

MINUTES
24.07.2025
GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 24th July 2025 at 7.30 pm at Godshill Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr Fell – Chairman

Cllr Parker

Cllr Stammers

Cllr Woodward

Mrs Bev Cornish – Clerk

Two members of the public

Public Question Time:

No questions or statements were received.

53.25 Apologies

No apologies were received.

54.25 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:**

No declarations of interest were received.

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

None.

55.25 Minutes

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Friday 27th June 2025.

56.25 Planning and Tree Work Applications

Tree Works Application No. 25/00757CONS

Twin Oaks, Southampton Road, Godshill - Fell 1 x English Oak tree (T1 on plan):

Councillor Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the decision on the application be left to the Tree Officer.

At this point in the meeting Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the meeting be opened for the members of the public present to speak on the following item.

They explained their plans for the gate to provide access for both horses and pedestrians. This would be on an automatic closure to ensure that the forest animals could not gain access. They would be putting signs on the gates regarding the need for access at all times. They would also look at getting a mirror to provide greater visibility of vehicles when coming out onto Woodgreen Road.

Councillors asked and they agreed that they provide a copy of the liability insurance to the Clerk.

Signed by the Chairman

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57.25 Village Hall Car Park

To consider a request from the prospective purchasers of the field adjacent to the Village Hall Car Park to approve a Side Letter to the Council's Lease for the Car Park which their lawyer advises regularises the positions with the horse/pedestrian access gate:

Following a discussion, Cllr Parker proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Side Letter be approved subject to the issues which had been raised during the discussion being reflected in the final version of the letter ahead of signature.

58.25 Wessex Internet

To consider a request from Councillor Parker to agree actions on the timing of the receipt of a response from Wessex Internet regarding their contract compliance and the installation of fibre to the premises in Godshill parish:

1. How long does the Council give them before sending a chasing email;
2. How long does the Council give them post the chasing email to reach out to the local MP and relevant Minister; and
3. Agree the key points to cover in a letter to send on an agreed date.

Councillors noted a response received from Mr Paul Cleary of Wessex Internet ahead of the meeting from which further questions arose.

Cllr Parker agreed to draft a further letter asking questions about the number of 'rescoped' properties and how these differed from the original properties included within the previous scope. He said he would also advise the company that their information would be shared with residents via noticeboards and the Council's distribution list and newsletter, a task he agreed to take on. Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the actions above be approved.

59.25 Speed Indicator Signs

To consider the quotes provided by Councillor Parker for the purchase of solar converters for the Council's speed indicator devices and also a quote received from Elan City, the manufacturer of the Council's existing devices:

Following a discussion, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the quote from Elan City be accepted £877.99 ex-VAT for each device subject to the Clerk establishing whether the company had upgraded the download facility of the equipment to be sued by Apple devices as well as android.

Cllr Fell also asked that the camera signs be chased with the design and printing company and that adhesive camera signs be attached to the 'ice' signs in Woodgreen Road for use across the summer months.

60.25 Consultations

- a. To consider a response to the consultation on the proposed options for the local government reorganisation in Hampshire and New Forest District:
Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that a response be submitted which supported Option 1.

- b. To consider a response to the consultation from New Forest District Council on whether two existing Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) should be extended for a further three years:
Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that a response be submitted in support of an extension for three further years.

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61.25 Finance and Policy

- a. Councillor Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the following payment be approved:
£68.40 - Ionos Cloud Ltd - for website hosting April to June

- b. To resolve to approve the sum of £850.44 as the Accounts for payment for July:

Ionos Cloud Ltd	Webhosting	68.40
B Cornish	July salary	419.40
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE April-July	362.64

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

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

Current Account: £9,391.80 Deposit Account: £11,012.44

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

- d. To resolve to approve the Budget to Actual Report to 31th July 2025:
This item was deferred to the next meeting.

62.25 Outside Bodies and Representation:

North West Quadrant: Councillor Woodward gave a detailed report on a recent meeting at which the following matters were discussed:

- Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Plan
- Forestry England advised that its work is increasing substantially as a result of it being responsibility by DEFRA for more sites.
- Car Park fees and car park management.
- Rhododendron removal plans.
- The revision of the Local Plan is ongoing.
- The National Park Authority will undertake further restructuring of staff in the Autumn as it was looking at a 9 percent reduction in its revenue.

63.25 Correspondence

Councillors noted the following items of correspondence:

1. NFDC – Several emails encouraging a response to the Local Government Reorganisation and the Council's support for Option 1.
2. NFALC – Notice of the next meeting which will be the AGM. This has been changed from Thursday 31st July at 6 pm at Appletree Court to Thursday 7th August at 6 pm.
3. Hampshire Association of Local Councils – Newsletter.

64.25 Any Other Business

Stiles and Footpaths: Cllr Parker raised the issue of unusable footpaths and stiles. He advised that he had reported the ones which he had found difficult to use but no response had been received and no action had so far been taken by the Countryside Access Team.

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Clerk Report:

Southampton Road: Awaiting a response from the officer.

Meeting with David Illsley: David Illsley, Interim Head of Planning and Place, NPA is happy to meet the Chair and Vice-Chair either in Godshill or at Lymington Town Hall sometime during the window of 4-15th August. Cllrs Fell and Woodward agreed to send the Clerk suggested dates when they were available.

Broadband: The detailed response from Wessex Internet was sent to Councillors on the day of the meeting.

External Audit: All papers were sent to BDO LLP on 29th June and acknowledged on 1st July. The AGAR was posted on the website with the notice of the Exercise of Public Rights for Electors to inspect the accounts over a 30 working day period.

Blissford Cross: No further response from the resident re Blissford Cross.

Lengthsman: The lengthsman is in the village on Friday 25th July and he will be installing a kissing gate, which was purchased previously, on a footpath between Arniss Farm and St Giles Farm so that the horses remain in their field.

Defibrillator training dates: A range of dates had been provided by the training provider with Tuesday 14th October being chosen as the best date.

65.25 Next Meeting

Councillor Fell confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 12th August 2025, subject to there being Planning Applications to consider, to be held at Godshill Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 9.40 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.