

MINUTES OF THE LOCKERLEY PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON 18TH MAY 2026 HELD AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, LOCKERLEY

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

In attendance:

County Cllr. Nick Adams-King (Hampshire County Council)
Members of the Public

1. PUBLIC QUESTIONS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None recorded.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr. Tim Coomer – Lockerley Parish Council
Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston (Test Valley Borough Council)

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None recorded

4. TO RECEIVE THE RETIRING CHAIR'S REPORT

The retiring Chair gave his report for the municipal year 2025/2026 per below.

The 2025–2026 municipal year has been one of continued activity, challenge and careful consideration for Lockerley Parish Council.

Throughout the year, the Council has continued to focus on its core responsibilities of representing the interests of residents, maintaining community assets and amenities, and engaging constructively with partner organisations and public authorities.

The Council met regularly throughout the year in accordance with statutory requirements. The year also saw the Parish Council increase its number of meetings from six to ten per year in response to the increasing workload and demands placed upon the Council and councillors.

Councillors have continued to consider a broad range of issues affecting the parish, including highways and road safety matters, planning consultations, environmental concerns, community facilities, and the ongoing stewardship of council-owned assets. The Council agreed to renew the 21-year lease on the Glebe Field. Whilst this resulted in increased rental and legal costs, these are balanced against the significant benefit the field provides to young people and the wider community who regularly make use of this important open space.

The Council also completed work to provide a proper parking area at Butts Green for users of the Memorial Hall and School. A sub-committee, led by Councillor Young, utilised proven consultation procedures to help shape the finished project, which fits sympathetically within the local environment. The Parish Council is grateful to Test Valley Borough Council for its financial support towards this project.

During the year, the Parish Council also deployed the Speed Indicator Device at a number of strategic locations throughout the village. The initiative has been well received by

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residents and has provided a valuable contribution towards improving driver awareness and supporting road safety within the parish. Particular thanks are due to Councillor Baker for his hard work and commitment in ensuring that the best possible use is made of both the Speed Indicator Device itself and the valuable traffic data which it provides.

The Parish Council has also continued to work with Hampshire County Council and other organisations in relation to the maintenance of footpaths throughout the parish. In particular, Cllr. Jane Waller has made a significant contribution towards ensuring that these valuable and historic footpaths are maintained for the benefit of residents and visitors alike.

The play area and equipment owned by the Parish Council continue to provide excellent facilities for younger members of the community. Ongoing inspections, safety checks and repairs to the equipment have been undertaken by Cllrs. Kevin Baker and Len Arthur and I am grateful for the work and commitment they have shown in helping ensure that this valuable community facility remains available for young people to enjoy safely.

Moving forward, the Parish Council is also engaged in work to help ensure that the village is properly prepared in respect of flooding, power outages and other emergencies which may affect the parish. A sub-committee, led by Cllr. Tara Madgwick, is working to identify how the Parish Council might best address these complex and challenging issues in order to help ensure that Lockerley is well placed to respond effectively should such incidents arise in the future.

Lockerley Parish Council has also worked closely with the University of Southampton, Test Valley Borough Council and a number of volunteer researchers recruited through the university on a research project focused on public engagement within the community. The project has sought to help ensure that issues of concern to residents are appropriately identified, highlighted and considered by relevant organisations and decision-makers.

The Council agreed a £5,000 contribution towards the Memorial Hall roof replacement project, which is urgently required. These improvements will bring significant benefits to the whole community and help secure the continued long-term use of this important village facility. The Parish Council has also pledged its support to the new Memorial Hall Management Committee, who are working hard to maximise both the use and wider community benefit of the hall.

As part of its responsibilities in relation to planning matters, the Parish Council was pleased to support a pre-planning application for a mobile phone mast situated near the Scout Hut. Installation work now appears to be underway and improved mobile phone coverage should bring considerable benefits to residents, visitors, businesses and those travelling through or serving the parish.

The Parish Council also undertook responsibility for holding the budget for the defibrillators located at the Memorial Hall and Village Shop, working alongside the Defibrillator Guardians to help maintain this valuable life-saving equipment for use in the event of a medical emergency within the village.

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The future of the Parish Room has continued to attract significant attention throughout the year and, at the end of March 2026, Lockerley Silver Band vacated the premises. The Parish Council has commissioned a professional valuation of the property and the outcome will assist the Council as part of its consultation and consideration regarding the future of the building.

The Council has continued to place strong emphasis on prudent financial management and the responsible stewardship of public funds during a period where financial pressures continue to affect all levels of local government.

I would like to place on record my thanks to fellow councillors for their time, commitment and contribution throughout the year, together with our Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Kevin Glyn-Davies, for his continued professionalism and support to the Council.

Thanks are also due to Nick Adams-King and Alison Johnston, who consistently make every effort to attend meetings and provide valuable support to the Parish Council in its role.

Looking ahead, the Council will continue to focus on responsible governance, financial prudence, community resilience, and the careful stewardship of parish assets and amenities. While challenges remain for local government at all levels, Lockerley Parish Council remains committed to acting in the best interests of the parish and its residents.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who contribute to the strong community spirit which continues to make Lockerley such a valued and distinctive parish.

5. TO READ AND APPROVE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY – 12 MAY 2025

Members unanimously RESOLVED the Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 12 May 2025 and the Chair signed the Minutes as a true and correct record.

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM TEST VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCILLORS AND HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

County Cllr. Nick Adams-King provided his report to all present. It was agreed this be posted on the Lockerley Parish Council Website for public information.

7. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr. Kevin Baker provided an update on the Speed Initiative Device and the results collated to date.

8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Members discussed future parish council meetings and agreed that the current arrangement will continue unchanged.

9. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None recorded

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There being no further business to transact, the Chairman closed this meeting at 18.50 hours.