MINUTES OF THE LOCKERLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 SEPTEMBER 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:
County Cllr. Nick Adams-King – Hampshire County Council
Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston – Test Valley Borough Council
Robert Wallace
Members of the public

1. APOLOGIES
None recorded

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None recorded

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS
A member of the public enquired as to the progression of a potential Tree Preservation Order (TPO) by the village hall and the latest in this respect. The Parish Clerk advised that this specific query has been passed to the Arboricultural Officer at Test Valley Borough Council for consideration.

4. TO RESOLVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 20 JULY 2026
The Chair reviewed the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 20 July 2026. Members unanimously RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of this meeting as a true and correct record including the exempt business Minutes. The Chair signed the Minutes as a true and correct record.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD 20 JULY 2026
All matters arising from the meeting held on 20 July 2026 have been expedited and duly noted or discussed further at this meeting as separate agenda items. The Parish Clerk advised that he has not approached Marie Stubbington concerning an agency meeting to discuss parking issues, as she has recently had a family bereavement and this would have been inappropriate. Members concurred with this view.

6. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS
County Cllr. Nick Adams-King advised all present on an update regarding the Local Government reorganisation. The important point is that the Government's previous decision for Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton has been **withdrawn, not paused.** The decision taken earlier this year to replace the existing councils with the proposed new unitary authorities, no longer stands. The Government has instead announced a review of the wider Local Government Reorganisation programme and will need to decide afresh what, if anything, it wishes to propose for Hampshire.

County Cllr. Nick Adams-King covered a number of issues and specifically mentioned that the Aster Sewer charges are still proving to be a difficulty and bills are still being sent that are wrong. He has advised that customer must request a full breakdown of the charges and challenge as necessary. He reminded all present of a range of grants that are available for various projects subject to meeting the prescribed criteria.

Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston provided an update report on the latest regarding Test Valley Borough Council matters.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

All items of correspondence have been previously circulated to members and duly noted. The Parish Clerk raised a specific request from a Mary Walker requesting that she would like to provide a wooden bench on Butts Green to commemorate a lady (Kay Carpenter) who has recently passed away. The Chair stated that that the request for placing a memorial bench on Lockerley Parish Council owned village greens should require a Memorial Bench Agreement. He advised members that agreement must be made subject to conditions and a draft Memorial Bench Agreement was tabled. Members agreed to the Agreement being used for future requests for the placement of benches, if required.

Members did ask the question whether an additional memorial bench was really necessary on Butts Green. It was agreed in principle that a maintenance free bench be obtained from Glasdon and that responsibility for its upkeep will remain with Lockerley Parish Council.

The Chair reported that a complaint has been received from a parishioner, which is currently being investigated relating to Lockerley Green. He advised that he is meeting the parishioner and would update shortly. It was agreed to DEFER this matter.

A request has been received from the Chair of the Friends of Lockerley School for the Parish Council to allow parking on Butts Green for attendees of a live music event at the Lockerley Memorial Hall. Members felt that as this was an organised event and subject to receiving a risk assessment setting out how the risks identified can be mitigated. Permission should be granted but subject to the strict understanding that they remain responsible for parking management and any incidents that may arise and not the Parish Council.

Cllr. Tara Madgwick advised that she has been approached by the school whether there is a plan for a litter pick to precede remembrance events this year Members agreed that this request be circulated and see if a consensus can be reached.

8. TO RESOLVE THE FINANCE SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2026

The Parish Clerk advised members of the financial schedule for August/September 2026 and the financial position of the Parish Council. The total expenditure amounted to £6,532.72 and income amounted to £740.04.

The amounts were made up as scheduled below:

EXPENDITURE

HMRC – PAYE due for period April 2026/May 2026 and June 2026 Kevin Glyn-Davies – £98.94. £98.94 and £98.94 - £296.82

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

Smartest Energy – Invoice FSHNQ79X6/006 dated 4 August 2026 – Electric usage for period 1 July 2026 to 31 July 2026 - £14.87 (VAT - £0.74) £15.61

Glasdon – Invoice SI943663 dated 10 August 2026 – Elwood Seat Dark Oak - £889.06 (VAT - £177.81) £1,066.87

Awbridge Arborists – Invoice 3619 dated 14 August 2026 – Tree works at Lockerley Green - £680.00 (VAT - £136.00) £816.00

Awbridge Arborists – Invoice 3624 dated 25 August 2026 – Tree survey at Lockerley Parish Council locations - £1,550.00 (VAT - £310.00) £1,860.00

BDO – Invoice 00869593 dated 18 August 2026 – Limited Assurance Review Audit Fee for Year End 31 March 2026 - £210.00 (VAT - £42.00) £252.00

Lockerley and East Dean Memorial Hall – Invoice LVH0746 dated 31 August 2026 – Hire of The Annex for Parish Council meeting on 21 September 2026 - £14.00 (VAT - £0.00) £14.00

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

Smartest Energy – Invoice FSHNQ79X6/007 dated 3 September 2026 – Electric usage for period 1 August 2026 to 31 August 2026 – CREDIT £-4.75 (VAT - -£0.24) -£4.99

Peter Funnell – Refund of Expenses – Invoice 343829 Sitebox dated 10 September 2026 – Bolts for bencch - £15.94 (VAT - £3.19) £19.13

Kevin Baker – Refund of Expenses – Invoice W005470-A 656JEW Jewson dated 10 September 2026 – Marshalls Standard Pimple Paving x 2 - £25.64 (VAT - £5.13) £30.77

Kevin Baker – Refund of Expenses – Invoice W005471-A 656JEW Jewson dated 10 September 2026 – Sharp Concreting Sand Handy Bag x 2 - £8.50 (VAT - £1.70) £10.20

Kevin Baker – Refund of Expenses – Invoice 09A47060 dated 14 September 2026 – Sawn green treated wood fpr bus shelter - £17.48 (VAT - £3.50) £20.98

INCOME
Grant received from Test Valley Borough Council for bench - £559.81

Gross interest received as at 10 August 2026 - £92.47

Gross interest received as at 10 September 2026 - £87.76

Members RESOLVED the expenditure of the parish council for August/September 2026 as prescribed above, totalling £6,532.72 expenditure and the income for the parish council of £740.04.

9. TO RESOLVE THE FUTURE OF THE PARISH ROOM
The Chair stated that Lockerley Parish Council needs to consider whether there remains a viable need for the Parish Room together with the financial implications of retaining it and the alternative options available.

This includes retention, leasing, mothballing or disposal - no final decision on the future of the property has yet been made. The Parish Room is an old Victorian building situated on East Tytherley Road close to the church. It is a relatively small and basic building comprising: a single main room, one lavatory, a small kitchenette and a storeroom. The property has no dedicated off-road parking and adjoins the former Vicarage Buildings. These physical characteristics, together with the age, condition and location of the building, are relevant considerations when assessing its suitability for continued or future community use. The Parish Room has been in the ownership of Lockerley Parish Council since approximately 1979. The building is currently vacant and has no regular user. Members were advised although the parish room is not presently being used, the Parish Council continues to have responsibilities and costs associated with ownership of the building.

The Parish Clerk provided details of annual current expenditure of the total annual cost of £3,820 and the estimated capital expenditure required for a contingency figure of £5,000 making an overall total required of £8,820 as an estimate of a bare minimum. The Chair advised members that they now need to consider whether committing further public funds to the Parish Room represents good value when suitable alternative community facilities are available nearby. The Parish Room currently has no regular users and generates no income. The Parish Room has therefore effectively generated no rental or other income for the Parish Council whatsoever. The Parish Clerk advised members that the legal owner of the Parish room is the Parish Council and does have a statutory power to dispose of land which it holds. This is under Section 127, Sub-Section 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 which provides that, subject to the provisions of that section a parish council may dispose of land held by them in any manner they wish .

The power is subject to important safeguards. In particular, Section 127, Sub-Section 2, which provides that, except with the consent of the Secretary of State, land must not be disposed of, other than by way of a short tenancy for a consideration less than the best that can reasonably be obtained.

Accordingly, should the Parish Council ultimately resolve to dispose of the Parish Room, it has the statue of Power to do so. Any disposal would nevertheless need to be undertaken following a properly constituted decision of the Parish Council and having in regard to all applicable statutory requirements, title restrictions, professional valuation and legal advice, it must obtain consent from the Secretary of State to sell the property. The Parish Council has obtained an independent Professional RICS Redbook valuation. The property is also affected by restrictive covenants and other title restrictions. They have a significant bearing upon its use, marketability and value. Options available to the Council are retention and renewed community use. By retaining the building and investing the resources necessary to return it to appropriate regular use, provided that a viable and sustainable need can be demonstrated. Lease or other community arrangement by investigating whether another organisation will be willing and able to take responsibility for the building under an appropriate lease or other arrangement . Mothballing by retaining the property but keeping a close watch pending a future decision. This would avoid an immediate disposal but would leave the council responsible for all insurance, security, maintenance and deterioration of an unused building. Disposal by considering the property surplus to the parish Council's requirements and pursuing disposal would be subject to public consultation, appropriate legal evaluation advice and all necessary statutory

requirements.

Robert Wallace requested a copy of the income and expenditure schedule as prepared by the Parish Clerk.

Members RESOLVED that having considered the available information concerning the present use, condition and financial implications and future requirements of the Parish Room, Lockerley Parish Council considered that its preferred option is the disposal of the property. This position is subject to public consultation, consideration of all representations and viable alternative proposals received, appropriate and legal advice, and compliance with all statutory and legal requirements. No final decision to dispose of the Parish Room has been made and the results of the public consultation will be brought back to a future meeting of the Parish Council for consideration before any final decision is taken.

10. TO RESOLVE APPROVAL TO THE CONCLUSION OF AUDIT TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2025/2026

The Parish Clerk advised members of the conclusion of audit to the accounts for 2025/2026 received from BDO. The audit has resulted in an unqualified audit, which is the best result that the Parish council can obtain. The parish clerk advised members of other matters that did not affect the BDO opinion which they wish to draw to the attention of the authority as follows:

The smaller authority's reserves appear excessive as, after accounting for the earmarked reserves, general reserves are greater than net revenue expenditure. A smaller authority has no specific right to accumulate funds by the precept. The smaller authority should ensure that it has regard to the level of reserves held when considering future precept requests and as part of their annual budgeting process. Any earmarked reserves should also be considered and formally approved by the smaller authority.

The Parish Clerk reiterated the point that in the opinion of BDO no other matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern. The relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have been met.

Members RESOLVED approval of the conclusion of audit to the accounts for 2025/2026 and noted the comments raised by BDO.

11. TO RESOLVE MATTERS REGARDING TEMPORARY PARKING ON BUTTS GREEN AND HIGHWAY PARKING CAUSING POTENTIAL OBSTRUCTION AND VISIBILTY RESTRICTIONS AT THE ROAD JUNCTION

After much debate, it was felt that the Parish Clerk needs to check with the Parish Council's insurers as to the legal position in respect of a potential incident taking place and what conditions are not covered. A debate ensued regarding temporary parking on Butts Green and that a distinction needs be made between an organised event and an ad hoc event. Members felt it was important that anyone using Butts Green for an event will need to provide a risk assessment and clarification as to how the risks will be mitigated. A parking plan will be required for any agreed parking on Butts Green and users need to be clear that parking of vehicles is not the responsibility of the Parish Council at any time.

In respect of the highway parking causing potential obstruction and visibility restrictions at

the road junction, Cllr. Kevin Baker provided an update. He felt it was essential that the issue of traffic congestion and parking must be amplified and a lasting solution found.

The Parish Council's principal concern relates to the large numbers of vehicles parked in and around Butts Green/Romsey Road junction. In most cases, these vehicles are associated with Lockerley Motors, either in storage, awaiting repair, servicing, deliveries or MOT, which are regularly parked at or immediately adjacent to the junction of Romsey Road and Butts Green. These vehicles significantly impede drivers' visibility, particularly for those turning northbound and create a clear and persistent road safety hazard. Furthermore, vehicles are regularly repaired and/or serviced on the highway at this location.

This situation has existed for many years and certainly predates the COVID-19 pandemic. However, during 2024 the Parish Council became more actively involved following representations from children at Lockerley Church of England Primary School, which raised serious concerns that they did not feel safe when travelling to and from school due to a significant number of vehicles parked on the road, junction, pavement and on the Butts Green car park. This car park is designated for users of the village green, school and memorial hall, and not for business use.

The Parish Council identified that a large number of these vehicles originated from Lockerley Motors who were using the Butts Green car park as an unauthorised parking area. The damage caused by these heavy vehicles resulted in swift action by the Parish Council. Following requests from the Parish Council, Lockerley Motors stopped parking on the Butts Green car park but now use an area of private land, in front of Lockerley Memorial Hall, to park its recovery vehicles and other motor vehicles. The matter is one of significant and ongoing public concern.

Members agreed that the Parish Council needs to engage with all agencies to result in long-term positive change / improvements for Lockerley parishioners. The following were identified to be consulted with an overview, proposals and a covering letter. These were: Donna Jones (Police and Crime Commissioner), Hampshire County Council, Test Valley Borough Council, Hampshire Fire and Rescue, Caroline Noakes MP and Trading Standards.

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

Cllr. Len Arthur provided the following report:

The replacement roof and installation of insulation project has overrun due to several reasons. The extreme heat and the fragile 100 year old tiles kept breaking while they were being removed. The most important part of the project over the summer was the removal of the asbestos tiles before the school started back in September. This was achieved and the specialist asbestos skip was removed as the children returned. The hall committee is now working towards completion of the roof before the end of the October half term. This will, of course, be subject to shorter working days as the daylight hours shorten and weather conditions. The contractors have brought in extra manpower to help to expedite the project, and today, the roofline along the back of the hall is almost completed.

Importantly, the hall has remained open during this work.

The Hall Management committee (MC) met on 9th September and the building contractor attended to discuss the delay and outline the programme of works.

Regarding the youth club, new regulations associated with DBS certification were released by the government in early September. These are currently under review by the MC to fully understand their impact. However, it is likely that there will need to be changes to the organisation running the youth clubs because under the new legislation, they will not be able to rely on parents or one-off volunteers helping out under the supervision of a DBS checked volunteer. As such, a broader volunteer base that is DBS checked up to an enhanced level will need to be brought in as a minimum. This will require a greater level of organisation and commitment from volunteers, who will need to be identified and willing to be DBS checked.

Upcoming events in September/October:

09/09 Management Committee Meeting
11/09 Sound Bath
20/09 Lunch Club
25/09 Pop-up pub and Youth Club
16/10 Sound Bath
17/10 Bingo Night

Along with the regular weekly activities including the coffee shop, pilates, brownies and guides, aren't seen etcetera

13. TO DETERMINE AND RESOLVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS
The Parish Clerk advised members of five planning applications received since the last meeting:

26/01084/FULLS – Single storey rear extension at Lea View Cottage, Lockerley Green, Lockerley – **RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

26/01595/FULLS – Conversion and extension of former game rearing building to provide 4 bedroom dwelling, parking and access, associated hard and soft landscaping, and installation of a package treatment at Mount Pleasant Game Farm, Mount Lane, Lockerley - **RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

26/01538//FULLS – Demolition of stable and outbuilding, change of use to single pitch traveller site with siting of mobile home, erection of dayroom, gate and fencing, laying of hardstanding, landscaping and associated works at Hillside Nursery, The Banks Lockerley – **RESOLVED: OBJECTION ON THE GROUNDS OF THE APPLICATION BEING OUT OF KEEPING WITH THE LOCAL AREA AND OVERDEVELOPMENT**

Members would especially draw Test Valley Borough Council's attention to the important points below that Lockerley Parish Council has made and must be considered:

1) Previous planning and enforcement history.

2) The history of this particular site is highly relevant and should be considered alongside the current application. Members revisited Lockerley Parish Council's formal representation to the Planning Inspectorate dated 6 March 2025 in respect of enforcement appeal APP/C1760/C/24/3354722 (24/0246/GM), as a number of the concerns formally raised by the Parish Council at that time, remain directly relevant to consideration of the present proposal.

As Test Valley Borough Council will recall, permission 22/01072/FULLS was granted for a stable building. The development subsequently undertaken did not accord with the approved plans and became subject to enforcement action. In the March 2025 representation, Lockerley Parish Council formally supported the Enforcement Notice and identified, amongst other matters, the raised concrete platform, elevated siting, increased visibility from the road and other deviations from the approved plans.

Lockerley Parish Council's March 2025 representation also drew attention to the previous refusal of application 24/00178/FULLS for day-room development on this same small parcel of land, recording Test Valley Borough Council's conclusions that it represented “unjustified development in the countryside” and would fail to “respect, complement or integrate into the existing character of the area”. The current proposal now seeks an expressly residential use of the site comprising a mobile home, touring caravan, permanent day room, parking/hardstanding, fencing, landscaping and associated works. Members would formally request that Test Valley Borough Council explains what has materially changed in planning terms since its previous assessment of development on this land and whether the present, more explicitly residential development. satisfactorily overcomes those previously identified concerns.

It is Lockerley Parish Council's understanding that the requirements of the Enforcement Notice have NOT been complied with and that residential occupation of the site has subsequently commenced. If that is correct and should be the case, Test Valley Borough Council is asked to consider the enforcement and compliance history when determining the application and NOT regard the present occupation of the site as an established residential planning baseline.

3) Suitability and sustainability of the location
The current application is for development outside the settlement boundary in open countryside. Indeed, in the Lockerley Parish Council's previous representation described the site as being in an elevated location, outside the settlement boundary and within land designated as countryside. Members are not satisfied that the current application adequately demonstrates compliance with Policy COM13, particularly in relation to accessibility to services and facilities, identified need and the justification for locating this development in this particular location.

National policy supports the provision of Traveller sites in appropriate locations and that is acknowledged. However, it does not follow that every countryside site is appropriate. The current national Traveller policy requires authorities to consider existing local provision and need, alternative accommodation and the circumstances of the applicant and says that new Traveller-site development in open countryside away from existing settlements should be very strictly limited.

Test Valley Borough Council needs to undertake a proper assessment of whether this particular location provides suitable access to education, health, welfare, shops and other services rather than relying upon general assertions about accessibility.

4) Landscape character and previous findings
This is particularly important given Test Valley Borough Council's previous conclusions concerning development on this site.

In the Lockerley Parish Council March 2025 representation, it was recorded that the development was considerably more visible from the highway than anticipated when the original stable was approved. The Parish Council described it as being positioned at the most elevated point of the site and visually intrusive from the road. The same representation also records Test Valley Borough Council's earlier refusal of the day-room proposal as unjustified countryside development which would fail to respect, complement or integrate with the character of the area.

The present proposal would introduce a collection of residential elements including the mobile home, touring caravan, permanent day room, parking and hardstanding. Members believe that the cumulative impact and domestication of this small countryside site therefore needs careful assessment against those previous findings.

5) Enforcement and intentional unauthorised development
The Government published a new NPPF on 17 August 2026 and revised national planning policy for Traveller sites on 27 August 2026. Members would specifically request that the case officer be asked to consider the current national policy framework, including its provisions relating to unauthorised development and effective enforcement, when determining this application. Lockerley Parish Council requests that Test Valley Borough Council establishes the precise current enforcement position, including whether the Enforcement Notice remains extant, whether its requirements have been complied with and the planning status of the current residential occupation and to give appropriate weight to that history in its determination.

6) One pitch or three?
There is also a potentially significant discrepancy within the applicant’s own documentation. The Design and Access Statement describes the development on its title page as comprising three pitches, whereas the application for consideration is for a single pitch. Given the previous compliance and enforcement history, it would be wrong to ignore this. Lockerley Parish Council requests that Test Valley Borough Council requests formal clarification that the proposal is unequivocally for one pitch. If the authority is ultimately minded to approve the application, Lockerley Parish Council requests that any permission clearly restricts the development to the single pitch and associated development shown on the approved plans.

7) Highways/access
Members are not convinced that the submitted information adequately demonstrates the suitability of the access. There appears to be some tension between the Design and Access Statement, which describes the existing access/visibility as adequate and the Landscape Design Statement, which refers to modification of the existing access onto The Banks “to ensure good highway visibility”. Given the nature of the proposed use, including

a touring caravan, Hampshire Highways need to be asked if they are satisfied specifically as to visibility in both directions, vehicle/caravan manoeuvring, access and egress in forward gear and whether maintaining the required visibility would affect the existing boundary vegetation.

8) Ecology
Finally, the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal identifies bat-roost potential within the structures proposed for demolition and recommends further survey work before demolition. Lockerley Parish Council requests that Test Valley Borough Council confirms that it has sufficient ecological information before determining the application and that the recommended survey work has been undertaken. Members believe that the applicant has to demonstrate that this particular development is acceptable on this particular countryside site, taking into account the site's previous planning decisions, enforcement history, accessibility, landscape impact, highways and ecology.

24/02737/NMA1 - Addition of two windows to the bedroom extension with one on either side, change windows and doors from metal powder coated to PVCU in grey and change of operation of front doors from bi-fold to french windows - Amendment to planning permission 23/02737/FULLS at Cowleaze Farm, Romsey Road, Lockerley, Romsey, Hampshire SO51 0JA – **Application cannot be determined by members as Non-Material Amendment applications are not subject to the same consultation requirements as planning applications. As they relate to changes that are considered non-material to an approved scheme, there is no legal requirement for Test Valley Borough Council to consult the Parish Council before determining the application and therefore they chose not to on this occasion.**

26/01886AGNS - Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed agricultural building to be used as a hay and Implement Store at Out Yonder, Tote Hill Lockerley – **RESOLVED – NO OBJECTION**

14. FOOTPATHS AND ROADS
Cllr. Jane Waller provided the following report, which was noted by members.

Lengthsman
The lengthsman has cleared 2 ditches since my last report. The Tote Hill containing ditch was cleared at the end of July. The grips have been reinstated to channel the flow, the culvert was cleared and the depth of the ditch was maintained.

The watercourse alongside Butts Green was cleared in mid-September. A vast amount of undergrowth was cut and removed and the water channel is now clear and free flowing. We still have the problem of large concrete objects on the riverbed, redirecting the water flow. The dangerous roadside riverbank still needs to be repaired by HCC Highways.

The standard of the Lengthsman's work was excellent for both projects.

Footpaths
No official footpath clearance has been undertaken.

Stiles and Gates
Evidence continues to be gathered with materials needed to apply for grant funding to replace the kissing gate at the entrance to Footpath 7, (the water meadows off Butts Green) and to install a boardwalk across the low-lying entrance to the field.

Culverts, Ditches, Grips and Ponds
We have continued to focus our Lengthsman's budget on ditch clearance to help reduce the risk of flooding. I have also approached some landowners to discuss pond clearance. We need to continue to maintain the ditches that are within public ownership and to raise awareness of riparian responsibilities with all landowners. A notice to this effect has been placed in the October Thorngate Newsletter.

Future projects
Grips need to be reinstated at the top of Cook's Lane to direct the flood water onto the adjacent land. I have met with the landowner and he is supportive of this project. Other grips near Newtown Square also need reinstating.

The Memorial Hall hedge will be cut and the ditch cleared prior to the Memorial service in early November. The long culvert will continue to be monitored from the from the hall ditch to the watercourse to assess the need for clearance works.

15. MEMBERS QUESTIONS
Cllr. Tara Madgwick requested that the subject of membership of HALC be an agenda item at the October Parish Council meeting, especially as she has noted that they offer useful training courses.

She also advised that she has been informed by the Test Valley Borough Council Chief Executive that in light of the withdrawal of the Local Government Reorganisation proposals, the elections will now be for a four year term of office and not five years, as was previously suggested.

There being no further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 20.25 hours.

The next meeting of the Lockerley Parish Council will take place on 19 October 2026 at the Memorial Hall, Lockerley.