Tongham Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting: Monday 20th April 2026, held at the Old School Hall, Poyle Road Tongham 7:30 pm.

Present:

Cllr S Habgood (Chair)	Cllr S Gray	Cllr E Hall	Cllr P Buckley
Cllr M Murray	Cllr L. Lowdon	Clerk K Brennan	Cllr S Barker (GBC)
Cllr M Furniss (SCC)			

9 members of the public attended and recorded as shown on appended note.

1) Chairman's Announcements and Apologies for Absence:

Apologies received from Cllr L. Oakley.

2) Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th March 2026

The minutes were approved and signed.

Proposed: Cllr L. Lowdon

Seconded: Cllr E. Hall

3) Code of Conduct – Disclosure and Declaration of Interests: None

4) Register of Interests: None

5) Matters Arising:

- Tongham Pocket Park – Future Maintenance – Quote received from contractor and Councillors agreed to take over the future maintenance of the Park, dependant on receiving the Maintenance Grant of £10,000 offered by SCC. Cllr Habgood had a quantity of dead cuttings and wood that had been dumped into the remaining greenery, Cllr Furniss promised to follow this up to have it cleared.

- New Defibrillator now in place at the Village Phone Box.

6) County Council and Borough Council Matters:

- Flooding at The Gardens & Pawley Close, Tongham – Cllr Furniss will arrange for the Ditch to be cleared again.
- Resident, Mike Heath, commented on maintenance of ditches and possibility of CCTV investigation.
- Cllr Furniss stated that, regarding flooding, property protection is the criteria for any future work.
- Regarding the Ditch outside the Recreation Ground in Poyle Road, ownership/responsibility not yet identified to the Council's satisfaction.
- McDonald's Restaurant appeal ongoing – Borough Cllrs are opposing the planning appeal.

7) Public Adjournment:

- Sally Cox – Asked if there was any update on Manor Farm Development? There is no progress at the moment. Cllr Furniss reported that GBC Planning have requested further time to consider the application.
- Would the new West Surrey Council inherit the vast Woking Council Debt ? – It was advised that the Government will write off a certain amount of the debt but the new Council will take over some of the debt.
- Mike Heath thanked Cllr Furniss and Cllr Barker for their contributions towards the village's improvements and hoped they will be re-elected in the forthcoming local election on May 7th 2026

8) Working Groups

a) Finance and Administration

i) Financial Statement Month Ending March 2026 – Approved.

Proposed: Cllr S. Gray

Seconded**:** Cllr P. Buckley

ii) Quarterly Budget Variation – Approved & Signed

iii) Annual Governance Statement – Approved & Signed

iv) Accounting Statements 2025-26 – Approved & Signed

v) Section 137 – KSS Air Ambulance Grant Request for £400 - Approved

b) Planning:

- Ref: 24/P/0026 – Refused by GBC Planning Dept.
- Ref: 26/P/00150 – Approved by GBC Planning Dept.

c) Lighting and General Purpose

i) The Moors Area – Awaiting quote for maintenance of the area. Fence repair required and pruning of hedgerows will be sufficient.

ii) Guildford Civic Service – Cllr L. Lowdon to attend and represent the Council on Sunday 10th May.

9) Any Other Business

i) New Hanging Baskets for Village to be delivered 26th May, there is an increase in the weekly watering charge to £85 per week for 16 weeks.

ii) Section 137 Application from Friends of St Paul's School for contribution to cost of running the Pupil's Nurture Farm – £500 - Approved

iii) TWIG (Tongham Woods Improvement Group) require assistance to remove overhanging Willows and dead wood from the paths – Cllr Matt Furniss to advise if SCC can assist with this.

iv) Section 137 Application from Tongham Village Hall committee for a contribution towards a new wall heater – £500 **–** Approved

v) SCC need to remove the tree and hedgerow cuttings from the recently completed Pocket Park.

Gordon Tyerman & Carol Meckiffe thanked Cllr Margaret Murray for all her council and community work for Tongham Council and various village groups, as she will be retiring in May.

10.) Execution of Documents: to consider if necessary, passing the following resolution:

> "That the Council do seal in the manner prescribed by law, or the clerk or member as appropriate, do sign on behalf of the Council any Order, Deeds or Documents, required to give effect to any of the matters and recommendations contained in the reports as presented to, and approved by, the Council on 20th April 2026".
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> Proposed: Seconded:
>
> Signed: .....
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> L. Oakley, Chair of meeting, Date: 18th May 2026.