

## Langrish Parish Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of Langrish Parish Council held at The Cow Shed, Ramsdean on

**Monday 13 July 2026 at 7:30pm**

Present: Councillors Debbie Luff (Chair), Roger Hetherington (Vice Chair), Robert Bewes and Cheryl Walder.  
County Councillor David Podger  
Sam Marchant (Clerk).  
1 member of the public.

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ian Blackwell and District Cllr Robert Mocatta

#### **2. Declaration of Interests:** Cllrs were asked to declare any pecuniary interests.

No declarations were made.

#### **3. Minutes for review & approval:**

a) Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 13 May 2026

The Chair asked Councillors to consider whether the minutes were a true record of the meeting. Councillors who had attended the meeting confirmed that they were accurate, the minutes were approved as read and signed as a true and correct record.

b) Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 13 May 2026

The Chair asked Councillors to consider whether the minutes were a true record of the meeting in principle. Councillors who had attended the meeting confirmed that they were accurate. The minutes were approved in principle as read as a true and correct record.

#### **4. Co-option for Cllr Vacancy**

The Chair proposed Huw Evans who had applied for the vacant Councillor position, Cllr Walder seconded this and Councillors agreed unanimously.

The Chair welcomed Huw to the Parish Council.

#### **5. Open Forum:** Members of the Public were invited to comment.

Following the co-option of Huw Evans for the Councillor vacancy no members of the public were present.

#### **6. Planning Application:** to discuss and agree comments for submission

a) SDNP/26/02019/HOUS – Lime Kiln Cottage, Winchester Road, Langrish, GU32 1QY

Addition of a green oak, open porch with a slate roof above the front door. Base to be made of handmade multi bricks with flint inserts to match the existing property.

Discussion:

Councillors considered the design approach and noted the stated intention to match existing property materials (flint and brick). After discussion, Councillors had no objection and agreed comments should be submitted accordingly.

Action:

Clerk to submit “No Objection” response.

## **7. Finance & Admin Matters:**

a) Finance summary Actuals vs Budget & list of Payments and Receipts report (7 May – 6 July 2026)

The RFO presented the financial report, which was unanimously approved by Councillors. (Appendix A)

## **8. Matters Arising**

a) EHDC Community Area Partnership Introduction: to invite Cllrs to either 20 July or 21 July meetings (as relevant).

Discussion points:

The Chair had circulated slides and highlighted key aspects of the Community Area Partnership.

Questions were raised about the maps and how arrangements would work in practice, including whether all parishes are included in the same group.

The Chair explained that the reason relates to the new unitary catchment and outlined that a judicial review is in progress—challenging the process followed to arrive at the decision, not the decision itself. This may lead to further consultation.

The Chair discussed the earlier approach whereby parishes were expected to be tied in with a Basingstoke/Rushmore and Dean arrangement, and the eventual ministerial decision involving multiple schemes.

Actions:

All Cllrs to attend one of the Community Area Partnership meetings (20/21 July).

## **9. Reports and Updates**

a) SID unit and Solar panel (IB/SM)

Discussion points:

Councillors discussed the practicalities of installing and proceeding with the SID unit and solar panel provision.

Decision: It was unanimously agreed to go ahead.

Action:

Clerk to progress the purchase/installation steps and associated paperwork.

b) Langrish Meadow / Community Orchard (IB)

Discussion points:

DL reported she has applied for a grant for the purchase of trees and related items.

Further information had been provided, and a response is awaited.

Actions:

DL to continue working on the grant application and update the Council as soon as a response is received.

#### c) BOATs (DL)

##### Discussion points:

BOATs that had been closed have now been reopened.

It was explained that all BOATs in East Hampshire are being assessed by Rangers to ensure they meet the criteria set out in the byways procedure.

This includes measures intended to enable Highways to permanently close areas if appropriate, but the process is slow and an initial assessment is expected in November. Councillors discussed how closing one or two routes could prevent access to certain circuits, noting the area is heavily populated by BOATs and works better as a cluster route network.

It was noted that even when barriers are down, barriers are often broken down.

##### Actions:

DL to continue her works on the BOATs and keep Councillors updated on progress and any issues arising.

#### d) Footpaths and Rights of Way

##### i. Report

##### Discussion points:

A number of paths had become overgrown; these had been included in Cllr Bewes report.

Lengthsman to cut the copse path leaving Langrish.

##### Action:

RB to add cutting back copse path to the worksheet

##### ii. Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO)

##### Discussion points:

No progress was reported at the time of the meeting.

It was noted that progress is difficult due to the requirement for historical information, including relating to taxing (historical evidence needed to support the order).

##### Action:

DL to assist RB with the DMMO evidence/historical information.

RB to share the pack with DL so it can be read in advance.

#### f) Lengthsman: to note recent works and call for jobs (RB)

##### Discussion:

Councillors noted recent works and the need to call for further jobs.

Path at the copse to be cut back.

The schedule includes cutting back the path along the A272 near the church, with a digger to be available if required.

It was noted the church is due to close at the end of September, with a major service on 1 September led by the bishop. The cutting of the path before this service was a high priority.

##### Actions:

RB to add these Lengthsman jobs and priorities to the worksheet.

g) Roads/Highways (IB)

i. Report

Discussion points:

As IB was not present, no formal report was provided.

The Chair reiterated concerns about the left-hand junction, stating it causes problems when turning right, with poor visibility contributing to incidents—large vehicles have previously been affected. A bus was recently reported as getting stuck.

The Council discussed the idea of requesting a weight restriction to prevent large vehicles using the left-hand side.

An alternative idea discussed was introducing a no right turn, to be added to the September agenda for further consideration.

Actions:

DL and IB to continue exploring ideas.

**10. District Councillor report:** to receive a report from Cllr Robert Mocatta

Report had been received and circulated prior to the meeting. (Appendix B)

**11. County Councillor report:** to receive a report from Cllr David Podger

Report had been received and circulated prior to the meeting. (Appendix C)

The Chair reported attending a Highways briefing with Cllr Podger on what can be expected regarding prioritisation.

It was noted that there is a huge deficit (~£550 million) required to put road surfaces into acceptable condition, which may not be fully filled.

Climate change pressures on infrastructure were discussed: heavy wet weather washes materials away, and hot weather causes surface deterioration.

Cllr Podger raised concerns about the planned unitary authority: starting in a deficit position, inheriting debt while carrying the same responsibilities.

Further concerns were expressed that a more rural area such as mid-Hants may receive less funding compared to larger towns, which may not align well with rural needs.

The importance of maintaining extensive rural highway networks was emphasised, including service delivery impacts such as waste collection being more expensive and constraints on vehicles able to be used in rural areas.

**12. Items for the next Agenda**

Discussion points:

Residents in the village concerned about speed through Ramsdean (despite a 60 mph limit)—to be added to next agenda.

Signage suggestion: “no cars” sign on North Stroud Lane. Discussion noted this may not be straightforward due to the BOATs designation and suitability for road cars. It was agreed to speak to traffic officers at Hampshire Highways.

Bench on the Green: obtain an estimate for sanding and re-oiling (rather than replacing). Cllr Walder to ask the contractor who did the bench previously. Also consider asking the Men’s Shed to consider as a project.

Fence on the meadow at the gate: currently wobbly, need to get a quotation.

Fence assessment: Cllr Evans to look at the fence, assess condition, and consider any potential help for replacement. Costs to be assessed prior to next meeting.

Verge cutting: to be reported to Highways.

Actions:

Clerk to add “speed through Ramsdean (60mph)” to the next agenda.

DL (with Parish point of contact as agreed) to contact traffic officer at Hampshire Highways regarding North Stroud Lane signage.

CW to contact the previous contractor for a bench sanding/re-oiling estimate.

RB to approach the men’s shed relating to the meadow gate fence and the bench.

HE to assess the meadow gate fence and advise on likely replacement/support and expected cost.

Clerk to report verge cutting matter to Highways.

**12. To confirm the date of the next meeting:** Monday 14 September 2026

The Parish Council meeting closed at 20:40pm.

Signed:

Date:

## Financial Report July 2026

Below is the summary of Actual v Budget 1 April - July 2026 for Payments & Receipts

| <b>Summary of Cost Centres - Payments</b> | <b>Actual</b>         | <b>Budget</b>         | <b>Variance</b>        |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Room Hire                                 | £<br>35.00            | £<br>-                | -£<br>35.00            |
| Clerk and Cllr Admin Expenses             | £<br>-                | £<br>100.00           | £<br>100.00            |
| Clerk Salary (inc PAYE                    | £<br>324.99           | £<br>1,400.00         | £<br>1,075.01          |
| Audit Fee                                 | £<br>245.00           | £<br>250.00           | £<br>5.00              |
| Insurance                                 | £<br>314.48           | £<br>350.00           | £<br>35.52             |
| Donation                                  | £<br>-                | £<br>500.00           | £<br>500.00            |
| Asset Maintenance                         | £<br>130.00           | £<br>2,000.00         | £<br>1,870.00          |
| Asset Purchase                            | £<br>-                | £<br>150.00           | £<br>150.00            |
| Miscellaneous                             | £<br>-                | £<br>150.00           | £<br>150.00            |
| Election Expenses                         | £<br>-                | £<br>100.00           | £<br>100.00            |
| Subscriptions                             | £<br>262.00           | £<br>350.00           | £<br>88.00             |
| Training                                  | £<br>-                | £<br>150.00           | £<br>150.00            |
| Website & Email Accounts                  | £<br>52.47            | £<br>500.00           | £<br>447.53            |
| Langrish Meadow Orchard Project           | £<br>-                | £<br>650.00           | £<br>650.00            |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>£<br/>1,363.94</b> | <b>£<br/>6,650.00</b> | <b>£<br/>5,286.06</b>  |
| VAT                                       | £<br>36.50            |                       |                        |
| <b>Summary of Cost Centres - Receipts</b> | <b>Actual</b>         | <b>Budget</b>         | <b>Variance</b>        |
| Precept                                   | £<br>3,341.52         | £<br>6,683.04         | £<br>3,341.52          |
| Grants                                    | £<br>-                | £<br>-                | £<br>-                 |
| Bank Interest                             | £<br>-                | £<br>-                | £<br>-                 |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>£<br/>3,341.52</b> | <b>£<br/>6,683.04</b> | <b>-£<br/>3,341.52</b> |
| VAT Reclaim 2024-25                       | £<br>233.97           |                       |                        |

**Payments from 7 May - 6 July 2026**

## Appendix A

| Date Paid  | Payee                 | Description     | Amount           |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 11/05/2026 | EMVH                  | Hall Hire       | £35.00           |
| 11/05/2026 | HALC                  | Affiliation Fee | £215.00          |
| 11/05/2026 | Lightatouch           | Internal Audit  | £245.00          |
| 11/05/2026 | The Reliable Gardener | Grass Cutting   | £78.00           |
| 22/05/2026 | Zurich                | Insurance       | £314.48          |
| 22/05/2026 | ICO                   | Subscription    | £47.00           |
| 01/06/2026 | Clerk                 | Salary          | £86.73           |
| 01/06/2026 | HMRC                  | PAYE            | £21.60           |
| 04/06/2026 | HugoFox               | Email Accounts  | £20.99           |
| 30/06/2026 | Clerk                 | Salary          | £86.73           |
| 30/06/2026 | HMRC                  | PAYE            | £21.60           |
|            |                       | <b>Total</b>    | <b>£1,172.13</b> |

### Receipts from 7 May - 6 July 2026

| Date Received | Company | Description  | Amount   |
|---------------|---------|--------------|----------|
|               |         |              |          |
|               |         | <b>Total</b> | <b>0</b> |

Opening Bank Balance 1 April 2026

£9,222.35

**Bank Balance 6 July 2026**

**£11,397.40**

## **EHDC report for July 2026**

### **Air Quality Strategy for 2026-31.**

East Hampshire's air quality is generally good and within current UK legal limits. However, evidence shows that long-term exposure to air pollution continues to affect residents' lives, particularly people who are very young, old or have medical conditions.

As part of legislation, EHDC published an Air Quality Strategy to identify areas where air quality can be improved and highlight the importance of air quality to residents.

The strategy focuses on four priority areas:

- Raising awareness of the importance of air quality
- Reducing health inequalities – so people aren't disadvantaged by where they live
- Reducing emissions
- Improving the understanding of the impacts of particulates and indoor air quality.

### **£3.5 million of Community Infrastructure levy funds to be invested in East Hampshire (the part of the district outside the SDNP)**

East Hampshire District Council has announced more than £3.5 million is to be spent on facilities, projects and infrastructure through the use of all of EHDC's Community Infrastructure Levy funds (CIL).

EHDC Cabinet approved financial support for 28 fantastic schemes that will improve the lives of tens of thousands of local residents.

The list includes extending doctors' surgeries and dental practices, brand new playgrounds and sports pitches, facilities for local schools, support for families in need, renovations for village halls and help for pre-schoolers and pensioners.

The money is drawn from housebuilding taking place in parts of East Hampshire outside the South Downs National Park and is used to mitigate the impact of development on local communities .

The allocation of CIL within the SDNP will be announced in Q4 by the SDNP.

Details of all the £3.5m are in the following press release:

<https://www.easthants.gov.uk/news/2026/cabinet-approves-ps35-million-investment-local-projects>

### **Strong local performance in reducing homelessness.**

Liaising with landlords and building trust with rough sleepers has helped East Hampshire District Council take huge strides in the battle against homelessness in the district. Homelessness prevention requires constant attention and although East Hampshire has a comparatively low level of rough sleeping, it is a danger that can affect any individual. The progress being made on the issue was demonstrated recently when we recorded no rough sleepers in the month of May. The monthly average is four.

<https://www.easthants.gov.uk/news/2026/helping-our-homeless>

### Key performance indicators for EHDC:

The table below contains some of our key corporate performance indicators in 2025/26, with comparison figures from 2024/25, we have sought to improve our performance reporting by adding further key performance measures which we now monitor during the year.

|                                                                                    |        |               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------|
| Business Rates collection rate                                                     | 97.64% | 96.46%        |
| Council Tax collection rate                                                        | 98.24% | 98.33%        |
| Major planning applications decided within 13 weeks or agreed extension (over 70%) | 100%   | Not available |
| Minor planning applications decided within 13 weeks or agreed extension (over 65%) | 85%    | Not available |
| All planning applications decided within 26 weeks (above 98%)                      | 95%    | Not available |
| Homelessness interventions (above 600 for the year)                                | 669    | 781           |
| Customer satisfaction with service centre (above 97%)                              | 96%    | 94.7%         |
| Freedom of Information requests responded within statutory deadline (above 95%)    | 100%   |               |

## County Councillor Report – July 2026

### Hampshire County Council faces £550m road repair cost

Hampshire County Council faces an estimated £550 million road repair backlog as it prepares to meet new government rules on pothole repairs and road maintenance.

Under the new rules, councils must publish annual reports showing how they look after local roads, including how they repair potholes and maintain the highway network.

Authorities that fail to meet the new reporting requirements could lose future funding.

The first report is due by September 10. However, the county council has a £550 million backlog of work needed to bring the county's highways, including roads and bridges, up to the required standard.

The council is investing £15 million in road repairs this summer to improve safety and reduce the need for repeat repairs. Nevertheless, the scale of the problem is far greater than current budgets can address. Planned resurfacing is the council's preferred approach because it is more cost-effective and helps prevent potholes from forming.

During periods of severe weather, when roads can deteriorate quickly, repair crews often must focus on fixing potholes to keep roads safe.

Under the government's new reporting rules, councils will be expected to give residents a clearer picture of how they maintain local roads, improve accountability and help ensure public money is spent effectively.

### Cabinet to consider recommending Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan for adoption

Hampshire County Council's Cabinet will be asked to recommend that Full Council adopt the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan, after the council invited people to have their say on proposed modifications.

An independent Planning Inspector has confirmed that the Plan, as modified, is sound, legally compliant and suitable for adoption.

The Plan, which has been prepared in partnership with Hampshire's four other Mineral and Waste Planning Authorities, will guide decisions on mineral extraction and waste management development across the area through to 2040.

The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan sets the policies for determining planning applications for minerals and waste development. It aims to ensure that Hampshire continues to deliver essential infrastructure while safeguarding its natural landscapes, heritage and quality of life for residents. Without an up-to-date Plan, decisions could be made at appeal, meaning local concerns might not be fully considered.

### County Council begins legal challenge over Government's LGR decision for Hampshire and the Solent area

Hampshire County Council has decided to proceed with a judicial review in relation to central Government's decision to reorganise councils across the Hampshire and Solent area.

In March, Government announced that the councils currently operating across Hampshire, Southampton and Portsmouth will be reduced from 14 to 4 from April 2028 with each of the new 'unitary' councils delivering all council services provided by the County Council, 11 district and borough councils, and unitary authorities of Southampton and

Portsmouth. Following that decision, the County Council has requested on numerous occasions for further clarification from Government on its decision-making and justification of its decision.

However, Hampshire County Council's leadership believes the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has failed to sufficiently explain why and how the Secretary of State reached his final decision, including justification of the financial case for his choice. This lack of full and transparent explanation has now triggered the start of formal proceedings by the County Council.

The legal challenge has no impact on the work of the County Council in serving Hampshire's 1.4 million residents. Services continue to be delivered in the usual way across the county's communities.

This also includes ongoing work to prepare for council reorganisation which will continue unless and until Government instructs otherwise. This steady, consistent approach will ensure the County Council retains the best foundation for whatever model of local government comes next.

## BOATs – update

I was grateful for the opportunity to meet with Debbie Luff from Langrish and Matt Atkinson, Chair of East Meon PC, recently. They provided me with a detailed briefing on concerns raised in several parishes about two-wheel motorised traffic accessing Byways Open to All Traffic in East Hampshire.

Following this meeting, I recovered the 'Management of Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs) -Ongoing review of procedures and practice' presentation for Universal Services Select Committee –10 November 2025 made by Jonathan Woods, Strategic Manager. This presentation was made to the committee:

- To update members on the ongoing review of procedures and management of Byways open to all traffic (BOATs).
- To provide a short recap on our use of Traffic Regulation Orders
- To reflect on pilots that were delivered in 2025
- To outline changes that will be trialled this winter, to our survey -assessment -action process

## Pilot 1- Working more closely with communities

As described in the presentation "East Hampshire has the densest network of BOATs in the County and a majority of these are located within the South Downs National Park. The Parish Councils have been very involved in considering how our procedures need to change and adapt to meet the challenges of current levels of use and route deterioration."

### Key Outcomes:

- The Communities are passionate about using and enjoying the PRow network and believe that motorised users are having a significant impact on safety and condition
- Parish Councils are willing to close and re-open gates at the request of HCC. This is to be piloted from next Summer (2026).
- That the Parish Council and trained volunteers are willing to continually survey the routes and make recommendations for maintenance and management."

There are sure to be many questions raised by the presentation. I am happy to continue working with all parties to ensure that the actions itemised in Pilot 1 are carried forward and that the county council makes good on its promises.

## Members' Devolved Budget Scheme

NOTE: The Scheme is now open until 28 February 2027.

## Appendix C

The County Councillor Grant scheme provides Members with an annual budget of £5,000, which they can allocate to local projects, initiatives or organisations in their Division.

Members are responsible for checking the eligibility of applicants and the suitability of the grants applied for, against the grants criteria, deciding which applications to support and recommending these to Officers. They are also responsible for advising applicants of the outcome of their grant application.

The County Council's current executive arrangements do not make provision for non-executive Members to authorise expenditure. Therefore, the final decision on whether a grant is awarded (after it has gone through a checking process) will be made at Officer level based on the recommendation of the Member.

The minimum grant payable is £100 and the maximum amount is £1,000. Members cannot overspend their individual grant budget allocated to them by the County Council.

Members are encouraged to fully utilise their annual grant allocation each year as unspent funds cannot be carried forward. Consider rounding awards to the nearest £100 to avoid odd amounts being left at the end of the year, as remaining sums below £100 cannot be allocated, whilst noting that grant awards cannot exceed the stated shortfall in applications.

The Scheme was revised following a review in 2025, with changes being phased in.

### Police notice – hare coursing

The Police are urging rural communities to report instances of hare coursing, and suspicious vehicles and individuals to police.

Typically, instances of hare coursing peak in autumn and winter, however in previous years the coursing season began early as weather conditions have resulted in early harvests and bare fields.

There has been a report of a coursing incident on 11 June on farmland in northern rural Basingstoke, on the Hampshire and Berkshire border. The offenders left behind two lurcher dogs which were subsequently taken to kennels and will be rehomed.

Police teams including the specialist Country Watch Rural Crime Task Force will be proactively patrolling rural Hampshire, and under Operation Galileo their control room will deploy units to any hare coursing reports that come in.

Reports from you are crucial in helping the police understand the full scale of the problem, and where to target their resources and any proactive operational activity.

You can provide information to the police by calling 101, or using the reporting tool on their website:

<https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

You can also contact Crimestoppers 100% anonymously on 0800 555 111, or via their anonymous online form at [crimestoppers-uk.org](https://crimestoppers-uk.org)

Dial 999 if a crime is in progress.

If you have a business connection to the rural environment in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, you can also download the EyesOn app to stay up to date on rural policing issues, and to also provide information to police:

<https://eyesonapp.com/download/>

For current EyesOn users, we encourage you to use the app to provide information to police including when harvests have finished so we can target vulnerable areas with patrols.

If you are a landowner or farmer and you would like to request some of our hare coursing signage, you can email the police at [countrywatch@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:countrywatch@hampshire.police.uk)