

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Hursley Parish Council meeting

Parish Hall, Hursley

1830 on Monday 19th January 2026

Hursley Parish Hall

Present	In attendance	Apologies
Cllr Waldron	Cllr Jan Warwick	Elizabeth Billingham (Clerk)
Cllr Guest (Chair & Acting Clerk)		
Cllr Gregory		
Cllr Chik		
Cllr Killeen	Plus 10 members of the public	
Cllr Hanna		
Cllr Lowe		
Cllr Bell		
Cllr Edgoose		

	<u>Minutes of the meeting of the Hursley Parish Council - Discussion Points</u>	<u>Pending Actions</u>
25/64	Public Participation	
	Richard Baker proposed establishment of the Hursley Conservation Advisory Group (CAG). His proposal and Cllr Guest's response are attached in Appendix 1 – Standing Orders were suspended to discuss the proposal. RESOLVED to approve in principle to the formation of Hursley Conservation Advisory Group. This will be formerly agreed at the next meeting with the actual details. An update on actual details of the CAG group's members, scope and process will be discussed at the next meeting – report to be made by Richard Baker (to be send ahead of the meeting), in parallel with discussion and sought approval on HPC's new Biodiversity Policy initial draft. ACTION to add to agenda. Template of Biodiversity policy to be sent around in the papers for next meeting. ACTION – Clerk Richard Baker also mentioned the forthcoming Cycle Race scheduled for 24 May, commencing at the Rec, and sought permission to use Recreation Ground. RESOLVED approved on understanding there would be no damage to the grass and to ensure risk assessment and insurance in place.	AGENDA Clerk
25/65	Meeting resumed at 1850	

25/66	To approve the minutes of the last meeting	
	Approved by Cllr Guest & signed Action: Cllr Guest to give to the Clerk at next meeting.	Cllr Guest
25/67	Community applause – thanks & appreciation for parishioners who have contributed locally notably since last meeting. Contributions and thanks extended to: Rufus Terry (aged 8) for 2 hours of litter picking in the village Tom & Tiff , farmers from Farley who frequently help shift fallen trees (along with other farmers in the parish who we also thank) All those that stood up to support new village resident Nicolas as his hour of need in December (gazebo and other bits) Andrea Goldsmith (Mrs G) for her frequent updates to the community on socials and elsewhere Cllr Guest reminded everyone that there are many opportunities in the parish for those looking for voluntary work experience, including the farms, the shop and other local businesses – ideal for DofE and school subject work experience ACTION Cllrs were requested to call for new nominations for next meeting/	All Cllrs
25/68	District Councillor report	
	Received and it would be placed on the website. Summary read by Cllr Guest and led to bringing forward of items 8.4 8.5 the Local and Neighbourhood Plans where Cllr Guest led the discussion and summarised HPC's position as outlined in Appendix 2.	
25/69	County Councillor report	
	Received and it would be placed on the website. Cllr Jan Warwick summarised her report on elections and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, but also highlighted a grant still open that may benefit the new CAG. Cllr Warwick also promoted participation in the Mayor's Awards. CAG to look into grant and how it can be paid into HPC bank account with Clerk (to fund items such as trees, plants, and materials). ACTION Clerk or CAG to report back at next meeting.	Clerk and CAG
25/70	Finance and Council matters	
25/70.1	Matters arising: Matters arising. Item 25/25.1 – Fly tipping – Camera and details are delayed due to ACSO personal reasons. On going ACTION Clerk Item 25/43.2 It was noted that Standon pull bus have still not been done completely (where road ceases to be a road and become a bus stop.) ACTION Cllr Waldron to revisit. Parish Online access for all ACTION Clerk Item 25/56.3 Cllr Lowe mentioned that some finger signposts at Standon were missing the traditional top circle. Unsure of the cost. ACTION Cllr Lowe to supply photos to the Clerk to then make enquiries. Item 25/60.1 Noticeboard ACTION Cllr Waldron to discuss repair with Mr Bunney and to undertake in better weather.	Cllr Waldron Clerk Cllr Lowe Cllr Waldron.
25/70.2	To elect Vice Chair and confirm councillor roles RESOLVED to elect Cllr Waldron as Vice chair.	.

	Caveat being primarily to cover Chair's absence at meetings. Should the Chair leave the HPC for any reason then it was noted that this should trigger a wider discussion on membership & roles to ensure that Cllr Waldron does not end up within permanent Chair role against his wishes at that time. Chair also reminded councillors that they are all at liberty to change their minds on membership and roles should life events or desire trigger such changes. No forthcoming comments																																																																																																																					
25/70.3	To approve payments RESOLVED to approve. <table><tr><td></td><td>Payments since the last meeting - January 2026</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>25-Nov-25</td><td>B/P to: E Billingham -salary</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>25-Nov-25</td><td>B/P to: Grass & Grounds Lt - Lengthsman fund</td><td></td><td>£10,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>25-Nov-25</td><td>B/P to: Peter Yeates</td><td></td><td>-£1,020.00</td></tr><tr><td>25-Nov-25</td><td>B/P to: Hampshire County C</td><td></td><td>-£234.90</td></tr><tr><td>30-Nov-25</td><td>Service Charge</td><td></td><td>-£6.00</td></tr><tr><td>03-Dec-25</td><td>Direct Debit (SCOTTISH WATER BUS)</td><td></td><td>-£30.18</td></tr><tr><td>31-Dec-25</td><td>Service Charge</td><td></td><td>-£6.00</td></tr><tr><td>05-Jan-26</td><td>B/P to: Toby Guest - Chairs expenses</td><td></td><td>-£30.50</td></tr><tr><td>05-Jan-26</td><td>B/P to: Peter Yeates - Bus stops</td><td></td><td>-£300.00</td></tr><tr><td>05-Jan-26</td><td>B/P to: E Billingham</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>05-Jan-26</td><td>B/P to: Winchester City Cl Remebrance day 2024</td><td></td><td>-£138.00</td></tr><tr><td>05-Jan-26</td><td>B/P to: Winchester City Cl - Remembrance day 2025</td><td></td><td>-£126.00</td></tr><tr><td>05-Jan-26</td><td>Direct Debit (SCOTTISH WATER BUS)</td><td></td><td>-£30.18</td></tr><tr><td>16-Jan-26</td><td>B/P to: Peter Yeates</td><td></td><td>-£1,440.00</td></tr><tr><td>16-Jan-26</td><td>B/P to: Swanmore SLR Mgt L - Oct Nov and Dec</td><td></td><td>-£1,361.50</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>£16,208.68</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Income</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>CPRE</td><td>Grant for Angela Elder</td><td>£100.00</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Bawcutt</td><td>Allotment</td><td>£20.00</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Unity bank balance</td><td>£18,297.27</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Lloyds</td><td>£8,679.96</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Lloyds savings (tying to close)</td><td>£18,468.61</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>£45,445.84</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>		Payments since the last meeting - January 2026							25-Nov-25	B/P to: E Billingham -salary						-	25-Nov-25	B/P to: Grass & Grounds Lt - Lengthsman fund		£10,000.00	25-Nov-25	B/P to: Peter Yeates		-£1,020.00	25-Nov-25	B/P to: Hampshire County C		-£234.90	30-Nov-25	Service Charge		-£6.00	03-Dec-25	Direct Debit (SCOTTISH WATER BUS)		-£30.18	31-Dec-25	Service Charge		-£6.00	05-Jan-26	B/P to: Toby Guest - Chairs expenses		-£30.50	05-Jan-26	B/P to: Peter Yeates - Bus stops		-£300.00	05-Jan-26	B/P to: E Billingham			05-Jan-26	B/P to: Winchester City Cl Remebrance day 2024		-£138.00	05-Jan-26	B/P to: Winchester City Cl - Remembrance day 2025		-£126.00	05-Jan-26	Direct Debit (SCOTTISH WATER BUS)		-£30.18	16-Jan-26	B/P to: Peter Yeates		-£1,440.00	16-Jan-26	B/P to: Swanmore SLR Mgt L - Oct Nov and Dec		-£1,361.50				-				£16,208.68		Income				CPRE	Grant for Angela Elder	£100.00		Bawcutt	Allotment	£20.00						Unity bank balance	£18,297.27			Lloyds	£8,679.96			Lloyds savings (tying to close)	£18,468.61				£45,445.84						
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25/70.4	To review and agree Cemetery fees for 2026 to review As Clerk not present it was agreed to take to next meeting. AGENDA	AGENDA																																																																																																																				
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25/71.1	Matter arising: Question on status of garage application at 63 Collins Lane – no action 17 Catways side extension – concerns over potential lack of planning consent and intrusive nature of works – no action Removal of trees for said area outside of owner's boundary ACTION Cllr Guest to discuss with Winchester Tree officer about concerns about alleged illegal felling and request for enforcement.	Cllr Guest
25/71.2	Planning report – To be sent ahead of the meeting. No new applications	
25/71.3	Winchester Local Plan report Chair delivered a combined status update on both the LP and NP ACTION – Clerk to ensure previous meeting's report on same be posted on the website	Clerk / Cllr Guest
25/71.4	Neighbourhood Plan report – see above	Clerk / Cllr Guest
25/72	Regular Reports of Council Representatives Cllr Hanna added he's now a school governor at the primary school, so can add School reports going forward as required, or at least act as lead contact. Summary of Hall shared as report and in meeting.	
25/72.1	Flood report – Cllr Hanna.	
	Manholes cleared, low threat of flooding from water table (which remains low despite surface flooding) Cllr Edgoose reported issues of silt on highways from flooding	
25/73	Highways	
25/73.1	Hampshire Highways report to include any suggestions to make Collins Lane junction safer–Cllr Edgoose AGENDA next meeting.	AGENDA
25/73.2	SLR – Data Report – Cllr Killeen and Cllr Edgoose SLR – Additional post still pending – Clerk has sent in all necessary paperwork and await HCC. Reported that data hard/impossible to retrieve without right software ACTION – Clerk can arrange this to be done or send instructions.	Clerk
25/74	Recreation Ground & Environment	
25/74.1	Matters arising Matters arising: Item 25/60.3 Recreation Ground information board ACTION Cllr Gregory and Clerk to order new signs, verbiage agreed in meeting to say - Item 25/60.4 – Repair/replacement of the rocking horse – ACTION Alex Bell/Item Replacement head agreed at cost of £ Agreed to only replace current broken one. To follow up other quotes for installation and agree at next meeting ACTION Cllr Chik to arrange above with Clerk.	Cllr Gregory/Clerk Mr Bell Cllr Chik/Clerk
25/74.2	Report and actions needed – see above	
25/74.3	Lengthsman Scheme – Report Clerk	

	To add items for next visit - Clear signposts and their line of sight leading up to signposts ACTION to clean graveyard at Farley Church – Clerk to get information form Cllr that suggested this and seek permission of the church.	Clerk and Cllr?
25/75.5	Footpaths - To discuss the bridleway at Silkstead. - To discuss filling the role of Path Warden to report on condition and accessibility Nothing to update. Thanks were made to Tim Manning, who agreed to be Footpath Warden.	
25/75.7	Matters arising: IBM not responding to electrical issues on pathway behind church ACTION: Cllr Guest to contact IBM to escalate by next meeting and liaise with Cllr Chik accordingly	Cllr Guest and Cllr Chik
25/76	Cemetery report – Cllr Waldron	N/A
25/77	Allotment report – Cllr Waldron	N/A
25/80	Next meeting – 16 th March Dates meetings: 2026 18 th May – AGM APM TBA 13 th July 14 th September (to note this is 2 nd Monday) 16 th November	

Appendix

Statement read out by Richard Baker in Public Participation

“For those who don’t know me, I’m Richard Baker, Managing Director of a forest management company, and a professional forester and land manager. I’m here to propose the establishment of a Conservation Advisory Group for Hursley Parish.

The purpose of this group would be to offer consultation with individual experts and support the Parish Council when they feel it is needed, and not replace their independent stewardship and governance as set out in law. For example, we support that the main grassed area of the recreation ground continues to be maintained in accordance with the February to November mowing schedule.

In relation to Hursley village recreation ground specifically, we acknowledge that it’s Deed of Covenant states “...the land hereby conveyed shall be held (subject to the said rights) by the Churchwardens as public ground for the purposes of the Recreation Grounds Act 1859”; and Section 22(1) of the Recreation Ground Act 1857 which states “...to be held by them as open public grounds for the resort and recreation of adults, and as playgrounds for children and youth...and subject to any reservations, restrictions and conditions the donor or grantor may think fit”. Therefore, any Recreation Ground related proposals will respect this legal requirement and will be put forward to the Parish Council as Trustees of the Covenant for consideration and decision making.

The key aim for all public spaces, would be to seek opportunities and engage in long term management and projects benefiting for the parish, setting out practical, achievable actions that could balance access with biodiversity, sustainability, and long-term resilience, and more widely that where feasible, land management is coordinated, forward-looking, and sustainable. We understand that HPC are planning to publish a biodiversity policy in a coming meeting, so the timing is great and perhaps both groups could align on its direction once drafted.

The group would be inclusive and collaborative, bringing together no fewer than 2 Parish Council representatives, plus residents, volunteers, and relevant professional expertise and groups such as the RSPB, Wildways and the Woodland Trust when appropriate. Importantly, it would provide an ongoing focussed forum where ideas, concerns, and opportunities can be discussed constructively.

One core focus could be continued increase of biodiversity, improving habitats and supporting pollinators. The group could also help support and coordinate working groups, giving volunteers safe, structured opportunities to contribute practical conservation work on the ground as appropriate.

This approach has been proven elsewhere to reduce pressure on councils where they feel it is needed, improve outcomes, and build real community ownership of public spaces. This approach, without prejudice, also acknowledges the fantastic work already undertaken by landowners, farmers and previous careful stewardship by the council – we're merely seeking to build on that work collaboratively where opportunities arise.

In short, the Conservation Advisory Group would provide:

- A clear long-term vision
- Practical delivery support
- Strong alignment with voluntary groups such as those listed above

I'd be very happy to help initiate this group and support the development of the management plan, should the Council feel this is a positive step"

Corresponding statement read out by Chair in Public Participation

"HPC has always acted and will always act in the interests of the wider village and parish. When it comes to environmental matters, HPC has always ensure that proposals are listened to, and solutions are pragmatically balanced. Examples being protection of wildflowers such as orchids in the cemetery, and the statutory responsibility to maintain the graves out of respect for it residents. Another example being the ongoing annual maintenance of the Rec, which requires frequent cutting and cutting back to ensure safety and rights of access, paired with legal statute, but balanced with care to nature as evidenced by the area currently worked on by a group called Wildways. Nevertheless, managed maintenance is required as per its Deed of Covenant, and will remain so, in order to manage invasive species that take over to the detriment of the more delicate ecosystem (and public spaces). This is done without chemicals or uprooting even invasive species, merely controlling their overgrowth.

HPC frequently reviews its policies and on the next meeting's agenda will be the discussion of its biodiversity policy, with some good baseline examples from Bishops Waltham and Bramdean to work with. Once this is agreed we can obviously refer to this on future works and projects. As always, and this is nothing new, HPC is always here to listen to ideas and discuss matters – they should always go through correct channels and the answer may not always be the one hoped for as HPC itself has a framework it has to adhere to, not to mention the letter of the law".

Standing orders were suspended at this point and the formation of the new advisory group were unanimously passed as approved.