

West Tytherley, Frenchmoor and Buckholt Parish Council

Meeting of the West Tytherley, Frenchmoor and Buckholt Parish Council held in King Edward's Hall, West Tytherley, on Monday 12th January 2025, 7pm.

Present: Cllr N Carpenter (Chairman), Cllr M Down (Vice-Chairman), Cllr F Collier, and Cllr R Gribble.

Also present: 3 Parishioners, Cllr N Adams-King (HCC), and S Bailey (Clerk)

2601-1	To receive and accept apologies for absence
Cllr F Collier, Cllr N Macpherson and Cllr S MacDonald (TVBC) were unable to attend, the Parish Council accepted their apologies and passed along their best wishes to Cllr N Macpherson.	
2601-2	Chairman's remarks
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a happy 2026.	
2601-3	To receive declarations of pecuniary and personal interests relating to items on this agenda
No pecuniary or personal interests to declare.	
2601-4	To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th December 2025
The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on the 8 th December 2025 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
2601-5	Public Session: To receive questions from members of the public
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Parishioner Question – Why was the village not gritted last week when it was icy? <p>Cllr Collier stated that because all the roads in this area are C and U roads they are only gritted if there is enough time and resources left after doing the A and B roads. Historically they have always been done, but cuts are being made.</p>	
Cllr N Adams-King arrived at 7:08pm. <p>Cllr Adams-King explained that recently the gritting routes have been reviewed and thus rearranged. All A and B roads are considered priority 1 and all roads off B roads are considered priority 2. Priority 1 roads must always be clear, priority 2 roads should be clear but are cleared less frequently. Last week was a particular challenge as the rain washed away all the grit from the priority 1 roads so they had to be re-done and thus there was less time and resources to do the priority 2 roads. Additionally, they were down a gritter so could not cover as many roads as they wanted. He has spoken to the Head of Highways and explained that many areas in Test Valley, West Tytherley included, have much more surface and ground water than average, so need to be gritted to avoid putting people at risk. The Head of Highways agreed and will look into getting a dedicated gritter for rural roads.</p>	
<p>Cllr Collier wanted to know whether it would be worth emailing Highways our concerns.</p> <p>Cllr Adams-King thought it would be worth sending an email, just to reinforce his points</p>	
<p>The Clerk will send Highways our concerns about not being gritted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Parishioner Statement – They have not yet completed their letter regarding the flooding of Dean Road, but they intend to and will let the Parish Council know when it is done.	
The Parish Council thanked the Parishioner for all their efforts.	
2601-6	To receive report from Test Valley Borough Council
No update from TVBC was received.	
2601-7	To receive report from Hampshire County Council
Cllr Adams-King discussed his key points:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Devolution – He has spoken to the Minister about how the Mayoral elections need to be brought forward to 2027 to be in line with the Unitary Council elections. He also spoke to her about needing the promised funding now as they have identified some really good projects that need the funding. She promised to come back to him before Christmas,	

but as of yet he has heard nothing from her. When they do hear from the Minister, he assured us that any decisions will be discussed at a full Council meeting. This week he intends to send several letters to the Minister explaining their frustration with the entire process and particularly how they strongly object to the Local Government elections being postponed again, and how the whole Council agrees that if the goals cannot be met in time, then the Local Government Reorganisation should be delayed, not the elections. It is undemocratic to have people in power when their elected time should have come to an end.

- Finance – Council tax will be increasing, but their finances are looking better as they only need to find £90-£100 million, which he feels is very manageable.
- Local Nature Recovery Strategy – The LNRS has launched aims to set aside specific areas of the County for nature recovery. Large parts of this area should be protected by it, and it may be of use to stop the large development in East Dean/Lockerley.

Cllr Adams-King discussed some TVBC points as Cllr MacDonald was unable to attend:

- Local Plan – It is proceeding, however there are some issues around the fact that the Weyhill site that was set to build 700 houses has been withdrawn, so they need to find new locations to make up for this deficit. However, he argues that because of the amount of speculative development that keeps coming in this should make up for the loss of the Weyhill houses. We need Regulation 19 to come in as soon as possible so they can use it to fight speculative development, however it unfortunately won't be ready until early summer.
- Food Recycling – Working well, and recycling figures are up.
- Grants - There are some available, so if there are any projects you would like funded let Cllr MacDonald know.
- Resilience – New advice has just been published regarding masts and electricity outages. Cllr Gribble is aware of this and will discuss it later.
- County Council Grants – Some money still available, the Parish Council is ineligible but spread the word in case there are any community groups with projects to fund.

Parishioner Question – Is anyone looking at new planning applications coming in and weighing them against the NPPF and local NDPs?

Cllr Adams-King agreed that this would be ideal but unfortunately given the current situation all plans must be considered equally. However, as demonstrated by Wellow, if a speculative development does come up in this area, we can then use our NDP to protect ourselves.

Cllr Adams-King left the meeting at 7:36pm

2601-8 To discuss updating the Neighbourhood Development Plan

A Parishioner explained that they and another Parishioner asked Chat GPT and other AI resources how to best update our NDP to work alongside the NPPF and the upcoming regulation 19 of the local plan. Unfortunately, nothing of particular interest was found as the AI didn't recognise the newest Council plans. They will keep working at it but are not hopeful it will produce anything helpful.

The same Parishioner also explained that our NDP currently sits very well alongside the NPPF, but it is hard to know how it will fair against the local plan until regulation 19 has been published.

The Parish Council will keep the NDP on the agenda for future meetings, so if there is any development they can discuss it.

2601-9 To receive an update on the resilience project

- Cllr Gribble has spoken to the Parishioner who is helping connect the walkie-talkies. They want to get the aerial down from the roof and test the whole system then and once they know it is working they will mount the aerial in a more accessible location. The problem currently resides in getting the aerial down safely, Cllr Gribble is looking for a

professional who is trained to use a ladder and all the safety equipment necessary, he will update the Parish Council when he has found a suitable person.

- He has received a document from TVBC today that talks about what can be done when we lose power and do not have a battery backup on the mast. Firstly, this is not a unique situation, many villages suffer from this problem. Most interestingly however, was that the document states that home broadband providers should legally have to provide battery backups to households who have no other form of communication during a power cut. Thus, he will contact Virgin Media and see what they have to say about this.

2601-10	To discuss the broken window in the Pavilion
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- The outer pane of glass has been broken on one of the windows in the Pavilion. The glass has been cleared away, and a board is being put over the window to avoid any safety concerns.
- The Parish Council wishes to thank the Parishioners who cleared away the glass and put a board over the window.
- The Clerk will obtain some quotes to replace the window, and the Council will consider claiming it on their insurance once they know how much it is going to cost.

2601-11	To receive an update on the damaged culvert
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The Flood and Water Management Team at HCC have been in contact with the Clerk asking if the Parish Council were happy with the repairs the landowner had carried out. The Clerk explained to the Flood and Water Management Team that the Parish Council were not happy with the repairs and would like a camera survey carried out on the culvert to determine if any more damage has occurred and if the water is free flowing.

2601-12	To discuss the bin by the Pavilion
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- The kitchen flip-top bin that is currently by the Pavilion is not fit for purpose as it fills with water when it rains.
- Cllr Collier is happy to donate a wheely bin and put it by the play park to be used as a public litter bin.
- Cllr Collier will mark the bin so that it is obviously a public litter bin.
- There will be a bin liner put in the wheely bin and when necessary, the bin liner will be removed and put into the existing wheely bin by the bus stop to be collected by TVBC.
- The Parish Council wished to thank Cllr Collier for her generous donation.

2601-13	To receive an update on moving the bin at the junction of Dean Road and Coopers Track
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- Cllr Collier explained that this has been an unexpectedly complicated issue.
- HCC have said the location on the other side of the track where we would like the bin moved is unsuitable because there is a drain and ditch.
- HCC have suggested some other locations however she feels these are unsuitable as they would not encourage people to use the bin.
- The only location that seems suitable is the other side of the gate by the school car park, however we would need to ask the landowners permission.
- The only other option would be to move the bench, but the Parish Council do not think this would be appropriate.
- The Parish Council agreed that Cllr Collier should contact the landowner to see if they would be open to having the bin placed on their property.

2601-14	To discuss the electricity in the Pavilion
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- The Clerk has spoken to Cllr MacDonald to see if the Parish Council could get a grant to put solar panels on the roof of the pavilion.
- Cllr MacDonald said that it may be possible, but the village would need to heavily get behind the idea, and the Pavilion would need to be a very used village asset that would benefit significantly from solar panels.
- Thus, the Parish Council agreed that we would probably not be awarded a grant.

- Cllr Collier will speak to the Association of Pavilions to see what other low electricity use Pavilions do and report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

2601-15	To receive an update on the roads
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- A Parishioner noted that the Speed Indicator Device has not been moved from North Lane for a significant amount of time.
- Cllr Collier stated that it is due to be moved to either Dean Road or Coach Road imminently, most likely it will be moved to Dean Road as the need is greater in that location.
- The Parish Council would like to thank the Parishioner who finished cleaning the layby opposite the shop when the Lengthsman could not due to parked cars.
- The Clerk spoke to Cllr Adams-King and Cllr MacDonald about making the village 20MPH, they let her know that it would be possible, however it would have to be fully supported by the whole village, and the Parish Council would have to pay for the change. For comparison, it cost Over Wallop £30,000 to become 20MPH.
- The Parish Council unfortunately concluded that they would not be able to afford pursuing this matter any further.
- However, the Clerk will continue to look for alternative ways to slow the traffic down.
- Cllr Down wanted to know why the Lengthsman has not yet gravelled the verge by the shop.
- The Clerk explained that Stockbridge Parish Council (the Council responsible for running the Lengthsman scheme) have just had a new Clerk start and thus they were not taking Lengthsman requests at this time, but this job will definitely be sent to the Lengthsman as soon as possible. *[After meeting note: The new Stockbridge Clerk has now asked for the January/February Lengthsman jobs to be sent in, thus this job has now been requested]*
- HCC have determined that the Dragon's Teeth at the junction of Dean Road and Coopers Track are not damaged enough to need replacing.
- The Parish Council strongly disagrees with this decision.
- HCC will be coming out to fix the leaning shop sign at the junction of Dean Road and Coopers Track.
- Footpath 7 has a large oak tree branch hanging over it that poses a danger to the public when using the footpath.
- This was reported to HCC on the 23rd of December and is still marked as 'In Progress'
- The Clerk will also report this to HCC to try and speed up the process.
- Cllr Down explained that it has been reported that she has planted non-native hedging on the line of footpath 7, however she disagrees with this and states that there are only a couple of non-native trees, the vast majority are native trees, and the footpath is completely unimpeded by them.
- The broken stiles and overgrowth on footpath 12 have been reported to HCC.

2601-16	To review the Parish Council's policies
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- Grants Policy – The year needs updating from 2018/19, but otherwise is fine – Agreed
- Recruitment Policy – No change needed – Agreed
- Equality Policy – Change precept amount from up to £14,000 to up to £25,000, otherwise fine – Agreed
- Standing Orders – No change needed – Agreed
- Freedom of Information – No change needed – Agreed
- Code of Conduct – Chairman will review at a later date.

2601-17	To review new planning applications and decisions
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- No planning applications received this month.

- No progress on the Glebe Farm development. Paul Goodman from TVBC said before Christmas that the updated S106 had been sent to the developers, however the developers say they haven't received anything. Very frustrating, she will let the Parish Council know when there is an update.

2601-18 Finance

a) To agree upcoming invoices

- SSE £200-£300 approx. – Agreed
- HMRC £132.03 - Agreed
- A Business Stream invoice is due but should be £0 as we are £170 in credit, but it is not known yet.

b) To note December's receipts/payments and expected receipts/payments

Ins (Current Account)

Date	Receipts	Total	Balance
23/12/2025	Transfer from Deposit	£2,000.00	£2,978.70
30/12/2025	HCC	£86.00	£3,052.71

Outs (Current Account)

Date	Payment	Total	VAT	Net	Balance
08/12/2025	Fiona Collier RBL Poppy Wreath	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00	£1,783.14
15/12/2025	ICO	£47.00	£0.00	£47.00	£1,736.14
22/12/2025	Hugo Fox (Emails)	£20.99	£3.50	£17.49	£1,715.15
23/12/2025	S Bailey Payroll	£710.45	£0.00	£710.45	£1,004.70
23/12/2025	S Bailey Office Allowance December	£26.00	£0.00	£26.00	£978.70
29/12/2025	Hugo Fox	£11.99	£2.00	£9.99	£2,966.71

Ins (Deposit Account)

Date	Receipts	Total	Balance
09/12/2025	Interest	£10.51	£22,049.15

Outs (Current Account)

Date	Payment	Total	Balance
23/12/2025	Transfer to Current	£2,000.00	£20,049.15

Expected Receipts/Payments

Ins

Receipt	Expected Total	Date
HCC	£86.00	Quarterly (£86.00)
Total	£86.00	

Outs

Payments	Expected Total	Date
Resilience	£115.00	January
Noticeboard	£525.00	January
Clerk Payroll	£2,209.35	Monthly (£736.45)
Hugo Fox (Emails)	£52.47 (£62.97 incl. VAT)	Monthly (£17.49, £20.99 incl. VAT)
Hugo Fox	£29.97 (£35.97 incl. VAT)	Monthly (£9.99, £11.99 incl. VAT)
SSE	£400.00 (Under review)	Quarterly
Business Stream (Water)	£100.00	Quarterly
HMRC Employers National Insurance	£300.00	Quarterly
Total	£3,731.79 (£3,748.29 incl. VAT)	

2601-19 Matters for future meetings

- A Parishioner wishes to be made the official footpath warden for West Tytherley, Frenchmoor and Buckholt Parish Council. The Parish Council will discuss this at the next meeting.

- West Dean Parish Council would like to increase the annual contribution West Tytherley, Frenchmoor and Buckholt Parish Council make to them for their play park from £250 to £300 due to the increase in maintenance costs. The Parish Council are open to this idea but will discuss it in full at the next meeting.

2604-20	To decide on the date for the next meeting
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Monday 9th February, 7pm.

Meeting Closed at 8:25pm

S Bailey

Clerk of the Parish Council

N Carpenter

Chairman of the Parish Council