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Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Amberley Parish Council on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2026 at 7.30pm  
at St Michael's Church Hall, Amberley

**Councillors Present:** Cllrs Jason Charman, Graham Smith, Elisabeth Tooms and Mike Attard

**Officer Present** Trevor Parsons – Clerk

There was one member of the public present.

**049. Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs Allinson, Simpson and Corcoran (APC)

Cllrs Clark & Ellis-Brown (HDC)

Cllr Marshall (WSCC)

**050. Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of interest from members in respect of any agenda item as defined under the Localism Act 2011.

No declarations received.

**051. Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2026 were circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved by Councillors and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**052. To consider the purchase of Land East of Newlands Gardens.**

The Chair of Amberley Parish Council received a letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> September 2026 from Savills in Petworth on behalf of The Gibson Trust offering to sell the land at Amberley Football Ground to Amberley Parish Council. The Parish Council would regard the purchase as an opportunity to retain green space and prevent speculative development.

Following Finance Committee discussions, an offer was made for £50,000 to Savills which was accepted on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2026.

The Finance Committee met on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2026 to discuss the purchase and agreed a revised budget to include the cost of the purchase, legal costs and improvements to the access to the land which would include a new robust access gate. It was agreed at the meeting that the £7,500 additional precept received in 2026/2027 to increase reserves could be directed towards the cost of the annual repayments being calculated at around £6,500 per annum. This means that no additional precept will be required to fund the PWLB repayments. Reserves would therefore be built up over an extended period.

The Finance Committee also agreed to commit around £10,000 of CIL monies towards the purchase.

The Finance Committee recommend to this Full Council meeting the following:

- to approve the purchase of the land
- to approve a PWLB application to borrow £60,000 to purchase the land and make the necessary improvements to the access point of the land
- to agree to engage GWCA in Arundel to act as our solicitors in this transaction.

Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the purchase of the land by Amberley Parish Council

Councillors **RESOLVED** to seek the Secretary of State's approval for the £60,000 PWLB Loan,

Councillors **RESOLVED** to consult with the public by way of the Parish Council website, Community email, local magazine and noticeboard announcement.

Councillors **RESOLVED** to use CIL funds to assist with the purchase of the land.

Councillors approved the engagement of GWCA as our solicitors for this transaction.

**053. Date of next meeting.**

**Finance Committee Meeting – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

**Ordinary Parish Council – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2026.**