

DRAFT MINUTES of the MEETING of WONSTON PARISH COUNCIL (WPC)
Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 8th April 2026 in the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney

Present: Cllr Judith Polak (elected chairman of the meeting), Cllr Kevin Maunder, Cllr David Price,
 Cllr Rob Parker, Cllr Matthew Bessant-Gore.
 In attendance: WCCllr Stephen Godfrey, WCCllr Caroline Horrill.
 Public 1
 Clerk Jocelyn Jenkins

2481	1.1	Apologies for Absence Cllr Pauline Maunder, Cllr Andrew Porteous, Cllr Georgina Tibbits.	Closed	
2482	1.2	Any Declarations of Interest to be declared/dispensations agreed. Cllr Bessant-Gore – Gratton Trust (NPI), Cllr Kevin Maunder – Litterpickers (PI) as at 2487.7 below.	Closed	
2483	1.3	Minutes of the meeting of 11 th March 2026 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.	Closed	
	2	<u>Reports – the meeting adjourned during reports.</u>		
	2.1	The Public: No reports.		
	2.2	Report from HCCllr Jackie Porter: HCCllr Porter provided a written report (Appendix 1) which outlines the Government decision on the unitary authorities for Hampshire and the departmental changes being made at HCC. HCCllr Porter's report also notes that she has requested that the proposed meeting with Southern Water, following further issues with the sewage pipeline in the Parish, is delayed until after the elections on 7 th May.		
	2.3	Report from WCCllr Stephen Godfrey: WCCllr Godfrey noted the announcement on Local Government Reorganisation which details the catchments of the new unitary authorities. The Winchester District will be included in the new Mid-Hants unitary, with most of East Hants, most of Test Valley and the rural parts of the New Forest. This will create a large, mostly rural, authority including two national parks which may pose limits on housing development. Elections for the new unitary authorities will be held in May 2027 and they will take over their responsibilities in May 2028. In the Mid-Hants authority there will be 92 or 93 councillors. Last month the Planning Inspector's comments on the WCC Local Plan were received and the Plan has been formally adopted following revisions in line with the Inspector's comments. Winchester currently has a 6.2 year land supply. A minimum of a 5 year supply is needed or challenges can be made by developers. Work has already begun on the next Plan which is still based on the WCC boundaries. Sites put forward to this year's SHELAA will be announced in October. Basingstoke and Deane's current Local Plan will end soon and they are having difficulty moving forward with a new Plan as South East Water have stated that they do not have capacity for more homes. The parish councillors congratulated Stephen on his appointment as the next Deputy Mayor of Winchester.		
	2.4	Report from WCCllr Caroline Horrill: WCCllr Horrill noted that Winchester are considering how to retain the mayoralty for the City following the Community Governance Review. Caroline also noted the volume of work that the shadow unitary authority will have to do between the elections in 2027 and taking over control in 2028. The meeting resumed after reports.		
2484	3	<u>Correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting</u>		
		The Council discussed and agreed actions for the following issues:		
2484.1	3.1	<u>Wonston Green</u> A request has been made for dragons teeth type posts on the Green to deter motorists. It was agreed to approach HCC with the request.	Clerk	
2484.2	3.2	<u>Coach & Horses Public House</u> Residents have asked the Parish Council if any action can be taken over the deteriorating state of the listed building. It is understood that officers from Historic Environment (WCC) have already visited. It was agreed to write to Stonegate, as owners of the building, and to WCC Head of Planning to express concern that the fabric of the building is not being maintained. Agenda item for May.		
		<u>Matters arising from the minutes of 11th March 2026.</u> The Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following issues:		
2485	4	<u>General Matters</u>		
2485.1	2475.1	Gratton Trust – Options for improving the car park were discussed and it was agreed to obtain more information on alternative options for consideration at the May meeting.		

2485.2	2475.2	Emergency & Flood Plans – It was noted that the HCC have advised that the pipe clearance at the Bogmoor Sump will take place ‘as soon as resources allow’.			
2485.3	2475.4	Devolution & Local Government Re-organisation See 2.3 above.			
2485.4	2475.5	War Memorial Refurbishment – Repairs and cleaning of the Memorial are awaited.			
2485.5	2475.6	Southern Water Pipeline – Meeting to be held with Southern Water after the May elections (see 2.2 above).			
2486	5	PLAY AREAS Council discussed and agreed actions for the following:			
2486.1	2476.1	Stoke Charity/Hunton Play Area (STCH&H) – The annual inspection is awaited. The Lengthsman was asked to clear overhanging branches and clear weeds on his last visit. No new issues reported.		Clerk	
2486.2	2476.2	Pigeonhouse Yard (PHY) Play Area – The annual inspection is awaited. Repairs to the multiplay unit have been completed. The consultation continues on the future use of the open space.		Clerk	
2487	6	HIGHWAYS ISSUES - FOOTPATHS, GRIT BINS etc Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following:			
2487.1	2477.1	Footpath 7 Access – HCCllr Porter is seeking clarification on the grant refusal for the new accessible gate. A resident has supplied images of the previous gate and stile. HCCllr Porter confirmed that she will make a further approach to HCC.			
2487.2	2477.2	Footpaths & Bridleways – A fallen tree on the footpath near Carthegena has been reported.			
2487.3	2477.3	Noticeboards – Work on the noticeboards will resume with Cllr Kevin Maunder coordinating the Parish Volunteers.			
2487.4	2477.4	SID – There are issues with one of the devices and Gary is seeking to resolve these.			
2487.5	2477.5	Oxford Road Gateways – The line painting at the Bogmoor Sump roundabout is awaited. The large roundabout sign has been removed but the smaller replacement sign has not yet been installed.			
2487.6	2477.6	Bogmoor Bench and verge Attention will be drawn to the damage to verges etc at the meeting to be held with Southern Water (see 2485.5 above).			
2487.7	New	Litterpickers It was agreed to present the litterpickers with £25 vouchers at the Parish Assembly. Cllr Kevin Maunder declared an interest and did not participate in the voting.			
2487.8	New	Bus shelters Grant funding has closed during the purdah period before the elections on 7 th May. To be reviewed after 7 th May.			
2488	7	PLANNING			
2488.1	770	Naomi House, Stockbridge Rd, S/S	Various tree works.	26/00510/TPC No comment	
2488.2	771	Bridge Cottage, Hunton Ln, S/Charity	Holly to fell.	26/00722/TPC No comment	
2488.3	2478.4	Winchester Local Plan – See 2.3 above.			
2488.4	2478.5	Village Design Statement – Concern was raised over the future relevance of Village Design Statements and advice will be sought from WCC.			
2488.5	2478.6	CIL and Infrastructure Spend Plan – Carried forward to the May meeting.			
2489	8	ACCOUNTS/AUDIT			
2489.1	2479.1	Balances: As at 31/03/26 General Reserves are £49,742.44 but after Earmarked Reserves of £49,597 are £145.44. Payments for April (detailed below) totalling £11,977.10 were agreed by the Council. It was agreed to reduce the tree reserve to £1,200.00.		Closed	
		PWLB	Loan repayment (allotment land)	1813.39	
		S E Ingliss	SID movements	450.00	
		Victoria Hall	Rental (PC and community groups)	635.00	
		WCC	Dog bins	130.00	
		AVA Recreation	PHY repairs to multiplay unit	885.85	
		Gratton Trust	Annual grant	3000.00	
		Victoria Hall	Annual grant	2000.00	
		Holy Trinity Wonston	Annual grant	900.00	
		Stoke Charity with Hunton	Annual grant	500.00	
		Bullington Lunch Club	Annual grant	300.00	
		Hants Pension Fund	March pension contributions	299.46	
		Jocelyn Jenkins	March expenses	80.62	
		Jocelyn Jenkins	April salary	937.80	
		Hugo Fox	Website	23.99	
		Hugo Fox	Domain emails	20.99	
				11977.10	

2489.2	2479.2	NALC Model Financial Regulations 2024 – The addition of further councillors to the bank mandate is ongoing.		
2489.3	New	BDO Conflict of Interest Form – It was confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest with BDO (the external auditor) and the form was signed by the Chairman and Clerk. Off agenda.		
2490	9	Other Council Matters		
2490.1	2480.1	Publicity & Communications – <u>West Dever News item</u> – June item (to be submitted before May meeting) to note details of Parish Assembly.		
2490.2	2480.2	Risk Management – No new issues were reported.		
2490.3	2480.3	Parish Assembly, Thursday 14 th May 2026 – VDS and PHY consultations. It was agreed not to have a guest speaker. Cllr Kevin Maunder volunteered to manage the catering requirements.		
9.00pm		Next meeting – Wednesday 13th May 2026 at 7.30pm in the meeting room of the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney. Parish Assembly – Thursday 14th May 2026 at 7.30pm in the main hall of the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney.		
Signed: Chairman dated.....				