

**MINUTES**  
**14.07.2026**  
**GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 7.30 pm at Godshill Village Hall.**

Present:

Cllr Fell – Chairman

Cllr Parker

Cllr Stammers

Cllr Woodward

Mrs Bev Cornish – Clerk

Four members of the public

**Public Question Time**

A member of the public raised again the issue he had with the two speed indicator signs (SIDs) in the village which did not register the same speed as was on his car speedometer.

Cllr Woodward advised him that the SIDs are regularly checked and have been recently upgraded so their measurement of vehicle speeds would be accurate. However, it may be that the speedometer in his car wasn't accurate.

A member of the public advised that they had removed a branch from the ash tree which was overhanging the western facing speed indicator device.

Cllr Woodward advised that the Council had asked Hampshire Highways about moving the pole about 30 feet westwards to ensure that it was outside the canopy of the ash tree.

**Litter Warden:**

Mrs Boyd said that the bins were getting full quite quickly, particularly the one near Blissford Cross which had been filled with carpet recently. There appeared to be car owners regularly stopping in the layby and emptying their cars of rubbish into the bins but she didn't think any signs asking people not to do this would make any difference.

The General Manager of Sandy Balls Holiday Centre, who was present at the meeting, offered to provide the Council with a box of large, heavy duty bin liners for the bins and waste collection which was gratefully accepted.

**50.26 Business Raised During Public Question Time**

No actions arose from the questions and statements raised at public question time.

**51.26 Apologies**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Parker seconded and it was RESOLVED that the apology received from Cllr Morrison for the reason of a personal commitment be accepted.

**52.26 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:  
None.

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- 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.

#### **53.26 Minutes**

To resolve to approve the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026: Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Parker seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes be approved and signed as a true record.

#### **54.26 Clerk's Report**

Councillors noted the Clerk's Report providing information on recent issues and work completed: **Annual Accounts:** The Annual Governance and Accountability AGAR and documentation were to BDO LLP on 25<sup>th</sup> June. The Notice of Electors Rights to view the Council's accounts was posted on 25<sup>th</sup> June.

**New Forest Together:** An email was sent advising of the Council's support for the group and a new date had been advised for a community meeting to be held at Fordingbridge Town Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> July at 7 pm.

**Hampshire Highways:** An email sent requesting costs for the relocating of 2 speed indicator device poles and the installation of 1 new pole and the timeframe in which these can be done.

**Proposal for Village Hall to take on the lease of the Car Park:** The draft lease had not yet been received from Tozers.

**Fencing around Car Park:** Work to replace the fence was completed on 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**Residential Bin:** No update has been received from Cllr David Millar.

#### **55.26 Planning and Tree Work Applications**

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

#### **Application No. 26/00651PAHR**

**Sandy Balls Holiday Village, Sandy Balls Estate, Godshill** - Application for Approval pursuant to Regulations 75 - 78 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) for proposed temporary campsite for up to 50 pitches between 31 July 2026 - 28 August 2026:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the decision be left to the Planning Officer and that the Clerk should query why other campsites in the parish are not required to provide similar documentation for approval by the New Forest National Park Authority.

#### **Application No. 26/00688SCR**

##### **Millersford Inclosure, Forest Road, Godshill**

Application for screening opinion under Regulation 6 (schedule 2) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 in respect of wetland restoration works

The Clerk provided information on the application following her contact with the Clerk to Hale and Woodgreen Parish Councils and with Suzi Egleston, the HLS Project Manager at Forestry England. Ms Egleston had advised that the Council was not required to comment on the application as it was an application to establish whether planning permission was required for the wetland restoration works and only the NFNPA could provide Forestry England with an answer. The NFNPA had recently indicated that a planning application would be needed and so Forestry England would be holding engagement meetings with all three parishes both ahead of and during the consultation period for that planning application.

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The General Manager for Sandy Balls Holiday Centre responded to questions from councillors and members of the public on the reasons for wanting the variation to the premises licence.

The Clerk advised that a resident had contacted her about being refused a copy of the site's Noise Management Plan following a Freedom of Information request to New Forest District Council. The General Manager said that she was happy to provide the Council with a copy.

#### **56.26 Licensing Act 2003 - Variation Premises Licence (S34)**

**Ref: LICPR/05/00103**

**Premises: Sandy Balls Holiday Centre, Sandy Balls Estate, Godshill**

Variation application to update the plans to:

- Permit a mobile bar in the outdoor swimming pool area for on sales between 10:00hrs to 22:00hrs daily;
- Vary permission for films indoors and outdoors by removing relevant restrictions;
- Increase hours for indoor films to 10:00hrs to 23:00hrs daily and outdoor films up to 4 times per week from 17:00hrs to 23:00hrs.

Following a lengthy discussion and after taking account of the many objections received from residents, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Parker seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should object strongly to the application on the grounds of on the grounds of public nuisance and public safety.

As Sandy Balls Holiday Centre is located within the residential area of Godshill, within a conservation area and within a nationally protected National Park, the change in the licence will adversely affect the lives of residents who live within and close to the site as well as those who live in Godshill Wood.

The application for a mobile bar in the outdoor pool does not make clear whether the pool itself would remain open throughout those hours. However, it is reasonable to predict that some noise and disturbance will be generated from late evening drinking parties or pool parties held in the pool area beyond 6.00 pm, particularly for those residents who live within a short distance of the pool area both outside and inside the site. In the summer months when windows are open and residents are sitting in their gardens, they will be disturbed by unacceptable noise, music and outdoor lighting every night of the week until 10 pm.

The Council also considers the doubling of the number of times it can show outdoors films from two occasions to four occasions per week to be unreasonable especially when considering the disturbance they will cause to residents with a finishing time of 23.00hrs.

Sandy Balls is already permitted to hold 25 outdoor events with amplified music from March to October. If permission is granted for the number of outdoor films to be doubled with a finish time of 23.00 hrs, then if the existing entitlement to amplified outdoor events remains in place, the proposed increase in outdoor-film permissions could result in a substantial cumulative number of over 160 outdoor evening activities over the 8-month period.

The Council asks the licensing authority to consider the cumulative effect and possible overlap of these permissions when many residents have full-time jobs and some who live permanently on site at the holiday centre are as little as 16 metres away from the area where the films are shown.

The doubling of the number of films being shown and the disturbance and light pollution very likely to be caused by them within a rural village located within a tranquil area of the National Park for 8 months of the year will directly affect the lives and wellbeing of the permanent

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residents of Godshill. There is bound to be a detrimental impact on wildlife and the protected environment of the Western Escarpment Conservation Area where the protection of dark night skies and avoidance of unnecessary light pollution are important considerations.

A 23.00 hr finish does not mean that disturbance ceases promptly, as groups of visitors then make their noisy way back to their lodges, and usually continue their holiday activities thereafter, often until well after midnight. Neighbouring residents already have to tolerate partying guests using outdoor hot tubs daily late into the evening because Sandy Balls considers that they too should be able to be used up to 23.00 hrs.

The Council maintains the view that the location of Sandy Balls should afford it some protection from the unsocial, noisy activities normally associated with some types of holiday parks. It recognises that it is not necessary to demonstrate a previous history of identical problems, although the number of emails received from residents demonstrate that there is a persistent issue of noise which extends throughout the village. The site sits on a ridge within Godshill and the established village spans two valleys on either side of this, giving an amphitheatre effect of 360 degrees. In light of this, it asks the licensing authority to assess the likely effects of the proposed variation and whether the applicant's proposed measures and conditions are sufficient to prevent public nuisance and protect public safety.

Cllr Fell closed the meeting to contributions from members of the public.

#### **57.26 Local Infrastructure Fund**

To consider a draft application to the NFDC Local Infrastructure Fund for CIL monies for the 2027/28 financial year to be submitted by 7<sup>th</sup> August 2026:

Councillors considered the first draft of the application with the Clerk advising that quotes were awaited from two contractors who could provide and install the gateways.

Cllr Parker's written comments to the Clerk were noted and a further draft incorporating his comments and suggestions would be circulated for comments and any additions ahead of the submission deadline date of 7<sup>th</sup> August.

#### **58.26 Fibre to the Premises**

To receive reports from Councillor Parker on further press coverage of the withdrawal by Wessex Internet of Godshill parish from its Project Gigabit contract and to agree on any further action: Cllr Parker reported that he had contacted a number of the local TV stations but they had not returned his calls. He thought that the hot weather was the reason for there being no interest in following up. He said he would contact them again in 2 weeks to see if he could generate any interest from them.

Following a discussion, Cllr Parker proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should make contact again with the Rt Hon Sir Desmond Swayne MP and request a meeting.

#### **59.26 Parish Council Logo**

To consider a draft Parish Council logo and to agree on next steps:

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Parker seconded that the logo, designed free of charge by a relative of Cllr Fell, be accepted in principle and that Cllr Parker will produce a set of brand guidelines for how it is to be used in different formats, media and on digital platforms and particularly so that it can be reproduced in a simplified way on signage and gateway signage within the parish.

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#### **60.26 Godshill Village Hall as the official address of Godshill Parish Council**

To consider a response from the Godshill Village Hall Committee regarding the use of the Village Hall as an address for the Parish Council and to agree on next steps:

Following a report from Cllr Stammers that the Village Hall Committee had considered the request from the Council and had expressed concern that the Council's post may be mixed up with Hall user keys being returned into its post box, the Clerk was asked to write a letter to the Committee advising the members on how the Council believes it will operate whilst placing no additional burden on the Committee.

#### **61.26 Finance and Policy Payments**

##### **a. Payments**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the following payments be ratified:

£1,920.000 – RTS Fencing – For new fencing on the boundary of the Car Park.

##### **b. To resolve to approve the sum of £2,732.94 as the Accounts for payment for July:**

|             |                    | £         |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------|
| RTS Fencing | Boundary car park  | 1, 920.00 |
| B Cornish   | July salary        | 432.77    |
| HMRC        | PAYE April to June |           |

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

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

Current Account: £5,365.09      Deposit Account: £11,313.58

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

#### **62.26 Outside Bodies and Representation**

To receive reports from Council representatives.

#### **63.26 Correspondence**

Councillors noted the following Correspondence received:

1. A number of emails from residents raising objection to the licence application for Sandy Balls.
2. Hampshire Association of Local Councils – July Newsletter
3. NPA – Email advising of the proposed next phase for the local plan - 'the Regulation 19 Submission draft New Forest National Park Local Plan' - will be considered by NPA members at a full Authority meeting on 23 July. If approved by members, a public consultation on the revised draft Local Plan will be held from 17 August to 30 September. During this consultation period there will be a series of drop-in sessions, with at least one in each of the four parish 'quadrants' of the National Park, alongside an online event.
4. Resident query regarding gate closing mechanism by the cattle grid. The Clerk has advised her that this will be passed to the Parish Steward for his visit on 27th July.
5. NFDC – Email on matter of Members' Register of Interest Forms - Removal of requirement to publish members' home addresses. From 29 June 2026, local authorities should not publish an elected or co-opted member's home address in local authority registers of interest, unless the Member has requested otherwise. To aid transparency, public registers of interest will still state that a member has an interest the address of which is withheld under section 32A.

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The exact address details should still be declared on interest forms, and be held internally by Town and Parish Councils and the District Council, to continue to help manage conflicts of interest.

6. NFDC – Slides from a clerks meeting with Chief Executive on Local Govt Reorganisation which the Clerk wasn't able to attend.

#### **64.26 Any Other Business**

Matters on which no decisions can be taken.

**Waste Collections:** Cllr Parker reported that Cllr David Millar had followed up with NFDC some concerns raised with him about delays/missed days in the collection of food caddies.

**Overgrown Hedges:** Cllr Stammers expressed concerns about driver visibility when driving towards the Ford in Woodgreen Road from the Fighting Cocks due to the overgrown hedges. Cllr Fell said that the volume and speed of traffic on that road as well as safety had prevented a number of residents from cutting their hedges.

The Clerk was asked to follow up the 30 mph adhesive roundels to be affixed to the winter 'Ice' signs in Woodgreen Road.

#### **65.26 Next Meeting**

To confirm the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2026, subject to there being any urgent matters or planning applications to consider, to be held at Godshill Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 9.15 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.*