusters.

It was also advised that PCs should write to the new West Surrey Authority once it is formed in May 2027 as some current shadow councillors do not understand the role of parish councils and will not be aware that PCs are Consultees on planning applications.

Waffle Tram Annual Agreement

The 2026 – 2027 Agreement was signed by both parties and now runs until 09/06/27.



Armed Forces Day –Saturday 27 June 2026 11am – 2pm

The day was a great success. It was too hot for the bouncy castle and the Dog Show was cut short as it was very hot. All caterers were happy with the day and found the day lucrative. Volunteers from the Pirbright Institute gave out 400 free cookies with branded toppers and free bottles of chilled water. Stall holders were also happy with how the day had gone. The pre-event Meet & Greet went well with Al Pinkerton MP then hosting his surgery on the Green for the duration of the event.

In Summary:

Total PPC Costs for the event amounted to £2,164.50

Total PPC Funding received for the event amounted to £2,293.00

(Giving a surplus of £128.50)

The MoD's Summary:

Total MoD Costs for the event amounted to £1,094.00

Total MoD Funding received for the event amounted to £1,094.00

Quarter 1 VAT Reclaim for Pirbright Parish Council

The Clerk has reclaimed the VAT spent for the first quarter. This amounted to £1,651.54 and was reimbursed on 08/07/2026.

Annual Playground Inspection

As part of PPC's insurance policy, the Council must perform at a minimum an annual inspection by the British Engineering Services Ltd and this has been arranged for 14/08/2026 at a cost of £398.48. In addition to this annual inspection, PPC has taken out a contract with Sovereign Playgrounds to perform two additional full inspections per annum, alongside weekly inspections by Cllr Sands.

Policies to be reviewed at July meeting

The following policies are to be reviewed:

PPC Code of Conduct (last reviewed Nov 2020)

PPC Complaints Policy (last reviewed July 2021)

PPC Equality & Diversity Policy (last reviewed Nov 2023)

The Clerk will be on annual leave from 14/09/26 to 25/09/2026.