BURSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Finance & General Purpose Committee** meeting of Tuesday 9th December 2025 held at the Centenary Hall, Smallfield

OPEN FORUM: One members of the public attended

Attendance: Cllrs Bob Locke, Ashleigh Bolton, John Carney, Donna Morris, Andrew Mc Lean, Nick Bush, Andrew Gilbert, Eddie Lord, Mr Alan Jones

1 **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Lewis and Hale for reasons noted in the attendance book and accepted by Committee.

2 Declarations of interest – either personal or prejudicial on any agenda item: None

3 The minutes of Tuesday 14th October 2025 were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting

4 Matters arising from the minutes: None

5 **GatCom report – (full report can be found at the end of the minutes)**
Mr Jones reported that at the last Council meeting he informed Council that GACT will be closing down. Local councils have not signed the necessary s106 agreements so GACT may carry on for another year. Two meetings upcoming: NatMag on the 5/2/26 and GAtCom. Full report appended to the minutes.

6 Update on Neighbourhood Plan – No real update other than the Reg 14 consultation will hopefully commence in January 2026.

7 Update on Men's Shed – Cllr Gilbert said there has no response from Surrey CC regarding the bungalow. He is looking for a builder to give quotes. The Clerk said the recent tree/hedge cutting has really opened up the space available.

8 Update (if any) from Councillors Areas of Responsibility
Cllr Locke – Drainage – there was a problem with the pumps but a company has been out and is repairing one.
Cllr Bolton – Centenary Hall, Keepers Corner nature garden and car park – no update
Cllr Gilbert – Playgrounds – the QE2 site is used regularly. No knowledge about the Plough Road upgrade as the flood defense scheme is currently not finalised.
Cllr Morris – School Liaison - Burstow school asked to borrow the Hall tables but unfortunately their event was the same day as the market and so it wasn't possible.
Cllr Bush – Social Media and Litter Picking – The next litter date is 14/12. He has carried out a pick along Dowlands Lane, finding household waste with the person named. Cllr Bush's post regarding this was removed by Facebook. The Parish Council now has 390 followers.
Cllr Dodman – Dowlands Lane field

9 Budget 2026/27 – Men's Shed and Solar Panels.

10 Urgent items – Cllr McLean announced 29 Alberta Drive won the Christmas Lights competition.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.30. The next scheduled meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 10th February 2026.

Signed…… Dated……

Aviation Report – December 2025
Alan Jones

Introduction
As we draw to the end of another year, the number of meetings seem to be diminishing. I was due to attend 4 meetings (listed below) since my last aviation report to you but was unable to attend the NATMAG meeting as Yvonne had been given an urgent referral to hospital and it all happened in a week. However, I was present at the other three.

6th November – GATCOM in person
11th November – GACT Meeting
13th November – NaTMAG Meeting
17th November – GATCOM Awayday, Sandeman Hotel

GATCOM MEETING – 6TH NOVEMBER

Among presentations at this meeting were:

1. CAP1616 Airspace Change Process Consultation in which Stuart Lindsay explained that a review of the process was needed to ensure it can enable the UK Airspace Design Service (UKADS) provider to deliver airspace change efficiently and effectively. He stated that UKADS will still need to follow the CAP1616 process and the decision maker for airspace change will still be the CAA.

2. Andy Sinclair gave an update on Route 4 Airspace Change. Consultation material was resubmitted by GAL to the CAA in September 2025. This review has resulted in some further minor points that GAL have responded to. A decision is expected from the CAA in November. GAL should then be able to proceed to public consultation in Q1 2026.

3. I presented the NATMAG report and highlighted the change to Gatwick's telephone number for noise complaints. The previous local 01293 number will be replaced by 07700 144 827 and should be used going forward.

I also highlighted the update that NaTMAG received on Airport Collaborative Decision Making (ACDM). This has been reintroduced at Gatwick, and it is hoped will improve on-time performance and delays that spill into the night period.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Pierre Hugues-Shmit produced his first CEO report to GATCOM and made some of the observations listed below:

- This summer, London Gatwick served 224 destinations via 59 airlines, including 160 short-haul flights. There has been a small shift with less short haul and longer haul.

- He also referred to the ACDM as a significant piece of work that is showing improvement in on-time performance.

- The rise in rail travel is a positive trend. GAL continues to work in partnership with the rail companies and is proud to connect to more than 120 stations directly.

- Next Generation security is delivering strong service benefits, with our ability to serve 98% of passengers through security in five minutes or less.

- Since opening in October 2023, the Gatwick STEM Centre has welcomed over 5,000 visitors, hosted more than 150 events, and engaged nearly 5,600 students and job seekers. Pierre-Hughes also pleased to welcome some GATCOM members who attended the STEM centre prior to the meeting today.

GACT MEETING – 11TH NOVEMBER

This should have been the beginning of a charity winding-up meeting but we are now in a state of limbo. The existing s106 agreement between GAL, West Sussex and Crawley will continue until the new agreement has been signed by all parties and the councils are holding up the process. Up to this date, we shall be continuing as a charity for a further year unless the agreement is signed very soon.

NATMAG MEETING –13TH NOVEMBER

As I mentioned in my introduction, I was unable to attend this meeting but I can list below some of the KPIs from the quarterly report.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
& AIRSPACE OFFICE QUARTERLY REPORT (INC. GROUND NOISE REPORT)

I list below some of the KPIs in Q2 2025:

- The KPI table shows a 1.45% reduction in total movements (down 381) when compared with Q3 2024, marking the first such decrease since the pandemic.

- Although July continued to be predominantly westerly operations (87%), August and September were closer to the average split between westerly and easterly operation.

- As usual, go-around statistics showed the primary cause was runway occupancy (39% of all go-arounds), which can be broken down into departure slow to roll (49% of runway-occupancy incidents), slow to vacate (14%), and aborted take-off (12%).

- More noise complaints were received in Q3 over Q2 but were 18.49% lower than the same period in 2024.

GATCOM AWAYDAY – 17TH NOVEMBER

This is a useful meeting of GATCOM members to discuss and review its activities and operation. The main issues for the near future will be who will comprise the membership in view of the upcoming council changes but this seems to be somewhat in abeyance as the government appear to be continually changing its tune about reorganisation. At present, it would appear that the BPC seat is likely to continue.

Future Meetings

TBC

BPC/Aviation/DEC25