# HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 13th July 2026 at the Pavilion, Mill Lane, Headley at 7.30pm

**Present:**

Cllr Mark Dickens
Cllr Anthony Williams
Cllr Paul Tansley
Cllr Tony Williamson
Cllr Stephen Thair
Cllr Ann Sherburn-Hall
Cllr Rebecca Hudson (arrived 8.25pm)
Cllr Neville Merritt
Cllr Lesley Coombes
Cllr Sally Laker

**In attendance:** Mrs Rachel Audsley (Clerk & Executive Officer (arrived at 7.40pm), Cllr Debbie Curnow-Ford, two members of the public (MOP)

C034/26 **Apologies for absence**
Ben Daunter of which reasons were accepted.

C035/26 **Public Participation**
An open session for members of the public and Councillors to propose items for discussion on a future Agenda, raise questions* on Parish Council matters and to express their point of view on items for discussion on this Agenda**. Session limited to 15 minutes, 3 minutes per speaker.

Two members of the public from Birch Road attended with regard to an overgrown hedge obstructing sight lines onto Glaysers Hill and the path from Birch Road to the shops. It was advised that this was a Hampshire County Council CC highways matter of which Cllr Curnow-Ford would be dealing with.

C036/26 **Declaration of Interests**
To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.

The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If you become aware, during the course of a meeting, of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item you must immediately disclose it. Whether you can remain in the meeting and the extent to which you can participate depends on the type of interest you have.

Cllr Hudson direct neighbour of Co-option candidate. Cllr Hudson was not present at the time and therefore did not participate in any discussion or vote.

C037/26 **Co-option**



Chairman signature……. Date……

Ms Belotti gave an overview of why they wished to be considered for the Cllr Vacancy. Cllr Belotti was unanimously voted in by all those present.

C038/26 **Council Minutes**
To confirm the minutes of the last meeting of Full Council held on 8th June 2026.
**RESOLVED**: To confirm the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8th June 2026.

C039/26 **Committee Minutes** To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 1st July 2026.

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 1st July 2026 were received.

C040/26 **Chairmans Report**

C041/26 **Hampshire County Council matters**
To receive the County Councillor's Report
County Cllr Debbie Curnow-Ford was at the meeting, and her report is attached to these Minutes.

To note any Highways Orders for information
None.

C042/26 **East Hampshire District Council**
To receive the District Councillor's Report
District Cllr report is attached to these Minutes.

C043/26 **Council Representatives**
To receive any important reports from Council representatives

Headley Village Hall
The trustees are looking at hall improvements including painting, window dressings and child proof lock upgrades. The oil tank is not monitoring correctly and is being addressed. The sky light leak is also being addressed with either a replacement or possible roof replacement without a window. An energy sub-committee are focusing on energy efficiency and exploring insulation, solar panels and eco-friendly heating.

EHAP&TC
The AGM slide deck and minutes were circulated. All are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these. Community Area Partnerships (CAP) were detailed. This includes a three member ward of Headley, Grayshott and Bramshott being proposed. Cllr Thair to wrap all information into a briefing and summary of recommendations for the next meeting.



Chairman signature……. Date……

River Wey Trust

Cllr Merritt advised that a further release of water voles will take place in August.

C044/26 **Financial matters**

a. To receive and sign as approved bank reconciliations for May 2026 and accompanying Trial Balances.
**RESOLVED:** Members received and approved the bank reconciliations and trial balance for May 2026.

b. To receive and approve the list of payments, including credit card payments for June 2026.
**RESOLVED:** Members received and approved the payments (including credit card payments) for June 2026 consisting of 71 transactions totalling £230,538.03

c. To receive and approve the list of receipts for June 2026.
**RESOLVED:** Members received and approved the receipts for June 2026.

d. To receive and approve income and expenditure for June 2026.
**RESOLVED:** To approve the income and expenditure for June 2026.

e. To note any payments made outside of meetings under the Scheme of Delegation.
Fire Alarm Unit £552
Additional Pavilion Keys £546.19

f. To note previously circulated notes from the Finance & Policy Panel meeting of 3rd July.

C045/26 **Internal Matters**

a. To note and approve NALC update on HMRC mile rate increase from 45p to 55p.

It was noted and approved that the new mileage rate of 55p a mile will be adopted with immediate effect.

C046/26 **Open Spaces & Sport**

a. To confirm use of the Village Green for the Sunflower and Scarecrow festival.
It was confirmed that the Village Green will be used for the Sunflower and Scarecrow festival on 31st August.

b. To receive the minutes and recommendations from the Parish Enhancement Group
The minutes and all recommendations contained therein were received and approved.

c. To note Village Green water/electric mole issue and subsequent quotations for works.



Chairman signature……. Date……

Deferred to next meeting.

d. To consider quotation for continuing bamboo and knotweed treatments in Parish Council owned land.

It was agreed to proceed with the ongoing management and treatment of bamboo and any knotweed at a cost of £195.00.

d. Standford Feast – Update from the Clerk

The Clerk gave an update from her attendance at Standford Feast meeting the lovely residents there. She received questions about enhancing the facilities on the green to accommodate the range of ages to bring the community together. She understood the PEG are focusing on each area of HPC land and would therefore recommend that a short survey be carried out with the Standford residents of what they would like to see on the green. Ideas could be presented to a future meeting and if agreed, additional funding sources could be sought to compliment HPC budget.

f. To consider quotation for treatment of rodent infestation at Mill Lane.

The Clerk had received a report of a rodent infestation at Mill Lane. She had instructed Nature In Balance to investigate due to public health concerns

C047/26 **Pavilion**

a. To consider chairlift for accessibility
   It was agreed to in principle subject to monitoring demand. Any applicable grant would be applied for.
b. To consider bin store quotations
   Having reviewed quotations received it was agreed to proceed with W. Grover at £680.00.
c. To consider Legionella Risk Assessment action points and quotations of works.
   It was agreed to forward to Flint Construction to advise what areas are included within the construction phase and revisit the requirements.
d. To consider approving Terms of Reference for the Sports and Social Committee Group.
   It was agreed to incorporate Cllr Merritts feedback and recirculate and adopt.
e. To consider automatic barrier access arrangements.
   The automatic barrier is ordered. It was agreed to determine card access



Chairman signature……. Date……

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT – July 2026

A slightly shorter report this month as we were visiting our family in Portugal.

My first District Council engagement was attending a Teams briefing on homelessness. Thankfully the number of homeless people in the district remains low. I attended a site visit at Fairview Terrace on Arford Common concerning the eroded track past the Terrace which was too dangerous for refuse freighters to traverse. At the meeting it was agreed that the wheelie bins should be collected from either the top or bottom of this track, which seem to be working well.

I attended a briefing at Monterey House given by Chief Inspector Matt Ross. His wide-ranging address covered shoplifting, speeding, anti-social behaviour at the Forest Shopping Centre, the illegal use of electric scooters and bikes and the traffic impact of the forthcoming Jalsa Salana. Our local PC is Ben Godwin.

The Planning Meeting on 25th June for a single application in East Worldham to replace two houses with three dwellings, was preceded by the Chairman's briefing. These are a number of major (i.e. larger) applications awaiting decisions, of which some are held off awaiting the determination of the availability of a sufficient water supply. The period finished with a Teams meeting of the Consultation Liaison Panel, which meets when updates are required to the Districts Constitution often due to new legislation.

Among EHDC press releases which I forward to the Parish Councillors, are the Government's proposals to reduce the number of Planning Applications decided by District or Borough Councillors and Richard Millard's request to Central Government to clarify how the preparation of Local Plans can proceed under the uncertainty arising from Local Government Reorganisation.

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Anthony Williams

# Update from your Hampshire County Councillor – July 2026

Greetings to the Officers, Staff and Members of Bramshott and Liphook, Headley, and Grayshott Parish Councils. I hope you're managing to keep cool during this 2nd heatwave and keeping your plants alive given requests from SE Water to conserve water, and a hosepipe ban from Southern Water! At least England's continued success (as at this time of writing!) at the World Cup is a pleasant distraction, as has been Wimbledon! However, that assumes you can find a route home before kick-off, given all the roadworks and diversions across the Division and there's more to come. See below……..sorry!

## Bramshott and Liphook

As part of HCC's annual Planned Maintenance **programme, drainage cleansing and investigation works in Tunbridge Crescent & Weyland Close,** are programmed to start on Monday 20th July 2026 and are expected to last for up to 5 days, with the following traffic management and working hours:

Tunbridge Crescent - Multiway Traffic Signal between 07:30 to 16:00.
Weyland Close – will be closed to vehicular traffic between 07:30 to 16:00.

Local access will be maintained for residents where possible and the road will remain open outside of these hours. For more information regarding these works, please go to one.network
Tunbridge Crescent - https://one.network/?GB150913177
Weyland Close - https://one.network/?GB151160713

Following, what feels like years of lobbying, work will start on 23rd July to install **traffic calming measures on Headley Road**. These measures follow accidents on the zebra crossing and reports of excess speeding. M Group will carry out the work which has been scheduled to coincide with the school holidays to minimise disruption.

Headley Road – Phase 1: works are scheduled to commence on Wednesday 23 July and will last for approximately four weeks, with permitted working hours between 7:30am and 6pm.

For the safety of the public and the work force, the works are being carried out under a 24/7 closure of Headley Road between its junctions with The Avenue and Tower Road.

Headley Road – Phase 2: works are scheduled to commence on Wednesday 19 August for approximately two weeks with permitted working hours between 7:30am and 6pm.

For the safety of the public and the work force, the works are being carried out under a 24/7 closure of Headley Road between its junctions with The Avenue and Tunbridge Crescent.

Again, please visit one.network to view the diversion route and exact location of the works.

The construction works will include the following:

- installation of new drainage gullies
- construction of a ramped zebra crossing point and installation and electrical connections for the belisha beacons
- installation of tactile (bumpy) paving
- construction of ramped road table features and bollards
- A tree canopy near to the crossing point will be trimmed back where it overhangs the road.

# Update from your Hampshire County Councillor – July 2026

Advance warning signs will be put in place before the works begin. Emergency vehicles will have access at all times, and access to properties will be maintained throughout. Pedestrian access will be available on the west side of Headley Road for the duration of the works.

The nature of the work may bring some disruption or inconvenience however every effort will be made to keep this to a minimum. Please note that the works are weather dependent and may need to be re-arranged at short notice in the event of adverse weather.

Potholes on **Conford Road** were finally repaired earlier this month. Many thanks to Conford residents for monitoring the situation.

I will be writing to Patrick Blogg, Director of HCC Universal Services (includes Highways) following my meeting with a concerned (and well informed) Liphook resident and our Parish Clerk, Jane Sawyer regarding traffic flows through **The Square,** proposed in a recent Planning Application.

## Headley

In response to Cllr Ann Sherburn-Hall highlighting fly tipping on MOD land at **Broxhead Common**, Greg Stafford, MP received this response.:

*Thank you for bringing this to our attention. I can confirm that the area in question forms part of the MOD training estate. Following your enquiry, the issue has now been reported to our facilities management and support services contractor, Landmarc, who will arrange for the rubbish to be collected and disposed of appropriately.*

*If Cllr Curnow-Ford or Cllr Sherburn-Hall notices any further incidents of fly-tipping at this location, they may contact the Landmarc Helpdesk directly on 0800 022 3334 or via their website: www.landmarcsolutions.com/training-estate-support-contract/national-service-centre*

*They will ensure that the necessary arrangements are made promptly.*

*I hope this is helpful.*

***LUKE POLLARD MP** Minister for Defence Readiness and Industry*

Following concerns raised by HPC and residents regarding the Mill Lane closure on 13 – 15 July to enable BT Open Reach (OR) to replace a cover (sorry, they're not laying FTTP), HCC Streetworks have asked BT OR to restrict the closure times to "Off-peak working 09:30-14:30 only due to traffic sensitivity. All other times highway to be clear".

I was delighted to meet with Cllrs Tony Williamson and Ben Daunter in **Arford** to discuss **possible traffic calming measures** to enforce the 20mph speed limit through this quaint, leafy hamlet (blame AI!). This follows a request from an Arford resident for road safety improvements. I support this initiative from HPC and will support any/all requests to Highways and Hants Police. I hope we can also progress other traffic calming and road safety measures identified in my last term.

## Grayshott

Unfortunately, my request to Highways re: a safe crossing points and completion of the **Headley Road traffic calming scheme** did not receive the response I was hoping for. I am very pleased to be invited to again attend the GPC Roads & Traffic working group meeting, where we agreed actions to pursue this and other Highways issues in Grayshott.

# Update from your Hampshire County Councillor – July 2026

I have asked that the Arbs team, who authorised the removal of the **Birnam Oak** due to honey fungus thus posing a risk to the highway, if they a) will authorise the removal of the stump and root and b) replant with a tree resilient to honey fungus.

I've written to the Head of Planned Maintenance to ask when the hatching on Waggoners Wells bend, the bus stop markers and cats eyes/studs will be completed following the **Headley Road resurfacing** work.

HCC proposes to make TRAFFIC ORDER PROPOSALS – PROHIBITION OF WAITING AND DISABLED PARKING SPACE ON SCHOOL ROAD, GRAYSHOTT. A copy of this notice, the proposed order, a map showing the location and effect of the proposal, a statement of reasons and the orders to be revoked may be viewed at https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/publicnotices

As **County Councillor representative** I attended

The Canada Day memorial service and celebration held at Liphook Junior School on Weds 24th June. The flag raising at the memorial on London Road and usual service at St Mary's in Bramshott were cancelled due to the heat. Rev Val Inglis-Jones led the service at the school, which was followed by a buffet lunch and a very moving performance by the pupils presenting the story of a band of Canadian brothers who were trained at the camp on Bramshott Common before being sent to Europe to fight with the allies in WW1.

## Councillor Grant Scheme 26/27

The Scheme reopened on 1 July 2026. I, and many other Cllrs, received a request for £1,000 from a food bank in Southampton. I declined this request, preferring to support local causes. I have offered £1,000 to Grayshott Community Orchard to help fund their new steel shed. So, I still have £4,000, to allocate to local projects, initiatives or organisations in my Division. The minimum grant payable is £100, and the maximum amount is £1,000. Please let me know if you, or a local community group or organisation would benefit. Please go to https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/county-councillor for (new) criteria and application form.

## News from Hampshire County Council (HCC)

## Appointments to committees

Whilst we are still making appointments to committees, I am pleased to advise that I've been elected by fellow committee members to be vice-chairman of the Corporate Services and Resources Committee. I am also a member of, or deputy to, Universal Services, Health and Adult Social Care, Children and Young People Scrutiny Committees, the Audit committee and Hampshire Pension Board and Panel. Services. So, apologies if I'm slow to respond!

I'm also delighted to be re-appointed as the HCC representative to local outside bodies including The River Wey Trust, The Deadwater Valley Trust and The Bramshott Educational Trust.

## Local Government Reorganisation - Update

As many of you know, I do not support the Government's decision for Unitary Authorities in Hampshire and the Solent which would see this Division being in a Mid Hants Authority which will stretch across Hampshire from SDNPA in the east to NFNPA in the west and include Winchester City Council, Test Valley and parishes from the New Forest.

These are some of the reasons why the Mid Hants UA won't work for our residents

# Update from your Hampshire County Councillor – July 2026

- Higher costs of maintaining miles of rural roads
- Higher costs of maintaining rural schools
- Rural public transport
- Cost of transporting children from rural areas to school
- Cost of supporting a disproportionate aging population
- Loss of business rates
- Loss of housing opportunities
- Loss of local identity
- Higher council tax
- Weaker representation for rural and semi rural communities
- A rushed process driven by administrative convenience, not community need

## Local Government Reorganisation: Hampshire begins Judicial Review

On 9 June, Hampshire County Council's Cabinet agreed that the Council should pursue a Judicial Review of the Government's decision on Local Government Reorganisation. Formal proceedings were commenced later in the month.

This is not an attempt to preserve the existing system. Hampshire County Council and the district and borough councils are due to be abolished under reorganisation. The issue is whether the replacement structure has been chosen lawfully, transparently and with proper regard to long-term financial sustainability.

The Government selected a five-unitary model which would divide communities across the Hampshire and Solent area and transfer valuable development opportunities and business-rate income into new authorities centred on Southampton and Portsmouth. Hampshire's concern is that the decision was taken without the underlying financial evidence and modelling being made available, despite repeated requests.

The structures being created will serve more than two million residents and could last for decades. If they are financially unsustainable, the consequences would be measured not simply in boundary lines but in poorer services, higher costs and potentially tens, if not hundreds, of millions of pounds over the next decade. Judicial Review is the only mechanism available to obtain answers and test whether the decision-making process was lawful.

Read the County Council's update: County Council begins legal challenge over Government's LGR decision

This doesn't mean we can stop planning for LGR and elections to the shadow Unitary Authorities which are scheduled for May 2027 with the UA's replacing HCC and the District and Borough Councils on 1st April (yes, really!) 2028. The election of the 1st Hampshire and Solent Mayor is now May 2028.

## The housebuilding consequences for rural Hampshire

# Update from your Hampshire County Councillor – July 2026

One particularly important aspect of the proposed boundaries is their effect on future housing development. Significant housing sites would be removed from New Forest, Test Valley and East Hampshire and transferred into the new authorities centred on Southampton and Portsmouth.

Those homes would then help the cities address their housing shortfalls, while no longer counting towards the housing requirements of the rural areas from which the land has been taken. New Forest, Test Valley and East Hampshire would still be expected to meet substantially increased Government targets, but with fewer planned development sites available to them.

The likely consequence is still greater pressure to identify greenfield land around villages and in the countryside. This is why the financial, planning and service-delivery effects of the chosen boundaries must be properly examined rather than dismissed as a technical argument about council maps.

The BBC report considering this issue is here: Local government reorganisation and rural housebuilding

**Young people with SEND recognised at Supported Internship Awards**

Young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) have been recognised at this year's Supported Internship Awards, https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20260710sipawards

**Hampshire campaign urges residents to reflect on alcohol's role in relationships as domestic abuse awareness campaign continues**

To mark Alcohol Awareness Week, residents are being encouraged to consider the impact alcohol can have on their lives and relationships, while a county-wide domestic abuse awareness campaign continues during the World Cup https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20260707AlcoholAwarenessWeek

**Cabinet to consider recommending Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan for adoption**

Hampshire County Council's Cabinet will be asked to recommend that Full Council adopt the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan, after the council invited people to have their say on proposed modifications https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20260706HMWPModifications

**Hampshire foster carers play key role in children's safe return home**

Foster carers across Hampshire are playing a vital role in helping children return home safely to their families when that is the right and best outcome for the child, as shown in a new video released by Hampshire County Council https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20260701fosteringsummer

**Children invited to join Hampshire Libraries' Summer Reading Challenge 2026**

Children across Hampshire are being invited to sign up for this year's Summer Reading Challenge as it returns to Hampshire Libraries from Saturday 11 July. The 2026 challenge is called Read to the Beat

## News from Hampshire Highways

**Hampshire County Council gives green light to safety improvement scheme at Pulens Lane and Durford Lane**

Residents and road users in Petersfield are set to benefit from a safety improvement scheme at the Pulens Lane and Durford Lane junction, which has been given the green light by Hampshire County Council. https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/260630PulensLane

# Update from your Hampshire County Councillor – July 2026

## New HCC Executive Member for Highways (and Passenger Transport)

I've invited Cllr Steve Forster to visit us so that we can show him our highways "hot spots" requiring traffic flow re-engineering; calming measures and enforcement. I hope to welcome Steve to LHG within the next few weeks. I'll let you know so hopefully you'll be able to meet him.

## Reporting Highway Problems

**Links to report road issues are here:**

**Potholes: https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes**

**Tree/hedges: https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/treehedge**

**Flooding/drainage: https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding**

**Pavement problems: https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving**

**Rights of Way:**
**https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem**

You'll be sent an email confirming a reference (Enquiry) number for the report. If you would like me to follow up please forward that message to me.

**Check for planned and emergency road closures and diversions at Causeway one.network https://one.network/** or National Highways at https://m.highwaysengland.co.uk/

## Keep upto Date with HCC News

Keep updated at @hantsconnect

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Please email me with any HCC problems or issues, feedback, suggestions, and questions. I look forward to attending your parish council meetings and events during the next 2 years!

Kind regards– Debbie

Cllr. Debbie Curnow-Ford - Hampshire County Councillor for Liphook, Headley, and Grayshott Division
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12th July 2026