

An aerial photograph of the village of Godshill, showing traditional stone houses with thatched roofs and a church with a square tower on a hill in the background. The scene is set in a lush, green landscape with rolling hills.

Serving Godshill

Supporting Our Future

Godshill Parish Council • Parish Council Report 2025–26

A Year of Change

Thanking those who served Godshill with dedication

Alison Child

Pat Button

Gareth Hughes

Eddie Read

Nigel Hinch

Andy Snart

Abi Breach

*Please put your hands together for a round of applause
for the service they have given to the Godshill community.*

Meet Your New Council



Leigh Jackman
Councillor



Carl Donoclift
Councillor



Keith Crane
Councillor



Russell Dyke
Councillor



**Suzette
Hammond**
Councillor



Stephen
Parish Clerk



Kira
Council Employee

Serving Godshill, Supporting Our Future

Our Guiding Values

Setting Godshill on the road to being a parish fit for the second quarter of the 21st century.



Pro-Active

Taking initiative, not waiting for problems



Energetic

Getting stuck in and making things happen



Caring

Putting residents and community first



Communicative

Keeping everyone informed and involved



Co-operative

Working together with all stakeholders

The Hidden Changes

Modernising how the council works behind the scenes



Policies & Procedures

With support from the Society of Local Council Clerks, we've modernised our governance.

15 policies now live on the website — growing to 20 soon.

These ensure the council operates transparently and effectively.



General Power of Competence

GPC means we can now act like an adult — not a child asking permission.

We can provide grants, fund projects, start a community shop, set up a company to provide services, sell energy to the National Grid, and support our school.

Enables us to work with others in providing cost-effective services and facilities in innovative ways to meet village needs.

Getting Organised



Financial Management

We now use an online system called Scribe for efficient financial control, freeing up Stephen to be more involved with the community.

A major win: engaging an energy broker to significantly cut the cost of running the public conveniences.



Working Groups

- Amenities & Environment
- Communications & Engagement
- Emergency & Resilience
- Finance & General Purposes
- Planning, Roads & Byways
- Strategy & Long-Term Plan

Standing Up for Godshill

Battling the authorities on issues that matter to our village



Church Path

Fighting to re-instate this vital village footpath



Village Green

Reclaiming our communal open spaces



Central Mead Rubbish

Tackling persistent waste issues



Surface Water Flooding

Addressing drainage and flood risks



Responding to Emergencies

Flooding in Moor View

Councillors Crane, Donoclift and Dyke donned their wellies and waterproofs and were out on the streets in no time.

Residents were reassured and drains were unblocked in the High Street, Hollow Lane, School Road, School Crescent and Moor View.

Keeping Godshill Clean and Tidy



Litter and Tidying

We've relied largely on Councillor Crane to clear rubbish left by ungrateful visitors. Now that Kira has joined our team, she'll be helping to keep the village spic and span.



Car Park Hedges

After months chasing IoW Council to cut the car park hedges, they told us we own them. So we hired a contractor and cut them down to size — they look so much better now!



Community Improvements



Tourist Map

Updated the High Street map at no cost — councillors did it themselves. Another free update coming before summer!



Memorial Garden

Discovered a wonderful bench with amazing history — purchased jointly with Godshill Matters. Councillor Crane keeps the garden looking its best.



May Close

A contractor assisted by councillors has begun removing years of rubbish from May Close.



Community Improvements



Tourist Map

Updated the High Street map at no cost — councillors did it themselves. Another free update coming before summer!



Memorial Garden

Discovered a wonderful bench with amazing history — purchased jointly with Godshill Matters. Councillor Crane keeps the garden looking its best.



May Close

A contractor assisted by councillors has begun removing years of rubbish from May Close.



Community Improvements



Tourist Map

Updated the High Street map at no cost — councillors did it themselves. Another free update coming before summer!



Memorial Garden

Discovered a wonderful bench with amazing history — purchased jointly with Godshill Matters. Councillor Crane keeps the garden looking its best.



May Close

A contractor assisted by councillors has begun removing years of rubbish from May Close.



Greening Godshill

Space for Nature Mapping Walk

In January, members from the Trust, Godshill residents and others undertook a mapping walk through the village to identify spaces where we can improve or create room for nature.

Areas surveyed include the car park bank, memorial garden, All Saints churchyard, primary school grounds, Scout Hall, May Close playground and Yarborough Close.

A nine-page report and five-page community action list have been created with specific suggestions for each area. This is available on the website.



**Hampshire &
Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust**

More Progress



Central Mead Groundwork

The worn-out, badly damaged and dangerous synthetic surface in the centre of Central Mead was removed and the area repaired. Councillors and a volunteer assisted a contractor to complete the work.



More Progress



Godshill Village Survey

In considering our budget for 2026-27 we asked the village what matters most to you. The survey results helped us prioritise our plans and ensure we're focusing on the things that make the biggest difference to Godshill.

We backed this up with the very first open forum on our budget proposals.





The Godshill Gazette

10

issues published since July 2025

150+

pages about Godshill

Many thanks to our regular contributors and our first three advertisers, whose contributions allow us to go into print for those not on the internet.

SLOW DOWN

Slow Down campaign update – Godshill Matters have now received the grant of £8000 to purchase and install two 'visual speed indicator devices' in the village over the coming financial year..



The two proposed sites are at the junction of School Crescent and School Road and near the bus stop at the foot of Hollow Lane. We are still awaiting feedback from Island Roads regarding the suitability of these sites before applying for planning permission. To coincide with these developments the Speed Watch team will be out and about from the beginning of May, so SLOW DOWN – twenty is plenty...you have been warned!

Best Kept Large Village



There are annual best kept village awards. We are in the large village category. How are we looking?

Kira can help.

Judging begins in May, how do things look outside your front gate. If we all make sure the space nearest to our homes is neat and tidy, the whole of Godshill will be an even more wonderful place for us all to enjoy!

If you know of any part of Godshill that could do with some TLC, let us know by contacting Stephen, our parish clerk. We can arrange for Kira and a few volunteers to take a look and see what we can do.

Annual Parish Meeting



This is YOUR meeting, your chance to meet Godshill's many groups and for them to share with you their plans for 2026.

The meeting takes place on Tuesday May 5th in the school hall. Doors open at 7pm.

Hear from all of our wonderful groups in the village – what they have been up to in the past year and what they are planning for 2026 and beyond.

We hope to have as many of the groups in Godshill represented at the meeting. Groups can have a display table making it easier to chat to individuals and families before and after a number of short presentations.

Refreshments will be available when you arrive, between 7pm and 7:30pm. Grab a hot or cold drink, a nibble and wander around and have a chat to the various groups, or each other!

You don't have to run away after the presentations. You can stay and chat to anyone and there might even be some nibbles left to finish off!

Godshill Matters



April winners:

1st Prize: £40 No 98 - Yvonne Evans
2nd Prize: £10 No 35 - Kelly Patterson
3rd Prize: £5 No 75 - Frances Shelley

A few numbers for the 2026 competition are still available – [CLICK/TAP HERE](#) or email treasurer@godshillmatters.org.uk.

The Godshill Gazette



www.godshillorchards.co.uk

Farm Shop

Our Orchard Gate Farm Shop, Vivienne's Larder, is open 24/7

Local produce including Milk & other dairy products, Eggs, Fresh Fruit & Veg in season Jams, Juices, Honey & Chutneys Lavender Products



Hollow Lane
Godshill
PO38 3JA
Behind the Griffin
Pub



ISLE of WIGHT GIN

OUR GIN FOR JOY

Gigglemug is a bright, fresh, citrus-led gin with refreshing notes of grapefruit, lime leaf and lemon balm, while the carefully balanced botanicals bring a lively freshness that feels like sunshine in a glass.

CREATED | GROWN | DISTILLED
IN
GODSHILL

Available from The Cider Barn, The Old Smithy and The Donkey Sanctuary, locally owned farmshops or online at www.isleofwightgin.com

Rockenend Rum and Shimmer Vodka also available.

11W Grooming Shed

Give your pet a luxurious grooming experience with expert hands.

- ✔ Dog Grooming
- ✔ Nail Clipping
- ✔ Teeth Cleaning
- ✔ Cat Grooming

Highly experienced dog and cat groomers, based in Godshill.

Limited parking outside, further parking available at The Old Smithy.

If you are interested in using our services then please contact **07715561900 01983 682468** or 1w@groomingshed@gmail.com and we will be happy to help you.

Many We have started to allow advertising in the Gazette in order to raise money to fund the printing of the Godshill Gazette for those who do not use the internet or prefer to read it on paper.

SLOW DOWN

Slow Down campaign update – Godshill Matters have now received the grant of £8000 to purchase and install two 'visual speed indicator devices' in the village over the coming financial year..



The two proposed sites are at the junction of School Crescent and School Road and near the bus stop at the foot of Hollow Lane. We are still awaiting feedback from Island Roads regarding the suitability of these sites before applying for planning permission. To coincide with these developments the Speed Watch team will be out and about from the beginning of May, so SLOW DOWN – twenty is plenty...you have been warned!

Best Kept Large Village



There are annual best kept village awards. We are in the large village category. How are we looking?

Kira can help.

Judging begins in May, how do things look outside your front gate. If we all make sure the space nearest to our homes is neat and tidy, the whole of Godshill will be an even more wonderful place for us all to enjoy!

If you know of any part of Godshill that could do with some TLC, let us know by contacting Stephen, our parish clerk. We can arrange for Kira and a few volunteers to take a look and see what we can do.

Annual Parish Meeting



This is YOUR meeting, your chance to meet Godshill's many groups and for them to share with you their plans for 2026.

The meeting takes place on Tuesday May 5th in the school hall. Doors open at 7pm.

Hear from all of our wonderful groups in the village – what they have been up to in the past year and what they are planning for 2026 and beyond.

We hope to have as many of the groups in Godshill represented at the meeting. Groups can have a display table making it easier to chat to individuals and families before and after a number of short presentations.

Refreshments will be available when you arrive, between 7pm and 7:30pm. Grab a hot or cold drink, a nibble and wander around and have a chat to the various groups, or each other!

You don't have to run away after the presentations. You can stay and chat to anyone and there might even be some nibbles left to finish off!

Godshill Matters



April winners:

- 1st Prize: £40 No 98 - Yvonne Evans**
- 2nd Prize: £10 No 35 - Kelly Patterson**
- 3rd Prize: £5 No 75 - Frances Shelley**

A few numbers for the 2026 competition are still available – [CLICK/TAP HERE](#) or email treasurer@godshillmatters.org.uk.

An aerial photograph of the village of Godshill, showing traditional stone houses with thatched roofs and a church with a square tower on a hill in the background. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

Thank You

Serving Godshill, Supporting Our Future

Godshill Parish Council • 2025–26