HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL ON 13TH APRIL 2026 AT 6.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors A Redding (Chairman), T Attlee, P Beck, J Lay, D Prosser, N Smith, R Sowden

IN ATTENDANCE: Becky White, Clerk; Sarah Guy, Deputy Clerk (Minute Taker)

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: 9 members of the public & District Cllrs J Hogan & S Schillemore

HPC 268/25/26 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received from Cllrs R Smith and J Tyler. County Cllr M Harvey and District Cllr E Woodard had also sent their apologies.

HPC 269/25/26 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
No declarations of a pecuniary interest were received.

HPC 270/25/26 PRESENTATION FROM CHARLES CHURCH (PERSIMMON HOMES) IN RESPECT OF LAND EAST OF CATHERINGTON LANE
A presentation from Charles Church (Persimmon Homes), in respect of Land East of Catherington Lane, was given, as per the following link on the HPC website: https://horndeanpc-hants.gov.uk/annual-parish-meeting/

It is of note that the presentation is up to date, as of today's date (13 April 2026). Charles Church agreed to give us further updates as the site evolves.

HPC 271/25/25 TO OPEN THE MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
The meeting was duly opened to members of the public.

HPC 272/25/26 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH MARCH 2026
It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 9th March 2026 be signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.

HPC 273/25/26 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR THE VACANCY OF PARISH COUNCILLOR AND TO CO-OPT A NEW MEMBER
Mr A Dodsworth had expressed an interest in taking up one of the vacant Councillor positions and had written to the Chair; this letter had been circulated prior to the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** that Mr A Dodsworth be co-opted to the Council as a member for Kings & Blendworth ward.

Cllr Dodsworth signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was duly witnessed by the Clerk as Proper Officer.

Cllr Dodsworth joined the meeting with members.

HPC 274/25/26 TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN UPDATE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS M HARVEY REGARDING COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS
Cllr M Harvey had sent her apologies and wished her successor well following the May HCC elections.

HPC 275/25/26 TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN UPDATE FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REGARDING DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

A joint report by District Cllr Woodard and District Cllr Hogan were circulated and noted with thanks (attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes).

HPC 276/25/26 TO NOTE THE OFFICER'S REPORT

A verbal report by the Clerk was given, updating members on the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) stating that regular meetings were taking place with the Community Engagement Team at EHDC. She said they would be looking at transfer of assets at the next monthly meeting.

The Clerk said that the strategic CIL pot is not area specific and this will move with the unitary. She asked for support in drawing some down for partnership working.

Further updates were given as follows

Vision – The Clerk informed members that the staff had looked at the vision as a team and put forward various ideas, with the strongest contender being that of Youth Provision.

Insurance Claim (Hedge Trimmer) – The insurance claim monies have been received with a new hedge trimmer having been purchased.

MUGA Update – 95k Strategic CIL funding. The work for the MUGA update is scheduled to start w/c 04 May 2026.

VOIP Update: HPC will need to look at changing the phone systems over the course of the year, changing from standard ISDN lines to VOIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) - a technology that allows you to make voice and video calls using an internet connection, with the final cut-off date being January 2027. The Deputy Clerk has been tasked with looking at the upgrade over the next 6 months.

Annual Parish Meeting – The Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for 27 April 2026, with a presentation to be given by The King's Arms (Youth Provision).

Ford Ranger – The Ford Ranger, used by the Grounds Team is coming to its end of life. There is currently 35k in reserves, for either a replacement vehicle, or for purchasing an ATV, which the Grounds Team have currently been hiring, whilst the Ford Ranger was in for repair.

HPC 277/25/26 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE PARISH COUNCIL WITHIN EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS AND WORKING PARTIES

Havant Thicket Reservoir – Cllr Attlee said that an update/presentation will be given at the Annual Parish Meeting for the HTR.

Horndean Improvement Project – Cllr Attlee updated members, following a recent meeting with MP Damian Hinds, where some of the issues discussed within the HIP were looked at, including flooding at junction of Havant Rd and Rowlands Castle Road. Consideration is being given to setting up a Flood Action Group to address the wider flooding issue arising, which HPC will look to coordinate.

Twinning Association -Cllr Beck provided an update to say he had attended the recent Committee meeting of the Twinning Association, where he was informed that the Quiz night had been very successful. He said that HPC had received an invite from the Mayor of Aubergenville for the trip to France, which would be over the May bank holiday. He said they provide excellent hospitality and asked if anyone would like to attend as he has prior commitments.

Neighbourhood Plan & Parish Design Statement Review – Cllr Lay said HPC would be replacing the Village Design Statement, for which a steering group has been set up, with some spaces still available if anyone wishes to put the word out. A presentation will be given at the upcoming Annual Parish meeting.

Speed Monitoring – Cllr Prosser provided an update, informing members that the SID was currently deployed at Stonechat Road, where it will stay in situ for a further two weeks. Two additional SID's have been ordered (currently awaiting delivery), with HPC having previously been granted permission for deployment at 8x locations. The data from the SID at Stonechat Road, shows that 95% of vehicles are obeying the speed limit, with 2x vehicles recorded travelling between 40 - 45mph and 23x vehicles recorded travelling between 35-40mph. Autospeedwatch have been told that HPC have withdrawn the cameras from use.

Horndean Green Trail and Heritage Network - Cllr Redding confirmed that HPC are still awaiting an update from HCC, before the last gateway marker and AO noticeboard can be sited, as the land falls within their ownership. He said the order for the trail maps has been placed for Blendworth and Catherington, for placement in local businesses. HPC have received a board for Monarch's Way, with options for installation and positioning of the board put forward as Jay Close and Dell Piece West, in an area of maximum footfall.

HPC 278/25/26 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE ORDERS FOR PAYMENT FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST MARCH 2026.

The Orders for Payment as listed had been previously circulated (attached as Appendix 2 to the minutes).

It was **RESOLVED** that the Orders for Payment from 01 January to 31 March 2026 as listed be approved.

HPC 279/25/26 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST DECLARATION FROM BDO (EXTERNAL AUDITORS)

BDO LLP had been appointed as HPC's external auditor for the financial year 2025/26 and required Council to confirmed that there was no conflict of interest between them and HPC. The form had been completed by the Clerk/Interim RFO and circulated prior to the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair sign the BDO conflict of interest declaration as presented to show no conflict existed.

HPC 280/25/26 TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL'S POSITION REGARDING THE FLYING OF FLAGS FROM THE FLAGPOLE AT HORNDEAN VILLAGE CENTRE.

It was **RESOLVED** that

- in order to continue its position of political neutrality, Horndean Parish Council will normally only fly flags that reflect geographical areas, specifically the Union Flag, the flag of St George and the one of Horndean. The Clerk is requested to obtain a cost for the production of a Horndean flag. If the cost is below £200, a flag should be sourced without further reference to Council.
- the Union Flag be flown in the superior position (above) the St George's flag when flown together on designated UK flag flying day.

HPC 281/25/26 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A REQUEST TO HOLD FUNDS FROM THE ORGANISERS OF THE LINCFEST MEMORIAL FESTIVAL AND TO APPOINT TWO MEMBERS TO THE LINCFEST FUNDING PANEL FOR CONSIDERATION OF YOUTH PROJECTS

A short discussion took place and it was **RESOLVED** that HPC

- agree to hold funds from organisers of Lincfest Memorial Festival
- appoint Cllr N Smith and Cllr Dodsworth to the Lincfest funding panel, alongside Lincolns parents, for consideration of Youth Projects.

HPC 282/25/26 TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS, IN THE VIEW THAT PUBLICITY WOULD PREJUDICE THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS OR ARISING OUT OF THE BUSINESS ABOUT TO BE TRANSACTED. (PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public from the meeting. Members of the public left the meeting and a short recess took place.

The public meeting concluded at 8:27 pm.

HPC 283/25/26 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE PROCESS FOR A STATUTORY FLEXIBLE WORKING REQUEST FROM A MEMBER OF STAFF

A flexible working request by the Grounds Manager was circulated and considered by members.

It was **RESOLVED** that Council approve the request, with the Grounds Manager's hours to be worked according to the formal request, reducing his hours from 37-34 per week.

The confidential part of the meeting concluded at 9:01 pm.

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Signed - The Chairman

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Dated