



Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 23rd July 2026 at 7.30pm in Awbridge Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Gordon Piper (GP)
Cllr J Whiteley (JW)
Cllr Tony Byrne (TB)
Cllr Christopher Wheeler (CW)

Apologies:

Cllr Grahame Jackson (GJ)
Cllr Kelly Seymour (KS)

In attendance:

Tracy Sansome (Clerk), 5 Members of the Public

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Welcome

Vice-Chairman Cllr Gordon Piper thanked those for attending.

1. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from, Cllr Kelly Seymour and Cllr G Jackson

2. Declarations of Interest

None recorded.

3. Public Observations/questions on Agenda Items

None recorded.

4. Clerk Report and Correspondence

Acknowledged.

Test Valley BC have responded very positively to our recently updated Resilience Plan. They have suggested that we 'test' this out and they would be willing to support us with this. Clerk to arrange for this to take place.

Test Valley have requested details of any new bulbs and wildflower planting in the licensed cultivation area. Clerk will respond that there are no extra flowers planted than what has been put in as per usual.

A resident requested to speak on item 2.4 concerning recent request for the Parish Council to support a petition for the change of speed in Danes Road to 20mph.

The Chairman and councillors agreed to this.

The resident explained his reasons and concerns for speed limit to be reduced due to the increasing heavy traffic in the area particularly around the school site.

The councillors agreed that this should be a formal item on agenda. The clerk will ensure this is on the agenda for the next meeting in September.

5. Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of 18th June 2026 were agreed by all and accepted as a true record of business conducted. These were signed by Cllr G Piper as final. **RESOLVED**

6. Governance

6.1 Grants Policy – this newly updated policy was agreed. Cllr G Piper added that quotes should be attached to grant applications in order that the council are clear where the funds will be spent. This was agreed by all. The clerk will finalise the updates and publish on our website. **RESOLVED**

6.2 Standing Orders were last updated 2022. It was agreed that there are no significant changes and the orders stand as correct procedures for Awbridge Parish Council. Policy 2026 will be updated on the website by the clerk. **RESOLVED**

7. Financial and Administrative

7.1 Invoices were agreed for payment. **RESOLVED**

7.2 Bank reconciliation to bank statements were agreed and signed by Cllr T Byrne.

7.3 Monthly budget report was shared. It was agreed that this useful information should be sent out with the clerk report each meeting. This will allow any queries re; budget can be discussed at the meeting.

8. Lengthsman

Cllr K Seymour continues to liaise with the co-ordinator. An update is expected at the next meeting. It would appear that the signs are still outstanding for cleaning.

9. Neighbourhood Development Plan

Cllr G Piper updated the meeting that the NDP has reached the final stage and the Examiners report has been received. The fact checking stage is being carried out and we are now getting ready to produce the final plan for adoption. The quote from Bluestone to support this has been received.

10. Maintenance

We are awaiting the quote for the refurbishment of the main notice board. Work to the bus shelter will be commencing in August. The clerk will enquire if our recent application for a grant for help with maintenance of bus stops is successful.

11. Planning

11.1

APPLICATION NUMBER: 26/01504/FULLS

PROPOSAL: Demolition of bungalow and erection of 6-bedroom dwelling including, change of use of land to garden & associated landscaping

SITE: Oaklands, Danes Road/Church Lane, Awbridge, Romsey

This planning application has been received with small variation from FULLS 26/02849 – It was agreed again that No Objection would be recorded and we would repeat our previous comments. It was also noted by Cllr G Piper that this should not include use of Westfield Drive as an acceptable frontage as it lacks standalone planning.

RESOLVED

12. New Councillor Vacancy

Cllr Gordon Piper and Cllr Kelly Seymour spoken to some interested parties. They will be encouraged to apply to the clerk, whereon if successful, will be invited to speak to the parish council. Meanwhile, posters have gone out advertising the vacancy for co-option and is also published in the Awbridge Newsletter.

13. Community Payback Scheme

Initial discussions were shared and it was agreed that further information would be useful to understand what this will entail. It was suggested that Anthony Chapman's advice would be helpful as well as full council if it is discussed in future.

Closure of Meeting : 8:30 pm

Date of next full council meeting is 3rd September 2026

Tracy Sansome
Clerk/RFO

Signed Chairman **Date**

