

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at the New Forest Post Production Studio on 19th January 2026

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)

AW Porter

Councillor G Bailey (TVBC)

PJ Cross

CS Stacey

N Curtis

1/26 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr S Bowles.

2/26 The minutes of the 17th November 2025 meeting were agreed and signed.

3/26 Interests

No interests were declared.

4/26 Matters Arising

A system for paying the Clerk monthly including Holiday Rollup Pay was briefly discussed and considered workable. Cllrs N Curtis and CS Stacey agreed to be the normal signatories for the online payments.

5/26 Planning Applications

- a) **The Cottage, Plaitford Green** (TVBC ref: 25/02967/FULLS) - Two storey rear extension with balcony on first floor, alterations to west elevation, alterations to front porch and fenestration, repairs to front elevations and increase height of chimney. It was agreed that the response should be “No objection”
- b) **Manor Farm, Church Lane** (TVBC ref: 25/03026/FULLS) - Siting of 2 holiday cabins and associated change of use of land and parking (retrospective). It was agreed that the Parish Council should respond with its concerns.
- c) **Land Adjacent Plaitford Village Hall, Salisbury Road** (TVBC ref: 25/03043/OELS) - Application under section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 to install replacement of single electricity wood pole structure supporting an 11kV overhead line on the New Forest SSSI in Plaitford. It was agreed that the response should be “Support”.

6/26 Clerk's Report

- a) NALC Newsletter 15th January 2026

From April 2026 clerks will no longer be able to claim tax relief for working from home. This is currently worth £62 per year. After a brief discussion Cllr CS Stacey proposed and Cllr K Curtis seconded that for the 2026-27 year the Clerk should be paid £60 for home-working: this was agreed.

- b) Other

The Clerk has so far received one quotation for the repair of the footpath across the verge near the church.

7/26 Members' Reports

Cllr K Curtis reported that some parishioners were experiencing very poor service from Evri delivery drivers: he asked the Clerk to contact the MP to see if she had had any success with her complaint to the firm.

8/26 Finance

- a) The Budget Control Report was received
- b) To note income: no income had been received.
- c) Direct Debits already paid: £2.99 to HugoFox (mailbox paid, 18 Nov); £2.99 to HugoFox (mailbox, paid 18 Dec); £2.99 to HugoFox (mailbox, paid 18 Jan); £4.25 to Lloyds Bank (standing charge, paid 17 Nov); £4.25 to Lloyds Bank (standing charge, paid 17 Dec) were approved.
- d) BACS payments: £355.60 to J Wright (Clerk's salary) was approved.
- e) Cllr N Curtis proposed and Cllr Cross seconded that Plaitford Village Hall should be paid £100 for room hire in 2025: this was agreed.
- f) It was agreed that the suspending of the Financial Regulations for the CIL expenditure should be postponed unless it proved to be necessary.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Date of Next Meeting

16th March 2026 at 7.30 pm in The New Forest Post Production Studio.