

**MINUTES of WARNFORD PARISH MEETING's meeting held on
20th November 2025 at 7.30pm in the Warnford Village Hall**

Chair: Toby Drought

Clerk/RFO: Lucy Hutchinson

In addition to the Chair and the clerk there were 22 present, plus Warnford's two WCC Councillors (Cllrs Bolton and Pett) and its HCC Councillor (Cllr Wallace), Susanna Walker (Care Group), Edwin Grimshaw (Parish News) and the Rector (Fr Tony Forrest).

The papers referred to had been posted on the website in advance.

1.Apologies: five were received.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 15th May 2025: approved and signed.

3. Chair's report: Since becoming Chair has met and spoken with many who run things in the parish and learnt much from that. He thanked the following: Billy Bennett and the Village Hall team, Stephen Short and the Playground team, Andrew Baynes and Harriet Henry (website), Pauline Swan, David and Penny Corbett (Defibrillator), Rob Athawes (Parish Lengthsman) and the Clerk.

4.Financial: The half year accounts and the Clerk's expenses were approved, as was the **Budget**, including continuing to bank with Santander and paying its newly introduced bank charges. It was agreed that the Speed Indicator Device should not be used next year.

Grant Applications:

The Playground: requested £500, this was approved.

The Village Hall: requested £300 or more, it is working on increasing income and its website, online booking is on the way, plus it is looking at how to raise money form the carpark. It is also using

'Easyfundraising' and all were encouraged to register to raise money when shopping online.

After discussing the other applications £400 was approved. The Village Hall will see if savings could be made by insuring with the Playground.

The Chair encouraged both bodies to look at fundraising.

Parish News: requested £200 or more: It was asked to look at why West Meon, which is much bigger than Warnford was only being asked for £250, and also what happened to the drive a few years ago to get parishioners to donate by Standing Order. £200 was approved.

The Care Group: requested £100. The lifelines it provides may not work when phone lines are digitalised so will need to be replaced or new ones rented, the costs have increased since WCC outsourced their provision. The Group is receiving £500 from West Meon PC. £100 was approved.

The Precept: the meeting approved increasing this by £200.

5.Planning: On the Planning schedule The Old Calf Shed was the only application where WPM has yet to submit its response. The Clerk outlined the differences between this and the two previous applications, both of which had been objected to by WPM, views were also against this one. Anyone wishing to comment further on the current application should do so in the next few days.

6. HCC and WCC Councillors' report: they gave a joint presentation covering a number of matters including the Mayoral elections next May, Local Government Reorganisation. Home Energy advice, HCC Councillors' and Winchester District grants, The Men's Shed (the Clerk is in touch with them to see if they might make a noticeboard for the parish), Boomtown planning, Meon Valley Community Bus

(which is looking for more volunteer drivers) and Court House Meadow, for which Hampshire & Isle of Wight Trust may make an offer).

7.AOB

a)Parish lengthsman: Rob Athawes explained how the scheme works, anyone with suggestions for work for the PL should give them to Rob. He will try to ensure that they do not put greenery etc into the river. The PL cannot do work on/next to the A32, Cllr. Wallace said that complaints about shrubs etc overhanging the A32 pavement should be directed to Hampshire Highways.

b)The Clerk had some '**Do Not Knock**' notices, which were available to all.

c)The Clerk said that WCC is encouraging sustainable travel and has **Bike doctors** who can give advice/training on bicycle maintenance and security plus confidence in cycling: if they are running sessions locally she will publicise this, they might also attend the Warnford fete, if the fete organisers so wished.

d)The Clerk referred to the four **snow shovels** WPM has, and their locations.

e)The Chair said anyone wishing to join the **Warnford Community WhatsApp group** should contact him, he does not run it but will pass on names etc.

f) The Chair is still looking for someone to take responsibility for keeping an eye on **footpaths** etc.

8. Date of Next Meeting: 14th May 2026

The meeting closed at 8.55pm