

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7PM IN THE OLD SCHOOL, NEW ROAD, WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present Councillor Linda Pitcher– Chair
 Councillor Sarah Redrup – Vice Chair
 Councillors Ian Yeo, Lee Lemon, John Roberts, Jon Smith, Kim Massey, Sophus Magill, Donald Willsmer and Jane Allen

Also present 4 Members of the Public
 1 Member of the press
 Liz Kingston – Parish Clerk
 Lorna Morey – Assistant Parish Clerk

Items raised in the Open Forum: Concerns were raised regarding the closure of Firestone Road. The clerk explained we had suggested it was made one-way back in October 2025, but the response was that drivers would ignore the signs/drivers would speed and it would result in collisions.

1. ABSENCE

26/017 None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

26/018. Councillor Massey declared an interest in the Grass Cutting Contract as she knows Company B

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 January 2026

26/019. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2026 WERE APPROVED AND DULY SIGNED.

4. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERKS REPORT AND TO AGREE ANY ACTION TO BE TAKEN.

26/020. To discuss and decide on the Grass Cutting Contract 2026-2029

A report was sent out by email to the Councillors, see appendix A

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD ACCEPT THE QUOTE FROM COMPANY A AND GIVE THEM THE 3 YEAR CONTRACT SUBJECT TO A SATISFACTORY PROBATION PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS.

26/021. To discuss and decide on a new tree warden

RESOLVED – COUNCILLOR SMITH'S WIFE, MELANIE SMITH, WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO BE THE NEW TREE WARDEN THIS WAS AGREED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

26/022. To discuss and decide on continuing funding the Post Office service in Brannon Way

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE FUNDING THE POST OFFICE SERVICE IN BRANNON WAY FOR THE FORSEABLE FUTURE. THE CLERK WILL ASK IF THEY WOULD CONSIDER EXTRA HOURS OR AN ADDITIONAL DAY.

26/023. To discuss and decide on Play Park Working Group

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLORS REDRUP, ALLEN, SMITH AND MCGILL WILL BECOME THE PLAY PARK WORKING GROUP.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

26/024. To comment on the following applications: NONE

26/025. Decisions made by the Isle of Wight Council

25/01653/FUL – granted – Park Meadows, Off Park Road, Wootton Bridge

26/026. Tree Preservation Orders

25/01745/TW – granted – 75 Station Road, Wootton Bridge PO33 4RE

26/00064/TW – granted – Blackthorn Hollow, Lower Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge, PO33 4JT

26/027. Appeal

26/00002/REF – Applewood Barn, Fernhill, High Street, Wootton Bridge

6. ACCOUNTS.

26/028. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the Accounts for payment for February

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT FOR FEBRUARY TOTALLING £14,627.431 A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX B OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

7. MONTHLY REPORT OF ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ISSUES AFFECTING THE VILLAGE

26/029. Report from the Isle of Wight Council Local member.

Councillor Redrup provided a written report, (see Appendix C). Topics raised included the following:

- Isle of Wight Council Budget – budget gap which needs to be addressed.
- Green Link Funding – improving surface and drainage of former railway line between Wootton Station and Binfield.

8. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

26/030. Councillor Yeo asked if any updates on the Community Centre. The clerk explained there haven't been but she will chase both the Isle of Wight Council and the Charity Commission.

Councillor Smith stated the play park is looking good. Could Speed watch do Brannon Way. Councillor Redrup said unfortunately the road is not suitable, but they do cover the High Street.

Councillor Massey was concerned about businesses being affected by the Elenors Grove closer. Councillor Redrup had brought this up with Island Roads and Southern Water. Councillor Massey confirmed she had not received a letter from them.

Councillor Magill said the noticeboard at the Rec had posters lifting at the edges. The clerk has ordered more magnets. She also asked about wild flower areas and could the Councillors have a WhatsApp group – it was agreed that the Play Park Working group would set one up a Whatsapp group for themselves and would look at the wild flower areas.

Councillor Redrup asked about the D-Day bench. The clerk explained as this was resolved previously it needs a motion for it to be discussed again and potentially altered.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 7.53p.m.

Signed

Date