

**Minutes of the Amport Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21st September 2026,
7.30pm at
Monxton & Amport Village Hall**

Present: Cllr C Harris – Chairman, Cllr S Coke-Vice Chairman, Cllr Mrs S Baker, Cllr Dix, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Mrs D Stephenson & Cllr Mrs T Hawkings-Byass,

Also present

Heather Bournier – Parish Clerk

HCC C Donnelly

TVBC M Flood

2 Members of the public

Apologies

1) Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC S Hasselmann, Cllr Montagu & Cllr Hemmings.

2) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in matters on the agenda. All Councillors present confirmed that no changes to Register of Interest forms were required.

3) Public Participation

The members of public present were in attendance to observe.

4) Minutes of previous meetings & matters arising

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 20th July were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Coke seconded Cllr Baker. All in favour.

Matters arising- Cllr Harris expressed thanks to retired councillor Peter Waller for his services to the community. There is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor which can be filled by co-option.

5) Specific reports

Principle & Process- At the July meeting Cllr Coke had highlighted the necessity for all councillors and the clerk to carry out a data audit. This essentially meant all should review both paper and electronic files to ensure they were not retaining anything that breached the data protection regulations. The Clerk confirmed she had carried out such a review as did all Cllrs present.

Devolution and the Draft Local Plan- See item 6

The Fen & Green- Cllr Harris reported the grass on the Village Green is now growing very well and this has recently been cut.

Play Area -Cllr Harvey reported that all play equipment was in good working order.

Weyhill- Cllr Hemmings had sent her apologies.

Footpaths- Cllr Hawkings-Byass reported she has been contacted by the owners of the riding school on Furzedown Lane who wanted to close a part of the permissive footpath which was on their land because pedestrians were parking outside their business preventing legitimate customers from parking, and the allowing dogs to roam off the footpath and leave dog mess which

was not cleared up. After discussing the matter with the land owners, it was agreed as a first step the Parish Council would erect a sign asking walkers to keep dogs on a lead, clear up mess and not to park on private land. Cllr Hawkings-Byass will organise the sign.

Cllr Stephenson highlighted some new signs on a footpath off Sarson Lane which seem to indicate a move of the footpath. Cllr Hawkings -Byass will speak to Hampshire Countryside access for details.

Communications – Cllr Hawkings-Byass asked for current items for the next newsletter. Thanks were expressed to all the volunteers who deliver throughout the parish.

Projects- The Clerk reported details of a quote received regarding the upgrade and extension of the parking area at the Village Green. She will share this with Cllr Harvey who will write a project specification so that further quotes can be obtained.

Highways- Cllr Harris asked that all councillors and residents report all identified road verge / hedge / tree issues problems to HCC, ideally with a “what three words” on the website. [Report a problem to Hampshire County Council Highways | Transport and roads | Hampshire County Council](#)

Southern Water – Cllr Harris reported on a meeting when he and Janet Wright had spoken to representatives of Southern Water about concerns with current communication, the issues surrounding tankers at the Amport water pumping station and manhole cover spills. Southern Water has agreed to address matters to improve communication, they are planning to employ someone to act as liaison for communities where tankers are deployed and that Floyd Cooper, Operations Manager of Southern Water, will make a community presentation to residents in the PPF and others affected by groundwater infiltration, regarding the difficulties that they have faced this year, and its plans for improvement. This presentation will be held on **22nd October**, at 6.30 pm in Thruxton Memorial Hall

Resilience Plan- There is no Councillor assigned to this area of responsibility.

School Liaison- Cllr Baker reported parking at school drop off and pick up times is still causing some issues although it seems a voluntary one-way system for drivers has been set up which may ease this.

Cllr Harvey said vehicles parking on the corner by the telephone box causes sight line issues for vehicles exiting the lane and parking area. There were some white lines here, but these were faded and largely ignored. The Clerk will report the problem to HCC and ask them to either repaint the white lines or consider painting a no parking sign on the tarmac.

6) Local Government Reorganisation and the draft local plan.

Cllr Harris reported that central government has announced that current plans for Local Government Reorganisation in Hampshire have been withdrawn. However, the theme of regionalism is still very much on the table, and it is expected a Mayor for Hants & the Solent will be elected within 2 years. TVBC is expected to be in place until at least 2029. Central Government has promised a review of LGR by November 2026 and details will follow.

In July, TVBC abandoned the draft local plan they had been working on and moved to a new method of drawing up a plan called a gateway process. The process that is being followed is a 30-month plan. A timetable will be published soon and by April 2027 TVBC must publish a self-assessment outlining progress but does not need to allocate sites for potential development. By April 2029, TVBC will need to have consulted, produced evidence, and to have committed to a plan. The whole process is always subject to review.

A new National Planning Policy Framework has been issued and contains some quite different changes of policy. Speculative developments may still be applied for, but the new NPPF is helpful in that there is now no presumption in favour of permission where there is a shortfall in housing

numbers and local gaps are once again favoured. The new NPPF reduces the term of planning by the local authority to 10 years, formerly 15. All sites listed in the legacy draft plan will now be reconsidered.

From 31/10/26, most decisions regarding planning applications will be made by officers. There are two ways in which a planning application could be referred to committee. First where an application raises an economic, social or environmental issue, or second where it raises a significant planning matter having regard to a development plan or other material considerations. Nominated officers and councillors will determine if a case should go to committee. There are no transitional arrangements, but TVBC will try to get pending cases to committee before the deadline.

7) A342 working group.

Cllr Harris highlighted the recently circulated reports produced by the A342 working group. Any valid comments received will be incorporated into the plan and it is hoped this will be sent to Test Valley Borough Council and Hampshire County Council soon.

Clerks report

8) The Clerk reported as follows-

She has completed a data audit of both electronic and paper documents to ensure compliance with GDPR.

The annual audit return had now been concluded. The only item of note was an error in the date on the public rights notice which the Clerk has amended.

Finally, as previously confirmed she reported the old one.com email service would cease on 28th September 2026.

Finance

9)

1) To note the bank balances as at 14/09/2026

Lloyds savings £20819.52

Lloyds current £15788.22

2) To approve the following payments and authorise online transactions: -

H Bournier salary(Aug)	£519.28
HMRC	£164.84
Web site	£11.99
Email service	£24.99
Clear energy (DD)	£43.43
Janet Wright	£29.40
Taits printers July	£110.00
McAfee renewal	£79.99
H Bournier salary(Sep)	£519.28
HMRC	£164.84
Ray Welch	£140.00
Clear energy (DD)	£28.00
Roslyne Training	£90.00
Taits printers Aug	£110.00
H Bournier exp.	£34.79
BDO (audit)	£252.00
Microsoft License	£84.99
Roselyn training	£45.00

Cllr Coke confirmed the Local Government pay award for 2026 had been agreed as a 3.3% increase, backdated to 1st April 2026 increasing the Clerks hourly pay from £20.29 to £20.96. The resulting monthly rise to £670.72. Back pay of £128.64 is also due. He proposed this pay award be implemented. This was seconded by Cllr Baker. All agreed

Borough & County Councillor Reports.

10) HCC Chris Donnelly reported that following the recent Government announcement on the withdrawal of Local Gov Reorganisations, TVBC and HCC will now continue until 2029. He will write a short, updated piece for the newsletter.

He reported on the good cross parish work that is ongoing particularly with the A342 group and is hoping to hold a meeting with Hampshire Highways representatives to attempt to influence any work carried out.

TVBC Cllr M Flood reported that a recent fire erupted in the rear of a refuse collection vehicle. Concerns were that this was caused by batteries disposed of in the general rubbish when these should be disposed of in proper battery disposal units.

11) Thruxton Air Festival

Cllr Harris highlighted the sudden cancellation of the Thruxton Airshow which was to take place over the weekend of 12/13th September but was cancelled just a few days before. It became apparent the organisers were in financial difficulty, and the company had gone into liquidation. Ticket holders were encouraged to approach banks and credit card companies for refunds. The owners of Thruxton Airfield had recently offered ticket holders the opportunity to attend one of their events free of charge.

12) Planning

1.To note the following TVBC decisions:

26/01181/FULLN-single storey extension, 22 Fairways- permission

26/00817/FULLN-erection of a shelter and installation of play equip with protective matting underneath-Amport School-permission

26/01644/TREEN- fell elm tree-Sherbourne Lodge-no objection

2) Reviewed between meetings: 26/01836/TREEN- fell cherry tree-Pipers Hill House- no objections

3)To review in meeting: 26/01881/TREEN tree works, The Lanes, Monxton Road-no objections

Dauntsey Drove planning application- TVBC Maureen Flood confirmed she has asked that this application go before the Northern Area Planning committee and it is hoped this will happen before the October 31st deadline. The Clerk will circulate details as soon as she receives them.

Update on Amport House- Cllr Harris reported that the current owner has provided a schedule of proposed variations to the agreed planning permission. The Clerk confirmed an application to TVBC has just been received and she will circulate this to all for comments.

Correspondence

13) The Clerk highlighted

An email regarding the next TVBC resilience meeting on 17th October 10.00 at Longstock Village Hall.

A further email regarding a planning enforcement workshop at Beech Hurst on 21st October 17.30 to 19.30.

And a catalogue regarding recycled street furniture.

Community News

14) The date for the annual fete in 2027 is 10th July.

The numbers attending the weekly coffee morning at Monxton & Amport Hall are increasing and it was agreed this was a valuable community event.

Date of next meeting

15) The next meeting will be held on Monday 19th October 2026, 7.30pm at **Monxton & Amport Village Hall**