

Minutes

Meeting of Ampfield Parish Council: Monday 12 May 2025

Held at Ampfield Village Hall, 7:00pm to 7:55pm

Present

Members of Ampfield Parish Council:

Chairman Bryan Nanson
Vice Chairman Chris Ling
Cllr Martin Hatley
Cllr Julian Jones
Cllr Graham Roads
Cllr Julie Trotter (also minute taker)

Others

None

Election of Chairman

4728 It was proposed to elect Cllr Bryan Nanson as the Chairman (Proposed by Cllr Graham Roads, seconded by Cllr Martin Hatley). Cllr Nanson completed the declaration process.

RESOLVED

Election of Vice-chairman

4729 It was proposed to elect Cllr Chris Ling as the Chairman (Proposed by Cllr Bryan Nanson, seconded by Cllr Graham Roads).

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Attendance and Apologies for absence

4730 Apologies were received Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC)'s Councillor Sally Yalden. Councillors are requested to respond to future meeting invitations promptly.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

4731 The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 14 April 2025 were agreed and signed.

Matters arising from the Minutes

4732 None.

Declarations of Interest

4733 a. Annual RPI check

All members present at the meeting confirmed that they had reviewed the Register of Pecuniary Interest forms and no amendments were needed.

4734 b. in the business for the Meeting

No Councillor had any interest to declare in any of the business on the agenda for the Meeting.

Test Valley Borough Council – Sally Yalden to report

4735 The report from Borough Councillor Sally Yalden received by email was noted and is attached to these Minutes.

Public Participation – if necessary, the Council will adjourn for a maximum period of 20 minutes

4736 None.

Acceptance of Minutes of Planning Committee

4737 The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 28 April 2025 were noted.

Planning Committee

4738 It was proposed that the Planning Committee would comprise all Members of Ampfield Parish Council.

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Confirmation of the Time and Place of Ordinary Meetings

4739. Ordinary Meetings will take place in Ampfield Village Hall at 7pm on the following dates:

9 June 2025

14 July 2025

8 September 2025

13 October 2025

10 November 2025

12 January 2026

9 February 2026

9 March 2026

13 April 2026

11 May 2026 (Annual)

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Review of Council policies, subscriptions and agreements

4740. The review of Council policies, subscriptions and agreements was deferred until a new Clerk is appointed.

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Appointment of portfolio holders

4741. Councillors and volunteers were appointed to the following roles:

- Chairman Bryan Nanson - Planning, Finance, Woodland, Recreation Ground, Test Valley, Association of Town and Parish Councils
- Vice Chairman Chris Ling – Planning, Transport & Highways, Lengthsman, Resilience, Website
- Cllr Martin Hatley – Planning, Ampfield Countryside Heritage Area;
- Cllr Julian Jones – Planning, Website
- Cllr Graham Roads – Planning, Chapel Wood & Friends of Chapel Wood, Ampfield Countryside Heritage Area
- Cllr Julie Trotter – Planning, Village Hall, Defibrillators
- ARG inspections – Bryan Nanson, Chris Ling, Doreen Matthews

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Financial Matters

4742 **a. Bank reconciliation** – The Council received the bank reconciliation to the end of April 2025.

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The Council received the calculation of working capital to the end of April 2025.

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4743 **b. Accounts for payment** – It was agreed that the following payments should be made:

<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
HALC affiliation / NALC levy	£ 665.00
DEK - printing of newsletter	£ 425.00
Cllr Roads refund - 'Little Tommy'	£ 55.98
VAS Management Feb & Mar 2025	£ 205.32
ALB Electrical - connection of electricity to cricket shed	£ 1,470.00
Paul Freeman trees - clearance of fallen tree at ARG	£ 468.00
Cllr Roads - Chapel Wood signs	£ 22.94
Total (including VAT)	£ 3,312.24

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It was noted that the following payments had been made between Meetings:

<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Staff costs: locum	£ 148.00
ALB Electrical - cricket shed electrical connection	£ 2,130.00
TVBC grounds maintenance	£ 536.63
NALC job advertisement	£ 360.00
Refund - allotment deposits	£ 75.00
Refund - pavilion hire deposit	£ 50.00
E.On	£ 99.84
Website	£ 11.99
Mobile wifi data	£ 8.00
Total (including VAT)	£ 3,419.46
Total payments	£ 6,731.70

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Note: The transfer of window cleaning from Paul (Crystal Clean) to Aron (CNC Window Cleaning) was approved.

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4744 c. Income and anticipated expenditure

It was noted that the Council had received the following income during April 2025:

<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ANBCC rent	£ 550.50
Morleys Green ground rent	£ 3,375.00
Precept (1 st of 2 tranches)	£23,427.67
Interest	£ 95.62
 Total (including VAT)	 £27,448.79
£8,000 transferred from savings to current account	

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The Council received the report of expenditure against budget to the end of April 2025.

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4745 d. To confirm updated asset register

The Council noted the updated asset register dated 23 April 2025.

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4746 e. Confirm Lengthsman scheme participation

It was proposed to continue participation in the HCC Lengthsman scheme. Because of the proposed scheduling for 2025/26, this would be for the standard hours of three visits of 10 hours funded by HCC, rather than the previous schedule of four visits of 12 hours funded at an additional cost to APC of £440. With the proposed scheduling for 2025/26, there would have been a visit on Wednesday 14 May 2025, only three weeks after the previous visit.

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Recruitment of Clerk/RFO

4747 A recruitment campaign is in progress. Advertisements have been placed with a closing date of 18th May 2025.

Pollinator Pledge — update

4748 No update.

Recreation Ground / Pavilion

4749 a. Update

s.106 payment for paths of £962.15 has been paid.

APC has dealt with the fallen oak tree last Friday as agreed with the claimant in preference to going through our insurer – at a cost of £468.00 including VAT to APC.

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4750 b. Wiring contract

Work within the pavilion and the ANBCC shed is completed.

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Chapel Wood

4751 a. Update

Cllr. Graham Roads advised that there had been a working party on Saturday 10th May. Two signs had been rebuilt and reinstated. Rhododendron roots from the bottom of steps to the pond were removed. There is to be an Oak Processionary Moth meeting held by the Forestry Commission on June 10th in the Village Hall. There is to be an AGM organised for the friends of Chapel Wood in the near future.

Burial Ground

4752 a. Update

Cllr. Graham Roads advised that the newly planted cruciform had been watered.

War Memorial

4753 a. Addition of Tommy

This has now been purchased.

Morleys Green – Update

4754 No update.

Allotments - update

4755 There are currently three vacancies. Julian Jones has purchased covers for these. There have been three enquiries about the vacant allotments with one user already having paid.

Telephone Kiosk – Update

4756 Cllr. Julie Trotter said that the door is to be fitted back onto the kiosk soon.

Highways

4757 a. Update

Vice Chairman Chris Ling reported that the roads@hants.gov.uk email account had been closed by Highways with effect from 14th April 2025. They now only support online reporting via the website.

4758 b. Cycle path proposal

No update.

Acquisition of ampfield.gov.uk domain and transition of website to that domain

4759 Vice Chairman Chris Ling advised that on 12th February 2025 we were told that the domain name now chosen was fine. Hugo Fox responded last Monday saying that they expect to receive something from the .gov registrar in a few day's time.

Parish Assembly 19 May

4760 Preparations are in hand.

Reports from Committees and Portfolio Holders

4761 None.

Correspondence and Communications

4762 Two questions have been submitted to the parish council by a parishioner. Responses have been sent.

Next Meeting

4763 The Annual Parish Assembly will be held at Ampfield Village Hall at 7:30pm on 19 May 2025.

The next ordinary Meeting will be held at Ampfield Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 9 June 2025.

Chairman -----

Date -----

April 2025 Report (BPC) from Cllr Sally Yalden Test Valley Borough Councillor

Planning Inspectorate appeal decisions. There were six cases in April – 2 dismissed and 4 allowed.

Land to the west of Nightingale Pharmacy, Great Well Drive, Romsey. The appeal is made by Proxima GR Properties Ltd against an enforcement notice issued by Test Valley Borough Council. **The appeal is dismissed** and the enforcement notice is upheld.

Grass verge west side of Salisbury Road, Andover. The development proposed is the temporary retention of telecoms mast and associated equipment within fenced compound until 31.01.25. **The appeal is dismissed.**

Land East of Halterworth Lane, Romsey. The development proposed is the demolition of existing buildings and the erection of up to 270 dwellings, including affordable housing, with land for the potential future expansion of Halterworth Primary School, public open space, structural planting and landscaping, sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) and vehicular access points. **The appeal is allowed.**

Little Newton, Longparish. The works proposed are described as the construction of a new one & half storey thatched side extension with rear part under a plain tiled roof; and associated internal and external alterations. **The appeal is allowed.**

5 Warwick Close, Chandlers Ford. The development proposed is for the erection of a single storey side garage extension, garage door on the front and a door exiting into the back garden with a lean-to roof. **The appeal is allowed.**

Houghton House, Houghton, Stockbridge. The development proposed is the demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 6 detached dwellings with all matters reserved except layout and access. **The appeal is allowed.**

Councillor community grant

The 2025/26 Councillor Community Grant (CCG) Scheme is officially open for applications! The councillor community grant for this financial year is **£2,164.43**. I've received a recent application which I will be supporting.

Planning update

I was called to a ward session meeting on the 10th of April to discuss potential site options in the revised Local Plan with members from Blackwater ward: Cllr Adams-King and Cllr Bailey. Wellow has a Neighbourhood Development Plan which currently allocates a small amount of housing. The meeting was organised by TVBC's planning policy team with David Bibby and Clare Roberts.

I've been liaising with the Chair of the countryside charity CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) about how they might be able to support parish councillors in providing comments on the revised Local Plan.

Full Council meeting 23/04/25

One of my colleagues successfully passed a motion to establish a cross-party working group with the aim of identifying which (if any) assets and responsibilities should be transferred to town and parish councils in Test Valley. Any transfers would happen before May 2026.

£200,000 has been allocated from the New Homes Bonus Reserve for the creation of a new climate change grant. The grant will be aimed at community groups and organisations, and Parish and Town Councils. It will fund projects that will enable community groups to improve resilience to climate change.

The grant is intended to be for up to £10,000. For applications for £5000 or more, applicants would need to provide 20% match funding for the requested grant above £5000. Any appropriate grant application seeking less than £5000 would not require match funding. A minimum of £250 will be set for grant applications. (Mention Braishfield climate group.)

Parish Pollinator Pledge – Hampshire County Council

HCC is looking for local councils and community groups to pledge to improve their local environment for pollinators. At Hampshire Countryside Service, we've made a Pollinator Pledge to manage our 3,500+ hectares of land for the maximum benefit of pollinators. This is a key part of our [nature recovery](#) plan.

Local Government Reorganisation Hampshire County Council is still awaiting a response from the government about their request to postpone further submission and plan for how the new authority will look. I understand Portsmouth City Council has written to the Minister to say that it is already a sustainable organisation and should not be required to be part of the Government's Local Government Reorganisation programme which is mainly aimed at two-tier council areas or failing authorities.

I attended a webinar run by the Local Government Association on the reflections and insights from councillors who have been through LGR. One of the key takeaways for me was about the importance of involving all councils, officers, staff, town and parish councils, businesses, volunteer sectors throughout the process.