



PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of The Parish Council Meeting held Monday 13th April 2026 at 7.00pm at Bailey Lane End Chapel

Present: Councillor Lori Weber (Chairman), Councillor Tim Hardie, Councillor Janet Wall, Councillor Sheila Heath, Kate Howle (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Councillor Ellen West; Councillor Geoff Phelps

In Attendance: There were 2 members of the public in attendance.

1. Welcome and Attendance

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendance is recorded above.

2. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor West and Councillor Phelps.

3. To receive declarations of interest and written requests for dispensations.

Completed Declaration of Interest received from Councillor Geoff Phelps.

4. Open forum to receive the views of local residents on Parish matters.

4.1 A resident expressed his continuing concern regarding the planning policy and gave some history behind this concern to the Council. Following discussion it was agreed to re-look at the wording to address these further concerns with particular regard to the council being as proactive as possible to aid parishioners to express their views on any significant planning applications. It was agreed that minor applications did not need any change of policy. The policy would be reviewed by councillors via email and adopted at the next meeting.

4.2 A second resident was in attendance to view the workings of the council with a view to being co-opted as a parish councillor to fill the current vacancy.

5. To agree and sign the minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 23rd February 2026 were agreed and signed.

6. Matters Arising.

The Action Log was noted and completed actions were removed.

Grants – Deadline for applications has been moved forward to 17th May for drainage and 15th May for Lengthsman. TH tabled the quote for clearing the culvert outside Sutton Barn - £520. It was agreed to proceed with this and apply for the grant. TH also tabled the quote to repair the road up to Drybrook in Hope Mansell where it has been washed away - £1515. As this would only be a temporary fix following discussion it was agreed that an email should be drafted to Harry Bramer expressing the Council's deep concern over the state of the road and to ask if it has been prioritised. It was also agreed to invite Harry Bramer to a scheduled site visit and possibly a meeting. It was agreed that if the repair of the road was not prioritised then the Council would apply for the grant in order to make a temporary fix.

Planning policy – ongoing see Item 4.1 above

Risk Register – LW & JW to check scoring

Councillor vacancy advertising – complete

Pothole reporting in WN – complete

Cannisters Bailey Lane End reported – complete

SH confirmed that she had spoken to PC Claire Denton regarding the speeding problem at Bailey Lane End.

Viewpoint – It was confirmed that the trees had been cut back to the agreed height to enable the view to be visible from the seat. Thanks to the property owners, Mr & Mrs Redfern for carrying this out.

7. Standing Items.

7.1 Correspondence

7.1.1 Email from Rachel Margett regarding the potholes on the road by Hopes Ash Farm, Hope Mansell. It was discussed that the council are fully aware of the issues and the Chair is regularly in touch with Balfour Beatty. It was confirmed that 20 potholes were recently filled. All agreed that it was a waste of money filling in potholes by piecemeal and HCC would get a better return to invest in resurfacing the whole road. LW to draft a response to Rachel.

7.1.2 Approach from Amber Magrett - See 4.2 above

7.2 Finance

The bank balance as at 31st March 2026 of £1,934.84 with no invoices to pay.

7.2.1 Chair confirmed that the precept had been agreed.

7.3 Roads, Footpaths and Rights of Way

See Item 6 above under Grants.

The Chair reported that Brian Lewis has finished the style at the bottom of Silence Hill and it is looking really good. Thanks to Mr Lewis.

7.3.1 The Chair confirmed the change of contractor takes effect at the end of May and that she will endeavour to make contact to ensure our requests are heard.

7.3.2 TH reported that there is no news on the consultation for HM14. It was agreed that TH would email Dan Hurcomb for an update.

7.4 Local Amenities

7.4.1 Verge cutting season. Email received advising that the first Verge Cut by Balfour Beatty has been brought forward to early April with the second cut under the new contractor. It was agreed not to have the first cut in order to encourage wild flowers and biodiversity. It was also agreed to contact BB to enquire which verges in our Parish this applied to. Clerk to action.

7.5 Planning

7.5.1 Application 260572 – Relocation of stables Deepdean. Chair to look into.

7.5.2 Application 260641 Change of use of residential annex to holiday let. No objections.

7.6 Policing

7.6.1 Priorities. Following input from the Council the Clerk reported that the Priorities for the quarter 1st April to 30th June had been reported to PC Claire Denton as follows:

- Drug use and irresponsible disposal
- Anti-social behaviour (namely drug use throughout the parish)

- Road safety – speeding and driving under the influence of illegal substances

7.7 Communication

Clerk to mark emails to council that require action accordingly in the subject header.

7.8 Policies

See 4.1 above.

8. Matters for next meeting's agenda

8.1 Chair advised that the next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting. Start time has been brought forward to 6:30pm as the meetings are more in depth with the election of the Chair and committee. SH gave her apologies for the next meeting

8.2 Merge with WuP Sub Group. It was confirmed that TH and EW will attend the meeting on 5th May. Chair advised that following discussion with various parishioners she has comments to pass to TH & EW for discussion at the meeting.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting which will be held on Wednesday 27th May at Hope Mansell Village Hall 13th at 6:30pm

Meeting closed at 8:14pm.

Kate Howle, Parish clerk – 14th April 2026

SIGNED:

DATE:

Lori Weber, Chairman.