

Minutes of the Fyfield Parish Council Meeting held on the 31st of March 2026 in the Fairground Village Hall at 6.30pm.

Present: Cllr P Boyes – Chairman
Cllr M Hinds – Vice Chairman
Cllr F Jefferies
Cllr V Phillips
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
County Councillor Mr C Donnelly
Members of the Public – 6

Apologies: Cllr R Gimlette and Borough Councillor Mr P Lashbrook.

WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The Chairman signed the January 2026 Minutes as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.

VILLAGE GREEN/PLAY AREA – Further Correspondence requesting information under the Freedom of Information regarding the validity of “No Dogs” signage on the Parish -owned land known as The Green, has been received after the reply to the previous letter was sent.

The Chairman reported that the FOI request has been responded to. Full details of when the item was discussed including the meeting where the requester was present and approved the motion.

The Council confirmed its previous decision regarding management of the land and agreed that no further correspondence would be entered into unless new and materially relevant information is provided.

It was noted that support for the Parish Council having responsibility for the “No Dogs” signage has been lodged from TVBC Cllr Mr P Lashbrook.

FLOODING UNDER THE BRIDGES – Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported that he has been in correspondence with Hampshire Highways regarding the flooding under the three bridges giving access and exit to Fyfield. A request was submitted to highways to clean out the sumps under the bridges. This has been completed successfully. It was established that that the problem under the bridge leading to the A342 was due to a broken pipe. Highways now have this on the schedule to repair.

Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported that brick piers should be built at the bridge on the road to the A342 to stop silt coming off the fields and blocking the sump to provide longer term mitigation of sump blockage.

The access issues to the Fyfield when the road under the bridges floods was discussed at length. It is especially difficult for pedestrians to get to the A342 to access public transport e.g. the bus. It was agreed that a permanent solution should be found although funding and timescales are unknown. Cllr Mr C Donnelly will continue to influence Hampshire Highways to find a suitable solution.

'Gov.UK' Email Address - The Clerk reported that he is still seeking quotes to set up a 'Gov.UK' address for the Parish Council.

PLANNING.

26/00121/TREEN - T1 - Beech - Reduce crown by up to 2m, reduce large lower limb overhanging garden by up to 3m - 5 Saddlers Mews Fyfield Andover Hampshire SP11 8FB – NO OBJECTION.

26/00387/FULLN - Demolish shed/accommodation, and erection of 2-storey extension providing extended kitchen, extended bedroom and en-suite - 14 Duncans Close Fyfield Andover Hampshire SP11 8EJ – NO OBJECTION.

26/00389/TREEN - T1 - Ash trees x3 in rear garden - crowns to be reduced by 1.5-2m and ivy to be ringed, T2 - Conifer trees x6 in rear garden - tops to be reduced by 1-1.5m to old cuts, T3 - Holly tree in front garden to be balled up to reduce size - Bell Cottage Fyfield Andover Hampshire SP11 8ES – NO OBJECTION.

26/00444/FULLN - Erection of front facing open porch - 14 Duncans Close Fyfield Andover Hampshire SP11 8EJ – NO OBJECTION.

Note: This is a Retrospective planning, previous application in 2024 as the porch install exceeded 3.0m. Relating to: Ref. No: 26/00387/FULLN | Demolish shed/accommodation, and erection of 2-storey extension providing extended kitchen, extended bedroom and en-suite Wed 25 Feb 2026. Demolish shed/accommodation building approximately 2.9 x 3m and replace with new 2-story extension approximately 2.9 x 6.

THRUXTON PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

The Chairman reported that a meeting has not been held since the January Parish Council Meeting. The circuit owner was petitioning the event organisers regarding discounted ticket for residents who wish to attend the Airshow later in the year but not confirmed. Resident circuit permits are not valid during the event.

RESILIENCE.

Cllr R Gimlette will up-date the Parish Council on progress of the Resilience Plan at the May Meeting. Access to both the Fairground, Weyhill and Thruxton Memorial Hall would be ideal and progress has been made.

A342 WORKING GROUP – Cllr M Hinds.

Cllr Jefferies has handed over to Cllr Hinds and Gimlett to attend and split workload/commitment.

The Chairman briefly explained that the A342 Working Group was formed as a result of the large scale development in the area identified in the Draft Borough Plan. This

will impact on the already busy A342 and potentially cause problems for the villages along its route.

Cllr M Hinds and Cllr R Gimlette attended a recent A342 Working Group meeting. Response to the A342 Survey has been good with 30 coming from Fyfield.

Points of note:

- The Parish Council distributed the survey to all properties in the Parish.
- A temporary post box was erected for replies.
- Survey didn't necessarily capture the routine traffic, pulse of the people.

Traffic Movement data is being recorded by parishes that have the latest flashing speed reminder signs (it was noted that the flashing speed signs that visit Fyfield are the old design and only record how many times they are activated).

The A342 Working Group have requested accident statistics from the Police

FINANCIAL REPORT.

1st of April 2025 – 31st March 2026

INCOME.

Lengthsman Funding £1,000.00

Expenditure	£
Clerk	3,600.00
Village Maintenance	1,053.00
Defibrillator Electric	600.00
Audit Fee	225.00
Storage	60.00
Website Fees	352.40
Road Narrow Signs	56.40
Street Lighting	298.85
3 Village Sports Trust	500.00
Fyfield PCC Grant	500.00
Fencing	407.00
Flashing Speed Sign	307.98
Insurance	684.18
Xmas Tree and Lights	225.00
Bus Shelter Repair	334.00
Administration	212.07
	<u>£9,415.88</u>

Opening Balance 1/4/2025	= £ 6,014.28
Plus Income TVBC ½ Precept	= £11,000.00
Lengthsman	= £ 1,000.00
	= £ 18,014.28
Less Expenditure	= £ 9,415.88
Money in Bank	= <u>£ 8,598.40</u>

VAT Refund submitted for £217.51

EXTENSION OF TVBC PUBLIC PROTECTION ORDER.

TVBC: The Council considers it appropriate to consult and/or notify you of the proposals from Test Valley Borough Council to extend the existing Public Spaces Protection Order in respect of anti-social behaviour, in order that it remains in force beyond 16th June 2026.

In summary, the [Borough] Council proposes to keep in place for a further 3 years an existing Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to cover areas within Test Valley Borough Council's district.

Test Valley Borough Council are extending their Public Protection Order for another three years. The Public Protection Order protects public spaces from Anti-Social Behaviour.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MR C DONNELLY.

Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported:

- Hampshire County Council have a budget of £3.1 Billion and an income of "2.95 billion, this leaves a shortfall of £180 Million. HCC have managed to secure savings of £100 Million on this year's Adult Social Care, this still leaves a shortfall of £80 Million. The shortfall will be met by a proposed sell of £40 Million of land held by the Council and using reserves. A lane charging scheme will be implicated to charge Utility Companies for road closures while work is carried out.
- HCC have secured £15 Million a year to resurface roads in the county. It is planned that this will be rolling programme.
- All of the Traffic and Highways responsibilities will eventually transfer to the New Hampshire Mayor under Devolution.
- Planned drain repairs on the A342 are due to start in April 20206.
- Cllr Mr C Donnelly stated that he was very disappointed in the reply from Hampshire Highways regarding Landowners not clearing their ditches/gullies.
- Harroway School have been successful in securing a £1 Million grant from HCC to build two new classrooms for Children with special needs.
- HCC are holding County Elections in May 2026.

Cllr Mr C Donnelly stated that this may be his last Fyfield Parish Council meeting that he attends as he is standing for election in May 2026. Cllr Mr C Donnelly wished to thank the Parish Council for all the hard work they do for Fyfield and wished them all the best for the future.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Mr C Donnelly for his support over the years and hoped the forthcoming election results would be favourable.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Chairman reported that correspondence has been received on the following issues:

- A resident raising issues with parking problems in Duncans Close relating to a car repair business operating at a private residence. It was noted that The Police, Hampshire County Council, Test Valley Borough Council and our Borough Councillors are aware and working on resolving the issue.
- Freedom of Information regarding the "No Dogs" sign – reported earlier in the meeting.
- Email from Richard Munday, Thruxton Parish Council reference littering. Fed back Fyfield are fortunate that we have local volunteers, its believed they receive significant waste along the A303 originating from McDonalds or countless services. They were soliciting our views.

- A letter had been received from a resident asking for information on the Parish Council's role in the village.
Reply Below:

We hope this letter finds you well. We wanted to take a moment to explain what **Fyfield Parish Council** does, share some of the work we've been doing, and warmly invite you to attend our next meeting — where public participation is always welcome.

The Parish Council is made up of **volunteer councillors** who give their time to represent our community and make a positive difference to life here. Since the most recent council was elected, attendance by members of the public at meetings has been increasing — and we very much appreciate your engagement.

As the first tier of local government, we:

- Act as a **voice for Fyfield**, raising local concerns and views with statutory bodies such as Hampshire County Council and Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC).
- Review **planning applications** and submit Parish responses where appropriate. For example, we debated planning applications and submitted objections on matters such as proposed development access and highway concerns, and kept residents informed of outcomes with hard copy, hand delivered mailshots.

You may recall '24/01897/FULLN - Demolition of three existing agricultural buildings and erection of five dwellings with hard standing, soft landscaping and associated work', as a Parish council we petitioned hard, rallying local support and attending TVBC public meetings where we presented the case on behalf of our residents.

- Discuss and help progress **highway and flood issues** with relevant authorities — including ongoing engagement through the Pillhill Pan Parishes on local flooding sponsoring regular water testing in the provision of test equipment, insurance and people.
- Progress work on **affordable housing surveys** in partnership with Test Valley Borough Council and housing partners to establish local need. This helps with planning applications.
- Maintain and improve **community assets** — for example, pursuing upgrades to play areas, arranging for village benches and picnic tables, and funding village maintenance and the annual Christmas tree displays. We recognise the green space we have is exceptionally precious.
- Engagement with neighbouring Parish Councils to learn from each other and collaborate on community projects such as resilience aspects- as Fyfield don't have a village hall, we will shortly have access to neighbouring facilities should there be an incident in the village.

- Engagement with the owners of Thruxton Race Circuit and aerodrome to ensure parishioners feedback is provided and issues investigated, noise, traffic, events etc.
- Installation and ongoing servicing of two defibrillators in case of a cardiac arrest emergency.
- Provide support for local facilities such as the Three Villages Sports Trust (Kimpton, Thruxton and Fyfield) responsible for the recreation ground along Stanbury Road, to promote community participation in healthy recreation by providing facilities for playing football and other sports.
- Advocate for footpath improvements and rights-of-way maintenance, and work to enhance local signage and road safety measures.
- Support community life through initiatives such as contributing to local celebrations and migration to a modernised parish website to share news and information.

In addition to the formal meetings, council members spend many hours outside of meetings, reading planning documents, responding to resident queries, liaising with County and Borough Councillors, and participating in community projects.

Our parish meetings are usually held every other month on the *last Tuesday* at **6:30 pm** usually in St Nicholas Church during the warmer months or The Fairground Village Hall during the cooler autumn and winter months. If you wish to attend and struggle with transport to The Fairground, we may be able to make introductions to fellow parishioners or arrange a lift.

The next meeting is on: **Tuesday, 24th March 2026.**

Please check the noticeboard in the bush shelter, the noticeboard by the track to the church, or our website (<https://www.fyfieldparishcouncil.org.uk/>) for location confirmation. This is also where the agendas and minutes of previous meetings can also be found.

We encourage residents to come along, ask questions, and contribute ideas — even if just for a short time. Your involvement helps shape decisions that affect our village and ensures your voice is heard especially if you have concerns.

We look forward to continuing to work together to make Fyfield an even better place to live.

With best wishes,

Fyfield Parish Council

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.

CLLR P BOYES - highlighted the new laws that come into force in May 2026 'Renters Rights Act 2025' for private landlords. With private landlords offloading their properties there will be an increase in people looking for somewhere to live. The potential problems for local authorities who do not have the housing stock they once had could be a real problem.

Janet Wright has asked Fyfield Parish Council for content to be included in the Pillhill Brook Posters. The Pillhill Brook Association are looking at planting wildflower areas.

The Chairman has contacted Thruxton Parish Council to inform them that three large holes have appeared on the Three Village Sports Field.

CLLR V PHILLIPS – Reported that a large pothole has appeared on the road outside her property and that she will report this to Highways.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

An issue of concern was raised on how the runoff of surface water from new development will affect the environment and will this increase the already mounting problems we are experiencing with surface water flooding in the area. This issue was raised when the Parish Council responded to the Draft Borough Plan.

The Parish Council was asked if there was any update on the issue raised at the November Meeting about the liability for house holders that put blocks in their driveways to stop parking/turning of vehicles was discussed?

The Chairman stated that he had made Thruxton Parish Council aware of the issue as the problem area is in their parish. Cllr Mr C Donnelly confirmed that the house holder is liable, and it would be a police matter. Hampshire County Council do not condone the placing of obstructions on private driveways.

A change to the conditions for the issuing of free passes to Thruxton Race Circuit was briefly discussed. The conditions for applying for a free pass are on the Thruxton Race Circuit website.

A lengthy discussion on the issue with the flooding under the bridges and the need to make pedestrian access easier by the provision of a raised walkway. A raised walkway has been requested several times and Hampshire Highways have not been keen due to the lack of road width and safety issues. However, this will be raised again with Hampshire Highways. Cllr C Donnelly stated that there is a Community Bus Service that can be requested by residents that will pick up in Fyfield.

CLOSE OF THE MARCH MEETING

The Chairman closed the March Parish Council Meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

26th of May 2026 in the Fyfield Church at 6.30

WEB SITE.

www.fyfieldparishcouncil.org.uk