

Over Wallop Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held at 7.30pm Thursday 4th June 2026, at the Parish Hall, Over Wallop

Present at Meeting: Chairman Cllr Meek, Vice chairman Cllr Bunche and Cllr's MacDonald, Hunt, Drew and Clerk Heidi Easton

In attendance: 2 members of public.

06/261 - Welcome and Apologies Chairman Cllr Meek opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the public. Apologies for absence from Cllr Cleife, Cllr Chamberlin-Crump and Cllr Kynaston-Drumm, all of whom sent their apologies.

06/262 - Declarations of Interests. No declarations of interest were made.

06/263 - Approval of minutes from previous meeting. The minutes of the May meeting were reviewed. A correction was noted regarding the new regular yoga session held at the pavilion, which was overseen by Andy Fox, not Cllr Bev Hunt. With this amendment acknowledged, the minutes were signed as an accurate record.

06/264 - County and Borough Cllr Reports Both can be found on their retrospective websites.

Cllr MacDonald's report was then received. He referred to his written report in the parish magazine and expanded on three key issues.

Cllr MacDonald updated the council on local government reorganisation, explaining the creation of a new Mid Hampshire authority and the associated boundary changes. He highlighted the significant loss of business rate income from Chilworth Industrial Estate and the Waterside area, both being absorbed by Southampton, and the pressure this would place on the new authority. He also noted the strong reaction from New Forest communities, who face being divided under the new structure.

Cllr MacDonald then addressed the local plan, explaining the increased housing targets, the lack of a five-year land supply, and the resulting vulnerability to speculative development. He outlined the challenges created by shifting central government deadlines and the likelihood that many districts will submit plans simultaneously, causing long delays in inspection. He warned that even if a plan is submitted and approved, it may be replaced within two to three years due to reorganisation.

Finally, Cllr MacDonald reported positive news regarding the Community Delivery Fund, with £2 million available for rural projects. Over £600,000 had already been allocated to meaningful community improvements, including village halls and community facilities. Nether Wallop had applied for a grant to assist with the refurbishment of the cricket pavilion. Chairman, Cllr Meek thanked him for the detailed update.

Cllr Drew delivered his report, covering the recent election results, the structure of the new shadow unitary authority. He mentioned the positive Ofsted outcomes for local children

looked after, and a £150 million boost to road maintenance. He also commented on the challenges of the local plan and the uncertainty created by government changes, as mentioned in Cllr MacDonald's Report.

06/265 - Chairman Cllr Meek's Report, Cllr Meek noted a mixed compliance with the new 20mph traffic calming measures, with some drivers observing the limit while others ignored it. He expressed disappointment that, despite assurances from the Police Community Support Officer, there had been little visible enforcement or patrol presence. He confirmed he would follow this up.

Cllr Meek also reported further delays to the Play Park installation, explaining that equipment had arrived without an engineer. The contractor has now confirmed installation for 15 June, in time for the village fête on the 4 July.

Cllr Meek reminded Cllr's of the fête date and confirmed that further details would be discussed at the July meeting.

He noted that matters relating to trees would be addressed under agenda item 8.

06/266 - The Alan Evans Memorial Ground Land Registry Legal Charge. Cllr Meek explained that the Land Registry required formal minuted confirmation that the Parish Council agrees to the charge. The Council unanimously resolved to confirm this, enabling the Clerk to return the required documentation and close the administrative matter.

06/267 - Footpaths. Cllr Meek reported that Marion Short has carried out excellent work overseeing parish footpaths but will be moving away. Although not immediate, this will create a vacancy for a volunteer footpath officer. Cllr Meek and all the Cllr's wanted to share their thanks to Marion Short for her years of quiet, efficient service, noting that the lack of complaints speaks for itself.

06/268 - Trees Cllr Meek mentioned a resident had reported a branch falling from a Parish Council tree during recent gales. The Chairman noted that the Council had spent £17,000 the previous year on pollarding and safety work, but extreme weather events were becoming more frequent. He asked whether another inspection should be commissioned. All Cllr's agreed that the existing 18-month inspection cycle met insurance requirements and was sufficiently thorough, and that the recent incident did not indicate a need for additional work at this time.

06/269 - Finance Report and cheques

The clerk reported that as no current access to the Bank accounts, due to a delay with Lloyd's bank, this was a summary of recent income and payments

Income:

- Pavilion rent received: £432.50
- Additional income of £666 (balancing payment)
- Test Valley Borough Council grants received: £4,732.60 and £8,761

Standing orders:

- Insurance £451.22, Storage £10, Website £14, Grass cutting £250

Payments made:

- service charge £8.50, pavilion deposit less rental £37.50, administration £560, laptop and Microsoft 365 £495.98, Lengthsman payment: £400, Electricity bills: £240.51, £174.38, and £757.69 (pavilion), Dog bins: £2328.67

Bank balances: Current Account £16,375.52, Premier Investment £35,171.38, Account No. 2 £1,192.50

06/2610 To consider Planning Application permission for:

26/00972/TREEN 2 Fifehead Manor, Salisbury Hill. Fell Leylandii and removal of side trunk Prunus.

No Comment. Although a comment to send a notification of 2 replacement Trees as per parish council policy.

26/00925/TREEN Horshells Drove, Orange Lane. Pollard willow tree and sycamore tree.

No Comment.

26/01049/FULLN Wallop Poultry Farm, King Lane. Erection of farm managers dwelling, detached single garage and installation of package treatment plant.

Objection. The Parish Council do not support this application noting that it constituted development in the countryside without sufficient justification under the Neighbourhood Development Plan, and that the application lacked clarity regarding operational need.

06/2611- Cllrs Reports to the Village Hall and Pavilion

Cllr Macdonald – Reported the monitoring of the 20mph zone, with proposals to request a further speed survey from HCC, and concerns about the lack of police presence. Cllr MacDonald also mentioned the dim streetlight near the vets, with the Clerk confirming it had been reduced at a resident's request; The clerk will explore increasing the wattage. The outdated parish website was noted, with improvements underway. Cllr MacDonald also proposed to organise a village clean-up day in late summer, supported by TVBC who supply equipment and collection services.

Cllr Hunt – Confirmed a new permanent Yoga booking for the Pavilion and a Cricket team was interested in using the pitch with intentions to book. Andy Fox has been helping showing people around.

Cllr Bunche - The hub has been updated with all current affairs.

Cllr Chamberlin-Crump – N/A

Cllr Kynaston-Drumm – Sent a report, that she was still very much in contact with HCC regarding the replacement street signs for the Palestine area. Still waiting from HCC, scoping fees, use of specific contractors with exact costings or the PC sourcing and fixing independently. Cllr Bunche suggested Signs with Palestine Hampshire as an option.

06/2612 Clerks Report. The Clerk gave an update that Hugo Fox has organised and secured the domain.gov.uk name for the website and have asked if any Cllr's required training. All Cllrs agreed that the clerk would receive the necessary information and then pass on. Details from the old website have been transferred across, although the clerk recognised all the hard work from Cllr MacDonald and John Francis and asked if the Parish council could use some

of the information and photographs which they may have proposed to use. Cllr MacDonald to request permission.

The Clerk also reported she had been in touch with BT regarding the broadband for the pavilion and is moving forward with this.

The clerk also reported a delay in Lloyds Bank access.

06/2613- Correspondence/Members of Public: A member of The Palestine and Grateley future group mentioned there would be more funds coming through as another successful grant application had made.

A local parishioner congratulated the Parish Council for their hard work for the local community and appreciated the publications in the local parish magazine. He also wanted to highlight an event in St Peters Church, 5th September to celebrate Corporal C.J. Alexander, DCM, MM, and Bar.

Points from the Floor: None.

The Chairman Cllr Meek Closed the meeting at 8.28pm

Date of Next meeting- Thursday 2nd July 2026 at 7.30pm in the Over Wallop Parish Hall

Signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Chairman: **Date:**