

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

This meeting was held on Tuesday 15th September 2026 at 6:45pm
at The Ashurst Room, Colbury Memorial Hall

In Attendance: Cllr Ken Kershaw, Cllr Sue Robinson (**Chair**), Cllr Esther Taylor, Cllr Bobbie Torkington, Cllr Clive White, (**Vice-Chair**), Cllr Dan Poole (HCC), Cllr Derek Tipp (NFDC), Karen Cramoysan (Clerk), 3 Members of the Public

39. **Apologies** – Cllr Caroline Hubbard, Cllr Trevor Jakeman.

40. **Declarations of Interest** – None.

41. **Public Participation** –

Nick Waterman (Allotments Representative) passed on plot holders thanks for trying to sort out the ongoing rat problem. He reported that

- one of the apple trees at the top of the allotments appears to be dead
- the top gate has dropped again, Nicky will try to repair it again
- there is quite a pile of edge cuttings in the car park and a skip is needed for these to be removed
- he has covered plot 26 and the membrane needs to be put back into storage

Mandy Evans thanked the Parish Council for organising the Summer Fete and said that she had received some complaints from residents that couldn't use the free bus as it was unable to accommodate wheelchairs or prams. She asked if there would be provision for these in the future.

42. **To Receive Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 21st July 2026.**

RESOLVED: Minutes were formally received and agreed by all Councillors as a true and accurate record. These were then signed by the Chair.

43. **Matters Arising At Chair's discretion (if not covered by agenda below)** – Cllr Robinson reported that new residents have moved into the Whartons Lane development.

The noticeboard repair at Welcome Store had been completed.

At the recent Colbury Memorial Hall Trustees Meeting, the parking issues was not spoken about.

44. **Reports**

a) **County & District Councillors** –

1. **Dan Poole (HCC)** congratulated the Parish Council on the Fete; it was an enjoyable day.

A35 Cycle Lane proposal – Cllr Poole confirmed that HCC Highways haven't contacted him and asked him to look at the proposals – he is happy to arrange a meeting with Cllr Taylor to bring him up to speed on what has happened between the Parish Council and HCC.

Local Government Re-organisation - as LGR has been paused, there will now be District Council elections next May. Nothing else about the reorganisation is known as yet.

A31 Fire - NFDC are looking at the long-term effects on the forest following the A31 fire and the road closure. Sat Navs were diverting traffic onto unsuitable small country roads which caused major problems.

*** Cllr Poole left at 7:11pm to go to another meeting. Cllr Tipp arrived at 7:12pm*

2. **Cllr Derek Tipp (NFDC)** also congratulated the Parish Council on another successful and enjoyable Fete.

LGR – District elections are back on for May 2027, not sure about the Mayoral elections as yet, it could be 2027 or 2028.

Signed:		Date:	
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NFDC Local Plan – At their 14th September meeting, NFDC agreed to reset and align the new plan taking into account the new national planning reforms. It will take around 30 months to complete and come into effect from June 2029. TVBC and East Hants Councils are doing the same. NFDC are sharing a planning director with TVBC working part time.

Forestry England Parking Charges – NFDC are writing to Forestry England to ask if a local resident parking scheme can be put into effect.

- a. **Committee Chairs/Working Parties** – Nothing to report.
- b. **Parish Councillors** – Following the A31 fire, Cllr Taylor asked if the Resilience Working Party can meet to discuss plans and water issues.

- c. **Neighbourhood Watch** – Report from Mandy Evans summarised below;

Netley Marsh Show Committee asked us again to sell programmes and we had NW members from Ashurst and Colbury and Netley Marsh South who covered all day for three days.

The Tracy Cooper Drive went quite smoothly. It was closely monitored throughout by police drone and cameras. One serious problem reported was that the gates by the cattle grids on Woodlands Road were kept open by blocks and big stones which caused obvious concern for the safety of the ponies on the forest. A nearby resident kept moving them but they kept reappearing.

Resident phoned me regarding a neighbour's BBQ which was they felt was too close to her fence and hedge. There are serious risk of wildfires nationally due to the drought and tinder dry conditions, not just in the forest but gardens as well..

Ashdene Road attempted break in between 12.30am - 5.30am. Driveway gates padlock damaged. If you have CCTV please contact the police quoting Incident Number BCA-61763-26-4444-00.

Joint Beat surgery at the Happy Cheese. PC Mark Roberts gave an update on the youth on the electric bike doing reckless speeds and wheelies. Several residents had reported him since July and the police know where he lives and were going to pay him a visit after the Beat Surgery.

On 5th October between 4-7pm in the Green Room at the Happy Cheese, there will be a Community Event involving the Police and the Blue Lamp Trust. PCSO Richard will be demonstrating the new security marking DNA kit and has asked for people to bring an item to be marked. The Blue Lamp Trust will be telling residents about home safety and security. Trevor Brookes will be on hand with technical help. We will have a competition, raffle and free drinks.

Message from Fraud Safeguarding Team - Calls from someone purporting to be from Hampshire and IOW Constabulary. My colleagues who answer your 999/101 calls are reporting a recent increase in calls from residents of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight reporting they've received a phishing phone call/text/message from someone purporting to be a police officer/staff employed by Hampshire & IOW Constabulary AND the number appears as one of our genuine, local police station phone numbers. In the past week we've also received calls from local residents purportedly being contacted from police stations in the West Midlands policing area too.

Common scam calls of this type include:

A family member has been arrested, and they want you to pay bail so they can get out – this is not something that happens in England and Wales – but they may pose as police from another country. Someone has been arrested and has your bank card (or similar financial/ID documents) in their possession – can you confirm your sort code/account number/card number etc?

But it could be any other story to try to elicit personal/financial information. If the caller states they work for Hampshire & IOW Constabulary you can contact a specific officer or member of staff here: [Contact a specific officer or member of staff | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary](#) if it's genuine, the officer will get back to you, if there's no match (ie: it's a scam call) then we'll let you know.

45. Policy

- a. To note Clerks Annual Leave w/c 21st September– **RESOLVED**: Noted.
- b. To note Clerk's Annual Pay Increase of 3.3% - **RESOLVED**: Noted.
- c. To note Conclusion of AGAR – **RESOLVED**: Noted.
- d. To authorise Insurance Renewal of £1798.19 to include the new Play Area – **RESOLVED**: Noted and agreed.
- e. To receive Open Spaces minutes of 25th August - **RESOLVED**: Noted and received.
- f. To purchase a New Forest Flag - **RESOLVED**: All Councillors agreed to the purchase of the New Forest Flag. This will be flown at all times except for specific dates.
- g. To look at the Minstead proposal re Sat Navs - **RESOLVED**: After some discussion it was **AGREED** to support Minstead Parish Council's letter.

46. Community & Environment

- a. **Allotments** – Report from Cllr Jakeman read out;
 - 1) **Inspections** - carried out on Weds 9th Sept. All plots in good condition with those requiring work at the last inspection showing a marked improvement. Plot 26 now vacant and will be covered over by Nick. Membrane and pegs are in the allotment toilet.
 - 2) **CPS** will be back on 22nd September. If any works are required on plot 26 to allow it to be covered, they will be tasked accordingly, or they can continue clearing the car park and maintain ditches.
 - 3) **Rats** - awaiting date for daytime cull. Speaking with plot holders, they don't seem to be as prevalent, but crops are still being eaten.
 - 4) **Key refunds** - refunds are underway. Some plot holders have asked it to be put against next year's rent, and some have forgone it to cover costs incurred by the council
- b. **Whartons Lane 20 MPH Limit - RESOLVED**: Cllr Kershaw advised that HCC will charge £450 for a licence and then costs could be upto £30-40k to get the for a 20mph limit underway. It was **AGREED** for the Clerk to contact Simon at SSM to see if he was able to quote to add us onto his schedule
- c. **HCC Hunters Hill Cycle Lane Proposal – RESOLVED**: Cllr Taylor advised that she still had not heard anything from HCC and will be meeting with Cllr Poole to discuss this further.
- d. **Whartons Lane Crossing – RESOLVED**: Cllr Robinson has written to HCC but has not heard anything back.
- e. **Additional benches along Foxhills/ Knellers Lane - RESOLVED**: Clerk has not yet managed to obtain some prices for perching benches – deferred to October meeting
- f. **Will bequest of £25,000 for benches in the Recreation Ground – RESOLVED**: Cllr White advised that he hasn't heard anything more from executor, but his could be a delay in granting probate.
- g. **Summer Fete – RESOLVED**: All went well. Councillors are looking into contacting a company(Dream Empire Events) to manage the organisation side of things next year as Cllr Robinson has found that the admin side dealing with stallholders especially last-minute requests and changes very onerous and time-consuming.

All Councillors **AGREED** to pay Colbury Memorial Hall £150 donation to say thank you for us using their hall and grounds to hold the Summer Fete.

47. Recreation Ground

- a) **Play Area - RESOLVED:** Nothing to report – this item can come off future agendas now.
- b) **Plaques for adopted trees – RESOLVED:** damage caused to one of the plaques by trimmer but repaired. Beyond that, nothing further to report and item can be removed from future agendas.
- c) **Handyman quote of £545 for jobs – RESOLVED:** All Councillors **AGREED** to the quote for works required in the Recreation Ground.
- d) **Damage to decking in Rec Ground - RESOLVED:** This has been repaired by HRG Tree Surgeons.
- e) **Cutback of Trees adj to Lakewood Rd - RESOLVED:** The cutback is booked in with nightingale Grounds Maintenance for 9th September.
- f) **Trinket Box - RESOLVED:** The box has been well received by younger residents and is being used.

A home-made wooden swing keeps being put up in the trees. Cllr Taylor has now removed this twice from the Recreation Ground.

48. Precinct

- a) **Planters - RESOLVED:** Cllr Torkington will contact the gardener to remove the plants and soil from the two planters which are due to be removed.
- b) **Missing plaque for Sybil Paton – RESOLVED:** Clerk has been chasing our contractor who removed the benches for confirmation that the plaque he has is this missing plaque. Unfortunately he has been in an accident and hasn't been working but thinks the plaque could be in his work vehicle.

49. Finance

- a. **To Receive Bank Reconciliation for July & August 2026 – RESOLVED:** Bank Reconciliation report received by all Councillors and signed by the Chair.
- b. **To Approve Online Payment Schedule for 15th September 2026 – RESOLVED:** No payments to approve.
- c. **To Ratify Online Payments since last meeting – RESOLVED:** Payments circulated as part of the agenda pack and approved by all Members.
- d. **To Receive Income & Expenditure Reports since 21st July 2026 – RESOLVED:** Income & Expenditure Reports were circulated as part of the agenda pack and approved by all Members.

3 invoices were approved for payment to;
 BDO £378.00
 G W Shelter Solutions £17,893.20
 Shurguard £179.89

Magazine

Cllr Torkington asked that any photos taken at the Summer Fete were emailed to her for inclusion in the next edition of the Parish magazine.

51. Next Meeting Dates

Tuesday 20th October 2026	6:30PM	Planning Meeting
	6:45PM	Full Council Meeting

Meeting Closed at 8:15pm