

**MINUTES**  
**25.03.2025**  
**GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.30 pm at Godshill Village Hall.**

Present:

Cllr Fell – Chairman

Cllr Stammers

Cllr Woodward

Mrs Bev Cornish – Clerk

Eight members of the public

**Litter Warden:** Mrs Boyd said that she had nothing to report other than the fact that litter is still be dropped across the village.

**Public Question Time:**

A member of the public raised concerns about the continuing drain and water overflowing issues at the top of Woodgreen Road which were present before the road was resurfaced.

The Clerk advised that when she previously reported the issue to Hampshire Highways, the officer's view was that this was the responsibility of the landowner under riparian ownership. The member of the public said he would raise the matter with the landowners.

Councillor Woodward offered his thanks to Mrs Boyd for relocating the snowdrops along Southampton Road which were looking particularly good this year.

**128.24 Business Raised During Public Question Time**

No actions were required.

**129.24 Apologies**

No apologies were received.

**130.24 Declarations of Interest:**

- a. To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers.**

Councillor Fell declared a personal and pecuniary interest in application No 24/01374FULL Woodpeckers, Woodgreen Road. He said he was happy to answer questions but would not speak or vote on the application.

Councillors Stammers and Woodward both declared a personal and non-pecuniary interest in application No 24/01374FULL Woodpeckers, Woodgreen Road.

- b. To consider any Dispensation Requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered.**

The Clerk confirmed that no dispensation requests had been received.

**131.24 Minutes**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 11<sup>st</sup> February 2025 be approved subject to the following amendments:

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### 132.24 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's Report providing information on recent issues and work completed was noted:

**Southampton Road:** Still awaiting a response from the officer.

**Meeting with Steve Avery:** The Clerk has still not received a response from Mr Avery to her three emails requesting dates for a meeting.

**Broadband:** The Clerk has contacted Edward Heron for the name of an officer to contact in the UKBID broadband department at Hampshire County Council as the only names provided to councils through the Chief Executive of NFDC were the contacts at the companies.

**Sandleheath Traffic Action:** The Clerk had sent a thank you email to Mike Richardson for his presentation and asked if he would be happy to give further advice which he said he would be happy to do.

**Lengthsman:** Marcus Noke had visited the village on 5<sup>th</sup> March and cleared the laybys and muddy areas along the pavements.

### 133.24 Planning and Tree Work Applications

Cllr Fell opened the meeting for members of the public to speak on the planning applications.

The Agent for the application for Folds Farm responded to questions from councillors and a member of the public. She clarified that this is an application for a building in addition to the Coach House which she said was given permission in 2013 and is now also being completed. Councillor Stammers asked why the application for the cow pens was proceeding because it would impact more significantly through noise and other councillors were concerned about additional lighting and disturbance through noise on the adjacent properties.

The Agent said that the application under consideration subsequently would need to be followed up with a full planning application.

Two members of the public expressed support for the Folds Farm application.

#### **Application No 25/00150PAFL**

**Folds Farm, Castle Hill, Godshill Wood - Determination as to whether Prior Approval is required for proposed change of use of agricultural building to flexible use (Class C1 Hotels and guest houses):**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Stammers seconded and it was RESOLVED that Godshill Parish Council should leave the decision to officers but that councillors concerns be noted about the likely increased noise and disturbance the change of use and refurbishment of the cow pens will cause to the nearby neighbours from what is already a noisy site.

Cllr Woodward took the Chair from Cllr Fell whose application was under consideration.

#### **Application No 24/01374FULL**

**Woodpeckers, Woodgreen Road, Godshill - Single agricultural building; demolition of existing:**

Cllr Woodward asked if any members of the public wished to comment on the application. A member of the public said that he had no objection to the application and thought that the proposed building was going to be discreet and of high quality and perfectly acceptable in the landscape.

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Stammers seconded and it was RESOLVED that Godshill Parish Council would not comment on the application because the applicant was the Chair of the Parish Council and the other councillors present wished to avoid the appearance of bias.

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Cllr Woodward passed the Chair back to Cllr Fell.

**Application No 25/00234CONS**

**Jubilee Farm Cottage, Woodgreen Road, Godshill - Prune 1 x Oak, tree (T1), Prune 1 x Ash tree (T2), Prune 1 x Birch tree (T3), Prune 1 x Beech tree (T4):**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the decision on this application be left to the Tree Officer.

Cllr Fell closed the meeting to members of the public.

**134.24 Hampshire Taxi Sharing Scheme**

To consider a proposal from Cllr Stammers to write to Hampshire County Council to raise concerns over the cutting of the county's taxi-sharing scheme:

Following a discussion, Cllr Stammers proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk would write to County Cllr Heron to express the Council's concerns in view of the fact that Godshill is a rural community with an elderly population.

Cllr Fell opened the meeting for members of the public to speak on the following item.  
A resident circulated a briefing on the maintenance of the hedge.

**135.24 Southampton Road Hedge**

To consider a request from a resident to write to Hampshire Highways to ask that they maintain the narrow pavement in the Southampton Road close to the traffic island near the cattle grid:

Following a very lengthy discussion, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that no action be taken by the Parish Council in view of the fact that it was the hedge owner's responsibility to maintain the hedge and the land on which it is situated.

During the discussion it was suggested that the most recently planted laurel and other species of hedge could be removed by the owners to allow the ancient hedge to recover and/or that a new drain be dug to collect the water. Cllr Fell said that he would raise the matter with the General Manager of Sandy Balls to see if he could help with its maintenance as the path is used by his customers.

**136.24 Recording of Council meetings:**

To consider a proposal from Cllr Woodward that the Council considers the necessity to continue to record its meetings:

In consultation with the Clerk, Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Council ceases to record its meetings and that this should take effect from the next meeting.

**137.24 Asset Register**

To approve the following changes to the Council's Asset Register:

- a. The removal of the former noticeboard from the Register at the value of £650;
- b. To add the new noticeboard to the Register at the net purchase value of £765;
- c. To confirm the revised total value of the Council's assets as £13,731:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the changes to the Asset Register be approved and that the total value be confirmed as £13,731.

**138.24 Finance and Policy:**

**a. Payments**

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

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£36.00 - Annual subscription to CPRE

£187.15 Mrs B Cornish - Clerk's annual expenses for home working, travel, phone, internet, stationery and Christmas meeting refreshments costs.

£68.40 - Ionos Cloud Ltd – Webhosting Jan-March 2025

**b. To resolve to approve the sum of £710.95 as the Accounts for payment for March:**

		£
CPRE	Annual subscription	36.00
Ionos Cloud Ltd	Webhosting	68.40
B Cornish	Annual Expenses	187.15
B Cornish	March Salary	419.40

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Accounts for payment for March be approved.

**c. To resolve to approve the Bank balances - Cheque and Reserve Accounts:**

Current Account: £5,776.16      Deposit Account: 10,943.54

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the bank balances be approved.

**d. To resolve to approve the Budget to Actual Report as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025:**

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Stammers seconded and it was RESOLVED that the bank Budget to Actual Report be approved.

**e. To give consideration and resolve to agree on the organisations to which a grant may be awarded:**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Stammers seconded and it was RESOLVED that the following grants be awarded:

SERV Wessex (The Blood Runners) - £150

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance - £150

**f. To resolve to approve the virements up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025:**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the no virements be made due to only one budget line being exceeded by £20.

**g. To resolve to approve Earmarked Reserves up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025:**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the agreed adjustments be made to the Earmarked Reserves and that the final sum of Earmarked Reserves be confirmed as £11,398.

**139.24 Correspondence**

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the following correspondence be noted:

1. Email from BDO LLP advising of the annual external audit paperwork and deadline.
2. March edition of Waymark from the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Footpath Society.
3. Email from NFDC Chief Executive's office enclosing the slides on the Government Reorganisation Report/Devolution.
4. Email from NFALC – The next meeting will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> May at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst at 6pm.
5. Email enclosing the New Forest Association's Newsletter.

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6. Email from Richard Knott, Strategic Director of New Forest District Council and the New Forest Association of Local Councils are hosting an event for Town and Parish Councils about Local Government Reorganisation. The event is open to all 37 Town and Parish Councils in the district and will be held at Lyndhurst Community Centre on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 from 6pm to 8pm.

**140.24 Any Other Business.**

No other business was raised.

**141.24 Next Meeting**

Cllr Fell confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 to be held at Godshill Village Hall at 7.30 pm. This will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting which is being held at 7 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 8.59 pm.

*Members of the Council considered the foregoing in the matters in consideration of their duties: Equal Opportunities, (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability); Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, and Human Rights.*