Over Wallop Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held at 7.30pm Thursday 5th November 2026, at the Parish Hall, Over Wallop

Present at Meeting: Chairman Cllr Meek, Cllrs Hunt, Cleife and Chamberlin-Crump, County and Borough Cllrs MacDonald and Drew, and Clerk Heidi Easton.

In attendance: 7 members of public.

11/261 - Welcome and Apologies. Chairman Cllr Meek opened the meeting and welcomed those present, including the visiting representatives from Test Valley Borough Council. Apologies were received from Cllr Bunche.

11/262 - Declarations of Interests. No declarations of interest were made.

11/263 - Approval of minutes from previous meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were approved as a true and accurate record.

11/264 - County and Borough Councillors' Reports. The reports had been circulated and were available on the Hub. Cllr MacDonald highlighted changes to planning delegation, limiting the referral of smaller applications to committee while retaining parish councils' opportunity to comment. He reported on local government reorganisation, ongoing planning enforcement matters in the parish and food waste recycling. A collection service for small electrical items and batteries was expected in the new year, with details to follow. Wider changes to plastics and glass recycling were anticipated in 2028.

Cllr Drew reported on financial pressures, statutory adult social care costs and funding consultation; local government reorganisation; and the planned materials recovery facility at Eastleigh. He also highlighted employment support, biodiversity initiatives, community facilities and transport grants. Possible grant support for Community Speedwatch was discussed, including £500 from his county allocation, subject to application. He drew attention to CPR and defibrillator awareness.

11/265 - Guest Speakers: Resilience. Marie Stubbington and Alex Ricketts from Test Valley Borough Council outlined support for community emergency planning. Plans should identify local contacts, skills, resources, buildings and communication arrangements, and address evacuation, sheltering at home and loss of utilities. A completed community emergency plan would enable an application for a resilience grant of up to £1,000. Support was offered with preparing and reviewing the plan and testing it through a tabletop exercise.

Household preparedness, emergency grab bags, weather and flood alerts and the Priority Services Register were discussed. Grant funding could support resilience-related information distribution. The speakers offered information materials and support at community events. The Chairman had drafted a local resilience plan and would circulate it to councillors for comment and share it with the visiting officer. The Council agreed to arrange a separate review session with the officer. A representative from Palestine was sought for the local resilience group.

11/266 - Chairman Cllr Meek's Report. The Council endorsed the Palestine and Grateley Station Character Appraisal and Design Code (Consultation Version) ahead of the planned Parishioner consultation. The Clerk was obtaining two quotations for Starlink installation and connectivity at the pavilion. A business service was required; quotations were awaited. The Chairman anticipated that internet connectivity would help reduce pavilion electricity costs.

The Clerk had been unable to download data from the speed indicator devices, so their effectiveness could not yet be assessed. Manufacturer support would be sought. The Chairman reported that the war memorial had been cleaned in preparation for the Remembrance services, including the primary school service.

11/267 - Finance Report. The Clerk presented the monthly financial report. Balances reported were £4,137.05 in the current account, £1,864.81 in the pavilion account and £50,000 in savings, totalling £56,001.86. Street lighting expenditure for the month was £1,257.50. The internal audit was satisfactory with no advisory points. Members indicated agreement with the financial report and it was presented for signature.

A quotation to replace nine street lights was discussed. As servicing and repairs had recently been undertaken, replacement could be budgeted for next year. The quoted amount and potential running-cost savings require confirmation; no replacement order was authorised.

The Council agreed to the supply and fitting of two cradle swing seats and two other swing seats at Evans Close Play Park for £958.56 including VAT (£798.80 excluding VAT). A supply-only quotation of £555.96 was considered, but professional supply and fitting was preferred. Repairs to timber, tree clearance and other emergency works had been undertaken. Further attention was required to the edging around the rubber surface.

The Council agreed to proceed with scarifying and reseeding the pavilion field, excluding the football area, as soon as practicable. The football area would be treated in spring. Pest control remained ongoing.

11/268 - Planning. The Council considered the following four applications:

26/02243/FULLN — Storage Land at Rosehill Business Units, Zion Road, Palestine. Retrospective change of use to storage (Use Class B8), retention of hardstanding and a welfare building with patio area. The Council noted the retrospective nature of the application and that the applicant was following the planning process. No Comment

26/02263/FULLN — Grove Lodge, Orange Grove, Palestine, Andover. Two-storey and single-storey extension, partial garage demolition, dormers and fenestration alterations.

No Comment.

26/02333/PIPN — Larch Gables, Old Stockbridge Road, Middle Wallop, Stockbridge. Permission in principle for up to three self-build dwellings, demolition of an outbuilding, new access onto the A343 and associated works. The Council agreed to maintain its previous objection, Access onto the A343 was discussed.

Objection

26/02336/OELN — Flat 1 and 1A East Building, Bourne Lodge, Old Stockbridge Road, Over Wallop. Installation of an underground low-voltage cable under section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989. No Objection was raised, subject to satisfactory reinstatement of any affected road surface.

No Objction

11/269 - Councillors' Reports. Cllr Chamberlin-Crump reported progress towards restarting Community Speedwatch. Grateley's equipment was not available to borrow, but existing local equipment had been located and would need assessment. The police had provided a checklist requiring at least six volunteers, applications, online health and safety training and a

briefing on suitable locations. Volunteer recruitment through the Hub and parish magazine was agreed, and grant opportunities would be explored.

Cllr MacDonald reported that Hampshire speed data indicated reductions at three locations, with little change at another. A further speed indicator device was requested for the 30mph stretch towards Danebury, with Salisbury Lane also discussed. Battery-powered and fixed solar options were considered. The Council agreed to obtain a definite quotation before deciding on funding. He also reported positive consultation feedback on outdoor exercise equipment at the Alan Evans area and an indication of potential Test Valley funding. Funding opportunities would be pursued.

11/2610 - Clerk's Report. Pavilion reseeding, swing replacements and street lighting were dealt with under the Finance Report.

A potential volunteer to assist with pavilion oversight was discussed, and the Chairman would follow up. Members reported an improvement in parking following the use of notices, although parking outside the shop remained a concern.

11/2611 - Correspondence. No additional correspondence was reported.

11/2612 - Urgent Matters Requiring Consideration. Representatives of the Palestine and Grateley Station Futures Group thanked the Council for endorsing the plan/design code. A response from Grateley Parish Council was awaited before public consultation, which was expected no earlier than December. Website and Hub publicity would be needed. An estimated printing cost of around £70 was raised for advance consideration, with cost sharing envisaged; no specific printing payment was agreed.

The Council agreed to renew the Parish Online mapping subscription, due on 28 November. The previous annual cost was £156 including VAT; the renewal amount was expected to be similar and requires confirmation. Grateley would be asked to share the cost. Invoices for dog-related signs were presented following the previously agreed £100 budget.

11/2613 - Public Participation and Points from the Floor. No further matters were raised when the Chairman invited points from the floor.

The Chairman Cllr Meek closed the meeting at 8.36pm

Date of next meeting - Thursday 3rd December 2026 at 7.30pm in the Over Wallop Parish Hall. There is no meeting in January 2027

Signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Chairman: ……... Date: ……