

MINUTES OF THE LOCKERLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20TH APRIL 2026 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, LOCKERLEY, HAMPSHIRE

Cllrs. Present: Cllr. Len Arthur, Cllr. Kevin Baker, Cllr. Tim Coomer, Cllr. Peter Funnell (Chair), Cllr. Tara Madgwick, Cllr. Jane Waller, Cllr. Joanne Young

In attendance:

Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston – Test Valley Borough Council
County Cllr. Nick Adams-King – Hampshire County Council
Mike Smith – 6th Romsey (Lockerley) Scouts
Members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

None recorded.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None recorded.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mike Smith enquired as to progress in respect of the lease for the Glebe Field. The Chair advised that this matter will be raised later in this Parish Council meeting,

Cllr. Joanne Young advised that the token of appreciation of the three Amazon vouchers of £25.00 each were presented to the three members of staff who have been working for some years at the Lockerley Village Shop. This was in recognition of their valuable contributions to the Lockerley community.

4. TO RESOLVE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16 MARCH 2026

The Chair reviewed the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 16 March 2026. Members unanimously RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of this meeting as a true and correct record subject to a minor amendment. The Chair signed the Minutes accordingly.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD 16 MARCH 2026

All matters arising from the meeting held on 16 March 2026 have been expedited and duly noted or discussed further at this meeting as separate agenda items.

In pursuance of Minute 7 of the March Parish Council meeting, the Parish Clerk advised members that he has been liaising with Savills in connection with the legal agreement for the Glebe Field. He has been advised that the legal fees will cost approximately £3,000. Despite appealing these costs with Savills and the Diocese including the involvement of the vicar, the costs remain and there can be no negotiation. Members felt that the Glebe Field needs to be protected for the future and a debate ensued as to what other purposes the Glebe Field could be used for, in addition to Scout use. It was felt that plans need to be drawn up and initiatives considered and members agreed that this be an agenda item at the May Parish Council meeting.

Further to Minute 7 regarding the river bank on the ditch at Butts Green, the Chair has investigated ownership of this with HM Land Registry and this area is definitively not in the ownership of Lockerley Parish Council. Neither Hampshire County Council nor the Environment Agency accept any responsibility. The concern expressed was that the current circumstances are undermining the road. County Cllr. Nick Adams-King suggested

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that the nature of the issue perhaps needs to be restated to ensure the correct understanding and this may result in remedial works being carried out to support the river bank and the road. He felt that Hampshire Highways need to be advised that the road is damaged and the foundations are being undermined. He agreed to pursue this with Hampshire County Council and requested the complaint reference number that was allocated to the Parish Clerk when he raised the issue. The reference number was provided at this meeting.

Cllr. Kevin Baker advised all present that despite numerous attempts to hold a multi-agency meeting as an approach to parking enforcement matters in Lockerley this has proved to be unsuccessful to date. Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston stated she would chase Marie Stubbington for an update on this matter as clearly a meeting is certainly required. A debate ensued as to delineation for enforcement responsibility.

In respect of Minute 18 relating to the bench replacement by the bus shelter on Lockerley Green and this being an agenda item at this meeting, the Parish Clerk advised members that this is deliberately not an agenda item at this meeting. He stated that he has made a grant application to Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston (Test Valley Borough Council) for kind potential consideration of two-thirds towards the cost of a bench. There is a standard recycled oak effect bench available from Glasdon, the Elwood Seat, which is a low maintenance timber-effect bench with a back rest. The cost is £848.19 (VAT - £169.64) £1,017.83 including the VAT. Should Test Valley Borough Council approve the grant application, they could contribute £559.81 (66% of the £848.19 net figure). The Parish Council can reclaim the VAT and would need only make up £288.38 towards the costs.

Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston advised that there have been many applications received.

6. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston provided an update report on the latest regarding Test Valley Borough Council. She advised members that Test Valley Borough Councillors have voted to back a bold plan for local government reorganisation, which would see them join with Winchester, New Forest and East Hampshire to create a new unitary council. Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston referred to a variety of other topics and her report is available on the Lockerley Parish Council Website.

County Cllr. Nick Adams-King provided the below update report on the latest regarding Hampshire County Council.

He has been informed by Southern Water that they have taken the decision to halt all live works in their water mains replacement programme across the local area. In a small number of cases, short extensions may still be requested purely to complete final reinstatement and make sure roads are left in a safe and proper condition. These works are intended to improve the resilience of the water network and reduce leaks, but it is clear that the way they have been delivered has caused unacceptable disruption.

The legislation to create the new Hampshire & Solent Combined County Authority has now been laid before Parliament. This is a huge step forward. For the first time, decisions on things like transport, skills, housing, regeneration, the environment and public safety will

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be made here. From this summer, the new Authority will begin taking on its responsibilities, with a Mayor elected in 2028.

The Government has now made its decision on Local Government reorganisation for Hampshire. Hampshire County Council is to work together to deliver whatever changes are required safely, effectively and with as little risk as possible for the people we serve. Residents rely on stability and clear leadership. The proposals presented, in County Cllr. Nick Adams King's view are deeply flawed and overwhelmingly opposed by local people. Residents have already described it as illogical, unwanted, hugely disruptive, and a carve-up that ignores local identity. Their daily lives, services, schools, transport links and community ties are rooted in the Test Valley and wider Hampshire — not Southampton.

He referred to the periodic flooding under the railway bridge and has established that a measuring gauge will not be suitable as the topography does not lend itself to effective placement as there is no clear level surface. When it does flood, the water is too deep but signage may be a possibility. On this matter, Cllr. Tara Madgwick advised that she has been advised by SWT (South West Trains) that a gauge may be possible but design plans would need to be submitted with a contract of undertaking. All costs would need to be met by the Parish Council.

County Cllr. Nick Adams-King advised to leave this matter with Hampshire County Council to address.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

All items of correspondence have all been previously circulated to members and duly noted.

The Parish Clerk advised members that an email has been received from Mike Smith (Chair of the Lockerley Scout Trustee Board. He advises the Parish Council that the scouts are close to finalising their funding application, which currently includes about £20,000 worth of works:

£10,000 for the new floor;

£350 for new timber sleepers surround for the camp fire;

£200 on new security CCTV and PIR lights;

£1,000 for tree work;

£500 on new Squirrels Section (aged 4-6) tables and chairs;

£3,500 on a new outdoor covered structure;

£250 on a new path;

£500 on new storage cabinet and loft boarding

£900 on repairing some old double-glazing units

£2,000 on a new shower unit and updates to the adult toilet facilities

£600 Roofing (soffits, fascias, guttering) repairs

Mike Smith states that should the Parish Council feel they would like to contribute, the scouts would be extremely grateful.

The Chair commented that at this stage of the new financial year, it is difficult to commit to any grant award but matters become clearer come January 2027 but no commitment could be made.

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The Chair also suggested to Mike Smith whether the scouts would consider helping to install new fascia boards to the bus shelter. The cost of the materials and labour would be met by the Parish Council. Mike Smith advised that this is a very busy time in relation to the Scout Hut but in the interests of co-operation, he agreed.

Cllr. Joanne Young requested a meeting with Mike Smith at the Scout Hut and this was agreed.

The Parish Clerk advised members that he is in receipt of the audit papers from BDO (External Auditors) for the annual audit submission. He has arranged that the internal audit will be undertaken by Tim Light (Lightatouch) who carried out the internal audit last year.

8. TO RESOLVE THE FINANCE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2026

The Parish Clerk advised members of the financial schedule for April 2026 and the financial position of the Parish Council. The total expenditure amounted to £3,253.35 and income received totalled £443.29.

The amounts were made up as scheduled below:

EXPENDITURE

Peter Funnell – Refund for expenses HM Land Registry – Invoice 1000009545462 dated 23 March 2026 – HM Land Registry Land ownership check - £7.00 (VAT - £0.00) £7.00

Peter Funnell – Refund for expenses Screwfix – Invoice A25417743108 dated 1 April 2026 – Smith & Locke 5 Lever Lock for Parish Room - £20.82 (VAT - £4.17) £24.99

Kevin Glyn-Davies – Refund for expenses Amazon – Invoice GB62BD4Q6AEUI dated 18 March 2026 – 3 x £25.00 Gift Vouchers - £75.00 (VAT - £0.00) £75.00

Kevin Glyn-Davies – Refund for expenses Defib Warehouse – 1 x Cardiac Science G3 Adult AED Pads – Invoice DW-183098 dated 20 March 2026 - £53.95 (VAT - £10.79) £64.74

Kevin Glyn-Davies – March Salary – Gross payment £1,066.66 LESS National Insurance £1.49 – Net payment £1,065.17

Smartest Energy – Invoice FSHNQ79X6/001 dated 17 March 2026 – Electric usage for period 29 July 2025 to 28 February 2026 - £128.31 (VAT - £6.42) £134.73

Ocado – Refund for expenses Ocado – Invoice 1403856311144 dated 25 March 2026 – Thank You Card - £2.71 (VAT – £0.54) £3.25

Ocado – Refund for expenses Ocado – Invoice 1403856311144 dated 25 March 2026 – Thank You Card - £3.13 (VAT - £0.62) £3.75

Enpress Limited – Invoice SI-8464 dated 26 March 2026 – 400 Chatterbox newsletters printing - £45.00 (VAT - £0.00) £45.00

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Smartest Energy – Invoice FSHNQ79X6/002 dated 2 April 2026 – Electric usage for period 1 March 2026 to 31 March 2026 - £20.86 (VAT - £1.04) £21.90

Gabriel Middleton – Invoice 0005 dated 10 April 2026 – Repair work around Lockerley Green 7 April 2026 and to reinstate verge - £1,500.00 (VAT - £0.00) £1,500.00

Lockerley and East Dean Memorial Hall – Invoice LVH0689 dated 14 April 2026 – Hire of the Annex for Parish Council meeting on 20 April 2026 - £11.00 (VAT - £0.00) £11.00

HMRC – PAYE due for period January, February and March 2026 - £98.94, £98.94 and £98.94 - £296.82 (VAT - £0.00) £296.82

INCOME

SSE Reference 8700102764 – Electric refund for end of contract - £136.92

Lockerley Silver Band – Final rental payment - £220.00

Interest paid at 10 April 2026 - £86.37

Members RESOLVED the expenditure of the parish council for April 2026 as prescribed above, totalling £3,253.35 expenditure and the income for the parish council of £443.29

9. TO RESOLVE AGREEMENT OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR MANAGEMENT PROCESS PAPER

Cllr. Joanne Young discussed matters relating to this paper, which was previously circulated to all members for consideration. She stated that Lockerley Parish Council members need to approve the management of the defibrillator process map and to confirm a named Parish Councillor to be contactable in the absence of the Parish Clerk and provide local support to the guardians in their role.

It was RESOLVED to approve the management of the defibrillators process map and that Cllr. Joanne Young to be the nominated person to be contactable accordingly.

Cllr. Tara Madgwick raised a query regarding power supplies for the defibrillators and whether there are sufficient safeguards in place to prevent the defibrillators from accidentally being switched off. Cllr. Joanne Young advised that she would check on this point.

10. TO UPDATE A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR LOCKERLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Clerk advised members that in relation to the formation of a Neighbourhood Plan there are concerns as to how a Neighbourhood Plan can now potentially fit in the landscape of devolution and their potential future validity. He expressed his concern that the Parish Council commits large sums of public money towards the creation of an NDP when this could amount to a worthless project in the long-run and could potentially prove to be a waste of money. This would cause difficulties with the public and the auditor. He advised that for the time being, given the current devolution principles, that it would be eminently sensible to shelve the creation of an NDP and DEFER until the elections in May 2027.

Members RESOLVED not to pursue a Neighbourhood Plan for the time being and DEFER until the elections in May 2027.

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11. TO DISCUSS NEXT STEPS CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF THE PARISH ROOM

The Chair advised that as at the end of March 2026, the Lockerley Silver Band vacated the premises per the notice provided by the Parish Council. The Parish Clerk explained that at the present time, the Parish Council has two options. It could lease the building or sell it. In preparation for the potential of selling the property for which Secretary of State approval is legally required under Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1972, the building needs to be formally valued under the recognised Red Book valuation conditions. That said, David Wheeler (Chartered Surveyor) from Woolley & Wallis has been commissioned to evaluate the building accordingly and provide a formal valuation report. The cost for this work and time will be £1,400 plus VAT. The Parish Clerk has made comparisons and this is an expected market fee. The company has absolutely no connections any member of the Parish Council nor the Parish Clerk so this is completely transparent. Furthermore, the company can undertake this work by the end of April 2026.

Members noted this update and requested this be an agenda item at the May Parish Council meeting.

12. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LOCKERLEY AND EAST DEAN MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

Cllr. Len Arthur provided the following report:

The big news is that Test Valley Borough Council is granting the hall just over £117,000. Along with the contributions from Lockerley Parish Council and the hall, together we will have raised just under £130,000 to fund the replacement of the existing roof and insulating materials, which will make a huge impact on the future usage of the building.

The events that have taken place in April.

- 4/04. Easter family Fun Day, this was extremely well attended
- 10/04 Crystal Journey's Sound Bath
- 17/04. The village lunch club.
- 17/04. Pizza night take-away.

In April and May further events are:

- 20/04 – 26/04. Village Hall Week, with a range of extra activities throughout the week including a display of memories of Lockerley, bunting making, a play reading night and badminton day to encourage use of this community facility.
- 25/04. Bingo Night.
- 2/05. Lockerley Makers Market.
- 15/05. The Lock Inn, pop-up-pub.
- 17/05. The Village Lunch Club

It was noted at a recent visit to the Parish Rooms with the Parish Council Chair, there are some chairs and 2 tables. Cllr. Len Arthur asked if the Parish Council would be willing to donate these to the hall for use by the community. Members agreed to this request and Cllr. Tara Madgwick stated she would look into collection.

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13. TO DISCUSS LOCKERLEY GREEN PARKING ARRANGEMENTS

Members revisited the current Village Greens policy and felt that the procedures and policies were sufficiently robust and did not warrant amendment or revision. No further discussion took place.

14. TO DETERMINE AND RESOLVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Clerk advised members of one planning application received since the last meeting

26/00638/TPOS – Tree application for Oak (T1) - Fell at Yewtree Cottage, Tote Hill, Lockerley. **RESOLVED: OBJECTION on the grounds that insufficient information has been supplied to allow the Parish Council to make an informed decision.**

15. TO RECEIVE A POLICE REPORT

None received.

16. FOOTPATHS AND ROADS

Cllr. Joanne Young advised members of the recent Lockerley Footpath Steering Group meeting concerning Footpath 7 that took place on 14 March 2026. She advised that detailed discussion led to the conclusion that the group should start with a smaller project delivering something tangible for the public. The group agreed that the scope of the project should be the entrance at Butts Green and the first boardwalk that takes you into the field. Materials and gate would need to be paid for and Hampshire County Council would provide warden time, supervision and volunteers to install and build the structures. Cllr. Joanne Young advised on the proposed actions drawn up and summarised the actions from the previous meetings.

Cllr. Jane Waller provided a footpath and roads update per the below:

Lengthsman

We are still waiting to receive our budget allowance of £835.56 for the next 12 months. No works are yet planned, but care needs to be taken to prevent us from overspending.

Footpaths

Ground cover is beginning to emerge, and it will soon be time to cut back some of the undergrowth from our fenced in footpaths. We are hoping to have some volunteers to undertake some of the more straightforward clearances.

Community Engagement Ranger

Our ranger, Alison Hellyer, has offered to help with any footpath clearing. We also have 2 parishioners who have volunteered so far, which I hope will encourage others to join the team.

Culverts, Ditches and Grips

We are aware of works that need to be undertaken in the summer months. Some landowners have neglected to clear their ditches in previous years and in some cases, this has exacerbated the flooding in the previous winter. Many ditches are needed to retain water and reduce the flow to lower ground with the attendant increased risk of flooding.

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The ditch adjacent to Butts Green has suffered considerable damage to the bank alongside the Dunbridge Lane. Previous major repairs have failed and have fallen into the fast-flowing water. The ownership needs to be established and the repairs completed.

Footpath 7 Improvements

The steering group has met 3 times so far in attempts to establish the amount of work that can be undertaken and the possible avenues of funding that can be achieved. Cllr Joanne Young has worked hard within ever increasing restrictions to arrive at our present decision to undertake the work in stages. The entrance to the field is the most restrictive and the area most prone to flooding. It has been decided to investigate options to improve this area only at this stage. A meeting has been arranged with the land manager for School Farm, Mark Carpenter and Corinne Davis-Cooke, our rights of Way Officer to consider the practical aspects of this task. Remedial works have recently been undertaken by the Hampshire Access Team to restore the bridge in the middle of the field, but further works need to be considered when funding is available.

Please continue to inform us of any problems throughout our network of public footpaths.

17. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

The Chair requested that Cllr. Kevin Baker prepare a SID report with data and development updates for presentation at the Annual Parish Assembly.

In the absence of any further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 20.13 hours.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the Memorial Hall, Lockerley on 18 May 2026 starting at 18:00 hours and will commence with the Annual Parish Assembly, followed by the Annual General Meeting and concluding with the ordinary May Parish Council meeting. All three meetings must be held as separate meetings.