



Datchworth Parish Council

27th January 2026

c/o Datchworth Village Hall
52 Datchworth Green,
Datchworth,
SG3 6TL
Tel : 07938743424

Present: Cllrs Sara Miller, Andrew Wood, Julia Florence, Dean Goodman, Charles Groves, Mark Light, Viv Marshall, Emma Norman, Pat Perry and Michael Sims.

In attendance: Andy Short (Clerk), 3 members of the public

Minutes of Datchworth Parish Council Meeting

held on Tuesday 26th January 2026

Datchworth Church Hall at 7pm

PCM26-01/01 Apologies

- a. To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr. Wood, Kevin Bonavia and Laura Wenn

PCM26-01/02 Interests

- a. To receive declarations of interests from Councillors on items on the agenda

None

- b. To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests

Cllr Goodman- Datchworth Green car park.
Cllr Groves- Leisure plot grant

- c. To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.

None.

PCM26-01/03 Minutes

Resolved: to verify the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 4th November 2025 as a correct record. Unanimous.

PCM26-01/04 Public Issues

Members of the Public and Councillors can raise matters of concern (15 minutes)

Bulls Green

Concern was raised about parking/erosion on Bulls Green, particularly the vertical edges of the green which have been worn and levelled overtime by construction vehicles, subsequently this has enabled sloped access for smaller vehicles.

The Council decided to re-address this issue after all the local construction work has been completed.

Telegraph poles Bragbury Lane

Action: Clerk to investigate notices on communication poles and report back.

PCM26-01/05 Finance (Cllr Light)

- a. **Resolved:** to approve monthly finance report – December and January payments. Unanimous.
- b. **Resolved:** to approve quarterly bank reconciliation. Unanimous.
- c. **Resolved:** to approve quarterly budget review. Unanimous.
- d. **Resolved:** to approve budget forecast 2026/2027. Unanimous
- e. **Resolved:** to agree precept for 2026/27. (1.91%) As proposed by finance committee. Unanimous.

PCM26-01/06 Planning (Cllr Goodman)

- a. New applications
 - 25 Burnham Green Road - dormers and front porch (DPC - no objection).
 - 1b Bramfield Road - extension and alterations - (DPC - no objection).
- b. Decisions
 - 21b Raffin Green Lane - Appeal against erection of two dwellings following demolition of existing bungalow – allowed on appeal (DPC - objection).
 - 31 Burnham Green Road - subdivision of dwelling to create additional dwelling - planning permission granted (DPC - no objection).
 - 86 Bramfield Road - new dwelling - planning permission granted (DPC objection).
- c. Coltsfoot Lane Easement update.

Resolved to consider that under section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press should be excluded from item PCM26-01/06c of the agenda of this meeting in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (legal). Unanimous.

Cllr Goodman will respond to DPC insurer's solicitor (ARAG) as per the confidential briefing note sent by email on 21st January 2026.

PCM26-01/07 Governance and Legal (Cllr Florence)

- a. Datchworth Green Car Park Update.

Car park opening continues to be delayed by Highways. Awaiting permission for dropped kerb.

- b. Emergency response plan revision see briefing document link. (Cllr Perry)

Resolved: to form a working group to review and update the emergency plan. Group to include Cllrs Perry, Norman, Groves and Marshall. Unanimous.

- c. Bulls Green Wayleave (Cllr Miller)

A new communications pole is to be erected on Bulls Green to host fast broadband cables for residents. The Openreach engineer to be invited to site to review possible siting options.

£750+VAT is available for legal assistance with the wayleave.

Action: Clerk to contact BT Openreach to plan site visit.

PCM26-01/08 Recreation (Cllr Norman)

- a. Playground repair and maintenance.

Discussions took place regarding the playground repair work. Working group to review what is necessary and produce a schedule of works.

- b. Leisure plot grant (Cllr Miller)

Thanks to Cllr Groves £850 grant was received from East Herts for planting for the perimeter of the leisure plots.

PCM26-01/09 Burnham Green JMC

BGJMC Draft Minutes 14th Jan 2026

- a. Terms of Reference change (Cllr Florence).

Resolved that Datchworth Parish Council approved to reduce to two BGJMC meetings p.a. with ad hoc communication where necessary. Unanimous.

- b. Highways speed management consultation

Resolved that Cllr Sims will write to Ken Crofton and request funding for speed management survey. Unanimous

PCM26-01/10 Clerk Correspondence

- a. Play equipment Nutcroft - roosting pigeons.

Resolved: to spend up to £100 on the procurement of 'pigeon' spikes to fit on apex of the two swings at Nutcroft play park. Unanimous.

- b. PC Meeting dates for 2026

Resolved: to hold meetings in 2026 on the last Tuesday of each month excluding August and December.

Action: Clerk to enter dates on DPC website calendar.

c. Buckingham Palace Garden party ballot.

Cllr Marshall was selected to go forward to the HAPTC ballot.

Action: Clerk to send form to Cllr Marshall/HAPTC

- Slippery private path between horse fields (Turkey Farm to Village Hall)

Action: Cllr Miller to call the landowner to discuss what can be done if anything.

- Email received from a Datchworth Green resident regarding Sunday morning parking.

Action: Letter to be sent to the resident regarding his concerns.

- Email received from Burnham Green resident who is concerned about a neighbour driving onto common land at Burnham Green.

Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Sims and Tony Charles, then write to the resident informing him that DPC leases the land in question from HCC and insisting that the driving and parking stops immediately; it is illegal and causing damage to the common land.

Meeting close 21:00

Chair: Sara Miller _____

Date ___/___/___