



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 04 MARCH 2026, Village Hall, Church Lane

Present: Parish Councillors – Simon Richards (Chairman), Brenda Hunt, Dianne Kirk, Rick Scholes; Clerk Susan Turner; Guests – Village Hall Chairman David Hunt, County Councillor Tim Davies joined the meeting c20 minutes in.

2026.
01

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies: James Ashmore, Ian Bowman; Ward Cllr Anne Crampton.

02

PUBLIC SESSION No members of public present.

03

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING of 10 December agreed and signed.

04

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in items on the Agenda, none.

05

HIGHWAYS AND MAINTENANCE

.1 Footway to New Inn – refurbishment

Parish Lengthsman has in hand with contracted digger driver. Awaiting dates.

AGREED Ideal is for path to be widened to four and a half feet so two can comfortably walk abreast; grips need to stay in place. Budget of £3.5K.

.2 Parish Lengthsman tasks (completed December)

- Footway to New Inn – cleared grips, strimmed, cut back vegetation.
- Church Lane South ditching. Agreed excellent job **APPENDIX I**; noting the Openreach cable goes under the pathway.
- FP4 to B3011 – Vegetation cut back to widen path at approach to main road. Old cast iron gate moved to one side. No apparent action from Coldpiece Farm re the gate.

.3 Trees on School Lane, Hampshire County Council-owned (Update BH)

HCC tree officer has agreed to undertake work to trees on the segment of County-owned land between School Lane and the main road.

Background – Trees have not been maintained for many years, significantly overgrowing and overshadowing properties in School Lane; in recent years HCC have consistently declined to consider undertaking any work.

Following many letters/emails, both the HCC tree officer and SSEN made site visit. SSEN representation important as trees impacting on their local infrastructure particularly a tree forcing one of the poles to lean. Road will need to be closed and likely the electricity wires taken down to enable the work.

Noted that works won't happen this financial year; also nesting time approaching. However confirmed will be scheduled.

Specific request to HCC for the majority of trees be managed and reduced rather than felled. They are valuable for wildlife – woodpecker heard at site visit, also provide for owls and bats. Properly managed are an amenity asset for the village.

.4 Hart verge clearing (litter) Enquiry submitted to Hart / BDBC re winter street cleaning schedule (Contact.Centre@basingstoke.gov.uk). Response, email of 15 Jan:

'In regard to our highway litter picking schedule – A third party contractor will address the B3349 through Mattingley and Heckfield, the Causeway, A33 areas due to the speed limit and nature of the roads themselves. I met with the contractor last Friday, and the works will provisionally take place towards the end of February, early March at the latest. The contractor will begin at the turning to Rotherwick and work their way through to Heckfield roundabout, which essentially will then be a continuation of the Causeway, then turning right at the Wellington monument to the farm shop roundabout on the A33.

'My team will litter pick other bits in between like Heckfield roundabout to the Country Park entrance, plus the A33 heading down to the Basingstoke border. Our teams have already commenced the roads that we can address but are currently the other side of the district working their way through.' Hart DC Streetcare Manager, BDBC.

Noted A33 cleared 24 February of 24 black bags of rubbish. Awaiting re B3349.

For signature (p1 of 4)

06 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

- .1 PCC's Road Safety Summit** re 'Safer Roads' initiative, Tuesday 03 March in Southampton. Attended by SR and IB; also County Cllr Tim Davies. (Report SR)
- i Agenda covered speeding, dangerous driving, antisocial behaviour etc. Well attended, over 100 people. The majority of questions lodged via the online Q&A system were about speed limit reduction, and speed enforcement. Two Highways representatives talked about 'educate, engineer, enforce' but saying it is for Police to enforce.
 - ii Community SpeedWatch (CSW) report indicated 23,000 admonishing letters sent as a result of local actions. CSW is restricted to roads with a speed limit of less than 40mph, so with a 60mph limit in the village centre Heckfield can't participate. Whether sending a letter changes behaviour?
 - iii Operation Chromium (Thames Valley and Hants Police) targets car meets and drifting, road racing and dangerous driving. Now a more proactive methodology of intelligence gathering using social media, and camera footage. Focus is on identifying, tracking, and seizing vehicles and prosecuting drivers.
 - iv Hants Snap (Traffic Offences on Camera) had a stand at the event **APPENDIX II**. This is a Hampshire Police initiative – recently expanded – to tackle speeding, dangerous driving, car meets and ASB – all as above – by inviting the public to submit CCTV, dash cam and other personal video footage – which can be used as evidence in court. (Noting our AutoSpeedWatch unit isn't a calibrated speed camera so can't be so used.)
 - v Results of PPC's 'Safer Roads' grant funding awards announced – 53 grants including £2,270 for Heckfield's CCTV camera(s).

- .2 Alex Brewer MP meeting** in Riseley attended by DK and IB, also Clive England, Head of Dukes Meadow Residents Association and Neighbourhood Watch. *Report (DK)* 'Official' attendees – Alex Brewer, Hart Community Safety Officer Mark Ranola, two from Hart police, no representation from Hampshire County Council. Meeting of c45 minutes.

Alex listened to all said, wanted background; interested, engaged, concerned. She will seek a meeting with HCC; not aware of potential for specific strip resurfacing to prevent skidding; her take, this an ideal solution. Also engaging with Wokingham BC.

Police are very supportive, open to being message as needed; do try to position themselves in the vicinity as much as they can. Message from police is to report every single incident, be it two cars or 30 cars, so they can track behaviour, patterns of behaviour. Also to call 999 – to always go to Hants Police; will let all residents know.

- .3 Update on traffic monitor** (AutoSpeedwatch roadside unit) (IB report)
Camera on B3349. Since last meeting I have raised nine excessive speeding reports including two where the vehicle had another problem (no MOT or insurance).
Question raised at the Road Safety Conference – by Heckfield and two others – as to why Hampshire Police did not accept automatically the output of these cameras despite other forces doing so. Await response.

- .4 Update on security camera** (IB report)
CCTV for roundabout. Mixed performance trialing with the first one but will now install at roundabout and see if effective there. Main problem is lack of reliable 4G signal. If not effective will need to pivot to a camera with WiFi (same price) and seek local permission for connection.

07 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

- Cllr Davies noted that Hants and Thames Valley Police closely co-operate; they are listening but a challenge for them to be at the right location at the right time, perpetrators often gone by the time police arrive. Sainsbury's in Hook and the Hook industrial park near where Virgin Media use to be are also favoured drifting sites.
- Impression from the PCC Safer Roads meeting yesterday very positive.
- Following up with Police at Yateley re apparent demise of PACT meetings.
- Re Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) – no certainty – Government is expected to announce decision on make up of new Unitary Councils this month.

For signature (p2 of 4)

- HCC Responsible Financial Officer (S151 officer) saying that although the HCC part of Council tax will be 4.99% increase for coming year; following year will need to apply for 14.99%. Back to 2010, there were three years of no increase, this funding not recovered from Government and with onward cumulative impact. Balancing budget from reserves is unsustainable and will run out in a couple of years.
- Re Council Tax post LGR; Hart currently has the highest Council tax of BDBC, Hart and Rushmoor, thus unlikely to see any increase. This is presuming LGA will go ahead, and go ahead with a Northern Unitary as the Districts hope.
- *'The next Parish Council meeting – the May AGM – will be after the elections; to wish the best to whoever is attending the meeting if it's not me.'*

TO RECORD the Chairman's thanks to Cllr Davies on behalf of Parish Council for representing us to County for the past five years and constant efforts on our behalf. Thanks in particular for lobbying on Highways issues; lobbying to keep the Hartley Wintney Household Waste Centre open, and for grant funding for the defibrillators and also the new bin by the cemetery layby. Tim confirmed he will stand for the May elections.

08 VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

.1 Village Hall Chairman's report from David Hunt

- i Heckfield Memorial Hall now has six Trustees and five volunteers.
- ii Recent work includes boiler repairs (as funded by Parish Council) plus PAT (Portable Appliance Testing). Also fireproofing improvements, fire risk assessment, alarm testing.
- iii New fencing for Village Hall garden, main road side and short section adjacent to neighbour to the north – essential for safety and security of users. Confirmed agreement to be funded by the Parish Council @ c£4.5K.

Listed building consent application submitted – see 10.1 below. Question raised as to whether this fence (6ft close boarded to replace existing 4ft wire fence topped with barbed wire) needs full planning permission? David noted that the Hart officers during discussions and site visits had not indicated that planning permission is required. The fence is not immediately adjacent to the Highway and is screened by trees.

- iv Cottage 1 – Level 3 survey report received. Confirmed agreement that the survey is Parish Council-funded @ £745.83.

Village Hall Committee has agreed the first priority is rewiring and heating/hot water plus bathroom refurbishment. (Recently reported leak has been fixed by plumber.) Listed building consent application has been submitted for these works as at 10.1 below. Seeking quotes, estimated cost c£10K before any other work can be done.

Discussion re building refurbishment

- To be assessed and tackled in stages
- Need to gather quotes to understand what can be done within existing budgets
- Sourcing grant funding is challenging. Cllr Davies noted the are bodies who provide grants for community housing (ref Crookham Almshouse Charity); he will enquire.
- Potential for loan via PWLB if required (see 12.4 below).

.2 Defibrillator checks – confirmed checked an working.

09 COMMUNITY

- .1 **Newsletter update** (*report BH*) 'Your Village Hall and Parish Council' A5 flyer **APPENDIX III** – produced as an introduction to what is being done, what trying to do, and encouraging people to get involved. Printed and delivered / to be delivered to all homes in the Parish. Requests already received to be added up to the Village Whatsapp group.

- .2 **Community event** To be held in Village Hall garden; kept as simple as possible; ask local band so have live and other music. Suggested pizza delivery, potentially from Leather Bottle or specialist mobile provider. Some activity / entertainment needed for children, pop up football net, face painting... SR and BH happy to help organise provision; for people then to do their own thing, to come together and engage as they wish. Re timing, potentially 4-8pm, likely people will stay on.

For signature (p3 of 4)

AGREED On behalf of Parish Council and Village Hall the aim is to engender community spirit – to provide for /engage as many from the community as possible; thus provision to be free for all. To specifically allocate £1K in budget.

AGREED to schedule for weekend ideally just before Hampshire schools break up for summer. Saturday preferable.

.3 Village Hall noticeboard is also being renovated.

10 PLANNING

.1 Parish Planning and tree applications – Planning update **APPENDIX IV**.

Applications new since last meeting – also see item 8 above, Village Hall update. [26/00331/LBC](#) (Validated 04 March) 22 Church Lane. Update of old electrical system from fuse box to mains circuit breaker. Replace hot water cylinder and immersion heater with an on demand water heater. Remove the existing toilet and sink from existing water closet. Replace the existing bath and airing cupboard with shower, toilet and basin. Convert the existing WC into wardrobe/storage space.

[26/00243/LBC](#) (Validated 17 February) The Memorial Hall. Remove existing wire fence and gate at the rear of the hall and replace with a close board wooden fence.

No other new applications for consideration.

11 PARISH COUNCILLOR RECRUITMENT deferred to next meeting (AGM).

12 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

.1 Accounts to date APPENDIX V Bank reconciliation @ 04 March = £13,644.45

Payments since last meeting (inc VAT where appropriate)

26	ukPremium Intervention – SecurityCam signal booster	£74.79
27	Clerk – Salary Dec 2025	£136.00
28	HMRC – PAYE-Tax-Oct,Nov,Dec	£204.00
29	Richard Knight – Ditching Church Lane S	£612.00
30	Hugo Fox(DD) – Web hosting 2026	£143.86
31	Hugo Fox(DD) – Email hosting	£11.99
32	Meto – Bank fees Jan 2026	£3.00
33	Clerk – Salary - Jan 2026	£340.00
34	Larkstel – Bin Oct25-Mar2026x13	£216.00
35	Maison Surveyors – RICs Level3 Survey	£895.00
36	Geosphere – Parish Online 2025/26	£36.00
37	Hugo Fox(DD) – Email hosting	£11.99
38	Meto Bank – fees Feb 2026	£3.00
39	Clerk – Salary - Feb 2026	£340.00

.2 Budget APPENDIX VI – revised and update as agreed.

.3 Grant funding PCC’s Emerging Needs Fund – Road Safety 2026/27. Awarded £2,270 ‘for the purchase of CCTV cameras’. (Ref 6.1.v above.) Thanks recorded to IB for submitting grant application.

.4 Public Works Loan Board (To note now comes under DMO (Treasury’s Debt Management). In practice seems to continue as it was, loan up to £500K for up to 50 years. A short ‘technical’ application form with supporting evidence documents required. Application has to be initially submitted to HALC for its approval; then HALC forwards with approval letter to MHCLG; MHCLG gives official approval. Then to submit to PWLB (or equivalent) for the funds. Fixed interest rates at present 4.8% for five years; 5.03% for 10 years; 5.3% for 15.

TO NOTE – loans are for capital expenditure. Thus would need to be for significant improvement / upgrade rather than ‘maintenance’.

13 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 12 May AGM (Tuesday immediately following May Local Elections).

Meeting close 9.20pm with thanks to all.

For signature (p4 of 4) Date

APPENDIX I CHURCH LANE SOUTH DITCH (DECEMBER 2025)



APPENDIX II HANTS' 'SNAP' (TRAFFIC OFFENCES ON CAMERA)

Google AI Overview

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary are actively using CCTV, dash cam, and other personal video footage to tackle speeding and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) on the roads, primarily through their

Hants SNAP initiative.

This is an established, ongoing, and recently expanded operation to combat dangerous driving and car meets.

Key Aspects of the Initiative:

- Hants SNAP (Traffic Offences on Camera): The public can submit dash cam, helmet cam, or CCTV footage of driving offenses via a secure online portal.
- Targeting ASB and Speeding: The scheme covers careless driving, dangerous overtaking, using mobile phones, and speed-related ASB.
- Action Taken: Evidence is reviewed by trained officers. If there is sufficient evidence, action is taken, which can result in:
 - A Fixed Penalty Notice (fine and points).
 - Attendance at an educational driving course.
 - Prosecution in court.

Car Meet Enforcement: Police are using footage from various sources (including CCTV and bystander phones) to investigate and prosecute, resulting in car seizures and driving bans, particularly around Hampshire and Southsea.

New "Safer Roads" Initiative (Nov 2025): Funded by Police and Crime Commissioner Donna Jones, two new specialist motorcyclists equipped with speed cameras are now targeting residential and rural roads.

Requirements for Submitting Footage:

To ensure the footage can be used for prosecution, it must meet specific criteria:

- Reported within 7 days of the incident.
- Must not be edited, nor previously shared on social media.
- The footage should ideally show roughly one to two minutes before and after the incident.
- You must be able to identify the registration number of the offending vehicle.

APPENDIX III.I DRAFT NEWSLETTER FIRST ISSUE



Heckfield Memorial Hall

A village hall for all occasions!

Situated in the heart of Heckfield, our lovely Memorial Hall has a charm, beauty



and real sense of times gone by that many village halls have lost. It provides the perfect space for your family get-together or reception, fitness, dance or arts & crafts class as well as many other events.

We have two halls available to hire, perfect for various sized events. If you, or your friends, would like more information on prices, availability and how to hire either, please get in touch via the email address below to arrange a visit or use the QR code to take a look at our website.



(Customer's own furniture and accessories)



With a variety of popular classes running each week, including yoga, sound bath, tone & poise classes and even dog training for your four-legged friends - check out our website for information.

heckfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com



APPENDIX III.II DRAFT NEWSLETTER FIRST ISSUE



www.heckfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Heckfield is a thriving, supportive community with a friendly and helpful neighbourhood. One of the aims of the Parish Council is to ensure that our residents are able to get involved in as much of what is going on as they want.

The volunteer Parish Councillors arrange footpath clearing, litter picks, graveyard tidying and village hall volunteer days. We are always looking for people to help out. If you wish to attend the Parish Council meeting, or raise an item for the agenda, please contact via our website below and you'll be notified of the date of the next meeting.

If you want to know more about the Parish Council take a look at our website, where you can see our minutes of meetings as well as a fascinating collection of photos and documents about the history of our parish.

To contact the Parish Council go to the Contact Us page on our website.



If you haven't already, why don't you join the neighbourhood WhatsApp group to connect with our community?

The group has been created by Heckfield residents and is used to share news and events as well as providing a useful resource for sharing recommendations for local businesses, builders, plumbers, decorators, electricians, etc.

To join the Heckfield WhatsApp group text Brenda Hunt on: 07939 307671

APPENDIX IV HECKFIELD – PLANNING UPDATE 03 MARCH

APPLICATIONS NEW SINCE LAST MEETING OF 10 DECEMBER

26/00331/LBC (Validated 04 March) 22 Church Lane. Update of old electrical system from fuse box to mains circuit breaker. Replace hot water cylinder and immersion heater with an on demand water heater. Remove the existing toilet and sink from existing water closet. Replace the existing bath and airing cupboard with shower, toilet and basin. Convert the existing WC into wardrobe/storage space.

26/00243/LBC (Validated 17 February) The Memorial Hall. Remove existing wire fence and gate at the rear of the hall and replace with a close board wooden fence.

26/00181/PREAPP (Opinion Issued 26 Feb, Validated 03 Feb) Whitewater House Bramshill Road. Erection of first floor extension to an existing bungalow with changes to fenestration

26/00008/CA (Approve 19 Jan, Validated 05) Yammas, Church Lane. T1 - Apple - Reduce in height by 2m and reduce lateral spread by 1.5m to create a uniform shape. T2 - Apple - Reduce in height by 2m and reduce lateral spread by 1.5m to create a uniform shape.

APPLICATIONS PENDING OR RECENTLY DECIDED

25/02290/CA (Approve 11 Dec, Validated 05 Nov) (Street Record) Highfield Park. Row of trees 'Centre Of Pond 183m From Highfield Park, Church Lane 155m from Unnamed Road'. G1 – 14 trees in a group adjacent to Church Lane: Crown reduction of up to 4m pruning back to previous points where appropriate; removal of deadwood throughout canopy. Thin the total mass of mistletoe by 70-80%. Prune basal epicormic growth, remove semi-established suckers.

T1 (one of the group) previously topped tree with significant decayed wood – Fell. Replacement tree(s) to be planted nearby that will add to the historic landscape.

Trees have been picked up on a site survey with complaints raised from a local resident, due to the dieback of the crown and heavily load of mistletoe. Access to trees achieved using a MEWP (mobile elevating work platform). Chip and remove arisings.

25/02228/FUL (Grant 23 Feb, Validated 28 October) School Farm, Laundry Lane. Installation of 39 ground mounted solar panels mounted via a low profile ground mounted racking system. (Following withdrawal of previous application 25/01569/HOU (School Farm, Laundry Lane. Installation of 39 ground mounted solar panels).

25/02028/AMCON (Grant 20 Jan, Validated 28 October) Coldpiece Farm. Application to vary Condition 2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 20/01728/FUL dated 18/09/2020 - Change of use of equestrian land to agricultural and agricultural land to equestrian. Extension to existing manege including surface and fencing and installation of a horse walker.

25/01871/CA (Approve 13 Jan, Validated 26 September) The School House. G1 - Group of Whitebeam - Remove. T1 - Beech tree - Crown reduce by 2m.

LICENSING APPLICATION

25/02267/PREM (Grant 14 November, validated 16 October 2025) Heckfield Park Farm, Bramshill Road. New Premises Licence application (Licensing Act 2003) Proposed licensable activities: Sale of alcohol (for consumption on and off the premises) daily 0900 to 2300h, indoors and outdoors.

Alcohol sales to take place from the three areas: The café kiosk, the produce sale area (both working open areas without entry and exit points); the glass house (a working glass house, where the site will occasionally serve food on a long table, there is no fixed furniture, toilets, kitchen, servery within this fixed glass house structure).