

MINUTES
09.06.2026
GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th June 2026 at 7.30 pm at Godshill Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr Fell – Chairman
Cllr Morrison
Cllr Parker
Cllr Stammers

Mrs Bev Cornish – Clerk
No members of the public

Public Question Time

No questions or statements were raised.

27.26 Business Raised During Public Question Time

No matters were raised.

28.26 Apologies

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Stammers seconded and it was RESOLVED that the apology received from Cllr Woodward for the reason of a holiday commitment be accepted.

29.26 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:
Cllr Parker declared a personal and pecuniary interest in JournoLink, the agency used by the Council to circulate the press release to the press on the issue of fibre to the premises.
- 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.

30.26 Minutes

To resolve to approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 12th May 2026:
Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Morrison seconded and it was RESOLVED, with an abstention from Cllr Parker, that the Minutes be approved and signed as a true record.

31.26 Planning and Tree Work Applications

Application No. 26/00538CONS

St. Giles Chapel, Southampton Road, Godshill - Fell 1 x Ash tree:

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

32.26 Annual Accounts

Godshill Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the Annual Accounts for 2025-26.

MINUTES

09.06.2026

33.26 Internal Auditor's Report

Godshill Parish Council RESOLVED to note and act on the comments made by the Internal Auditor, Tim Light of Lightatouch, in his letter to the Council. It also noted his Report included in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Part 3 for the year ended 31st March 2026:

- 'We are pleased to report that the various records and procedures in place for the Council provide an adequate standard of control.
- We are pleased to report that Assertion 10 of the Governance Statement 2025-2026 is met as:
 - Staff and Councillors are using the correct email extension of.gov.uk.
 - An IT Policy has been produced and is displayed on the Parish Council website.
 - An accessibility statement is uploaded on the Parish Council and the website requirements to comply with the rules to meet the new WCAG 2.2 AA standard for website accessibility is in place.
 - An ICO Publication Scheme template for Parish Councils has been uploaded to the Parish Council website.
- The Parish Council should note the need for regular staff and Councillor training on Data Protection which should be recorded in the Minutes of the Parish Council.
- A data audit is required during 2026-2027 and it is recommended that this should become a regular routine to ensure that the principles of keeping relevant and up-to-date data is reviewed on a regular basis.

All these requirements are now mandatory from the 01 April 2026'.

34.26 Annual Governance Statement

Godshill Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the Annual Governance Statement contained within the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Part 3 for the year ended 31st March 2026.

35.26 Accounting Statements

Godshill Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the Accounting Statements contained within the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Part 3 for the year ended 31st March 2026 and the Statement of Variances.

36.26 Exercise of Public Rights

Godshill Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the dates from Friday 26th June to Thursday 6th August 2026 as the period for the exercise of public rights for the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Part 3 for the year ended 31st March 2026.

37.26 Conflicts of Interest with BDO LLP

Godshill Parish Council RESOLVED to confirm that no conflicts of interest exist between the Parish Council and BDO LLP and agreed that the form be signed accordingly by the Chairman and Clerk.

38.26 New Forest Together

- a. To consider a request from New Forest Together to support its campaign for a reversal in the decision by HM Government to adopt 'option 1a' for establishment of unitary councils within Hampshire under Local Government Reorganisation; and
- b. To consider a request to all towns and parishes across the New Forest to host a New Forest Together public meeting in Godshill and to help with publicising it locally:

MINUTES

09.06.2026

Following a discussion, Cllr Parker proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should advise the group that the Council fully supports it and also supports it in holding meetings locally. If they wish to hold a meeting at Godshill Village Hall, they should contact the Hall's Bookings Secretary.

39.26 Local Infrastructure Fund

To consider whether to complete an application to the NFDC Local Infrastructure Fund for CIL monies for the 2027/28 financial year by the deadline of 7th August 2026 and to agree on the details of any application to be submitted:

Following a discussion, Cllr Parker proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should seek indicative costs to formulate a 'traffic calming' application with a total cost of c£10k for consideration by the Council at the July meeting. This would include a further Speed Indicator Device and pole for the entrance to the village from Fordingbridge, gateway signage for both entrances as well as other signage which would include the Council's new logo.

40.26 Fibre to the Premises

To receive reports from Councillors Fell and Parker on the press coverage of the withdrawal by Wessex Internet of Godshill parish from its Project Gigabit contract and to agree on any further action:

Following a report from Cllr Parker, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Parker seconded and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Parker should make some calls to TV companies such as South Today and Meridian to see if the local press reports already published would gain any traction with them.

The Clerk was asked to contact the person who had written to the Council providing guidance on the current issues preventing FTTP being installed in Godshill, and offering to draft a letter for the Council to send to Openreach, with the purpose of asking him to draft that letter for consideration at the next meeting.

41.26 Broadband Pilot in Godshill

To consider correspondence received from Orb-Connect offering to set up a fully independent broadband network pilot for the village and to agree on a response:

Following an explanation from Cllr Parker that the pilot would not be feasible in Godshill due to its terrain and forest environment, he proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED not to accept the offer.

42.26 Premises not compliant with the Universal Service Obligation

To consider a proposal from Councillor Woodward that the Council compiles a list through contact with residents of the number of properties with broadband speeds below the minimum Universal Service Obligation (USO):

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Parker seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should send an email to all residents on the broadband circulation list to ask them to advise the Council of their broadband speed. She was asked to provide information on how they could access a speed test once they had disabled any upgrades.

43.26 Parish Council Logo

To consider whether to adopt a logo for the Council and to agree on any ideas for its design:

Following a discussion, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Parker seconded and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Parker should draft some Brand Guidelines for a logo. The discussion considered the use of the design within the existing metal logo installed on the railings of the entrance to the Village Hall but this would be subject to permission being sought from the Village Hall Committee.

MINUTES

09.06.2026

44.26 Asset Register

To approve the amendments to the Council's Asset Register:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Stammers seconded and it was RESOLVED that the amendments to the value of the Council's Speed Indicator Devices be approved.

45.26 Parish Council PO Box Address

To consider a request from the Clerk that the Council changes the formal address of the Council to a PO Box address with Royal Mail at the cost of £499.80 per annum rather than use her personal address for correspondence, online contact information and Council Agendas and documentation:

Following agreement that the cost of a PO Box was prohibitive, Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should seek guidance from colleagues and the Internal Auditor on whether the Village Hall could be used as the Council's postal address. If it was lawful to do so then she was to seek the views and permission from the Village Hall Committee.

46.26 Finance and Policy Payments

a. Payments

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

£375.00 - Lightatouch – Annual Internal Audit

£475.00 - Mrs S Boyd - Litter Warden first payment

£47.00 - Information Commissioner's Office – Annual Data Protection Registration Fee

b. To resolve to approve the sum of £1,329.77 as the Accounts for payment for June:

		£
Lightatouch	Annual Internal Audit	375.00
Mrs S Boyd	Litter Warden 1 st payment	475.00
ICO	Data Protection Fee	47.00
B Cornish	June salary	432.77

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Morrison seconded and it was RESOLVED that the payments for June be approved.

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

Current Account: £8,098.03 Deposit Account: £11,258.84

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Parker seconded and it was RESOLVED that the payments for June be approved.

d. To resolve to approve the budget to actual report to 30th June 2026:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Parker seconded and it was RESOLVED that the budget to actual report be approved.

47.26 Outside Bodies and Representation

No reports were received as Cllr Fell had been on holiday for the last meeting of the New Forest Association of Local Councils. He said he would circulate the Minutes to councillors once he had received them.

MINUTES
09.06.2026

48.26 Any Other Business.

Stiles: Cllr Parker reported that stiles had been repaired across land owned by Godshill Wood Farm.

Clerks Report:

SIDS on Roger Penny Way: Ollie Adderley at Forestry England had still not responded to the Council.

Footpaths: No further response to the Clerk's online messages.

Speed Indicator Devices: The devices have been adjusted so that they only light up between the speeds of 26 mph and 40 mph.

Proposal for Village Hall to take on the lease of the Car Park: A letter confirming the Council has been accepted had been received from Tozers. The existing lease and side letter have been sent to the appointed solicitor.

Fencing around Car Park: The fencing company has advised that they will replace the fencing on 29th and 30th June.

Residential Bin: No update has been received from County Councillor David Millar.

49.26 Correspondence

Councillors noted the following Correspondence received:

1. Email from Leader of NFDC advising on the Cabinet decision not to pursue a judicial review.
2. Email from NFDC advising that the window will be open from 1 June 2026 to 7 August 2026 on the CIL Local Infrastructure Fund. They are looking to arrange some bid writing training to support applicants and will be in touch with more details if this is confirmed.
3. Email from NFDC regarding its regarding a campaign that the Safer New Forest Partnership have commissioned with Crimestoppers regarding 'no age for abuse'. The campaign will run across the New Forest District Council area and the objectives are to:
 - Educate about different forms of domestic abuse
 - Highlight the signs to spot that abuse may be taking place
 - Encourage those worried about a friend, neighbour or family member to report their concerns 100% anonymously
 - Help young people understand what healthy relationships look like.It will take place on social media, Instagram and Facebook (and SnapChat for the phase aimed at young people). The campaign will start on 11th June to coincide with the FIFA World Cup and a resource pack has been sent to the Council.
4. Hampshire Association of Local Councils – June Newsletter
5. TENs licence from Sandy Balls for the sale by retail of alcohol - on and off the premises - The provision of late-night refreshment from 27th June to 28th June 2026 and an Extension of existing licensing hours from 0000 hrs to 0200 hrs for 499 Persons – For England World Cup Game.

50.26 Next Meeting

Councillor Fell confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 14th July 2026 to be held at Godshill Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 8.47 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.