



## Parish Council

**Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7.30pm in Awbridge Village Hall**

### **Present:**

Cllr Tony Byrne (TB)  
Cllr Nick Adams-King (N A-K)  
Cllr Gordon Piper (GP)  
Cllr Grahame Jackson (GJ)  
Cllr Peter Allen (PA)

### **Apologies:**

Cllr Christopher Wheeler (CW)  
Cllr Janet Whiteley (JW)  
Cllr Kelly Seymour (KS)

### **In attendance:**

Tracy Sansome (Clerk)

## **PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

### **1. Welcome**

Chairman Cllr Gordon Piper welcomed all and thanked those for attending.

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr C Wheeler (Holiday), Cllr J Whiteley (Holiday) and Cllr K Seymour (Medical).

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Tony Byrne declared that the planning application due for discussion this meeting is a neighbour of his with whom he has had discussion, therefore, he will not be commenting.

### **4. Public Observations/questions on Agenda Items**

None recorded.

## **Report from Councillor Nick Adams-King to the Parish Council**

Cllr Nick Adams-King gave a short report to share that:

- **Southern Water** will be continuing work on Dunbridge Lane and HCC traffic are working on improved signage to show clear routes through and around the village. There will also be a restriction on the use of temporary traffic lights which are becoming problematic.
- **Open Reach** has applied for a section 61 for works along the Romsey Road.

- **Speed Awareness Devices** – a representative to HCC will be carrying out a visual walk around the village accompanied by Cllrs, Nick Adams-King, K.Seymour and G.Piper in order to ascertain and confirm sites for the new speed cameras. There has been to date, some confusion surrounding legal and practical locations for these.
- **Planning applications** – there is much concern about the amount of speculative planning applications that are being presented to meet above and beyond new Government targets. Cllr Adams-King remarked that the planning department are undertaking careful looks at prospective applications in order to make informed decisions.
- **Aster:** have now stopped sending unreasonable demands for payment as well as the chasing up of outstanding accounts. They have agreed to look again at the situation in order to fair plan going forward.
- **Budget Position and Council Tax:**  
While the County Council has identified £136 million in savings, these have been offset by significant and continuing increases in costs, particularly in adult social care and SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) education support. As a result, the council tax is rising by 5% to help manage these pressures.

## 5. Clerk Report and Correspondence

Acknowledged

Cllr Gordon Piper asked the clerk why planning decisions have not been recorded. It has come to the clerk's attention that Test Valley have stopped sending these. Clerk to investigate asap to restate the listings.

## 6. Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 were agreed. These were signed by Cllr G Piper as final and correct. Proposed by Cllr P Allen and seconded by Cllr G Jackson.

**RESOLVED**

## 7. Governance

**7.1 Asset Register.** It was agreed by all to update the register by removing the line stating Kissing Gates as they do not fall under the responsibility of the PC. **RESOLVED**

**7.2 Internal Auditor.** It was agreed by all to reappoint Eleanor Greene from 'Do the Numbers' to complete our internal audit again this year. A date in April with the clerk has been booked. **RESOLVED**

## 8. Financial and Administrative

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

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

8.3 Dog Bin emptying quote from Test Valley for two bins (£497.26) was agreed. Half of this cost and (dog bags) will be met by ADVA. **RESOLVED**

## 9. Lengthsman

None noted for Lengthsman.

## 10. Grant Allocations

The Parish Council is still awaiting invoices from the Village Hall in order to transfer the first of grant payments.

**11. Maintenance**

Cllr P Allen kindly offered to repair the steps by the hall which unfortunately became unstable recently.

Cllr P Allen shared a contact detail with a local groundsman who may be able to quote for installation of new bench and general maintenance around the village including repairs to the bus shelter. Clerk to investigate and make contact.

**12. Planning**

**12.1 APPLICATION**

25/02849/FULLS

**NUMBER:**

**PROPOSAL:**

Demolition of bungalow and erection of 6-Bedroom dwelling including, change of use of land to garden, associated landscaping and adjustment of existing access and formation of new access

**SITE:**

Oaklands, Danes Road/Church Lane, Awbridge, Romsey

NO COMMENT

Clerk to respond to application as above.

**RESOLVED**

**13. Speed Signs**

The clerk updated the meeting with the support of Cllr Nick Adams-King who advised that a visit has been arranged for March for identifying suitable locations. We then hope that we can move forward with the project.

**14. Assembly 21<sup>st</sup> May**

The Councillors discussed suitable speakers for the Annual General Assembly. It was agreed that Cllr Nick Adams-King would present. Cllr G Piper has agreed to approach the local Police Representative to ascertain if they would be willing to come and speak about policing the local community. Cllr P Allen suggested that Neighbourhood care could be invited to have a table at the event in order to support and generate interest for more volunteers in the community.

**Closure of Meeting : 9.00pm**

**Date of next full council meeting is tba**

**Tracy Sansome**

**Clerk/RFO**

**Signed Chairman ..... Date .....**

