

MINUTES OF THE LOCKERLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15TH SEPTEMBER 2025 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
Marie Stubbington – Community Engagement Officer – Test Valley Borough Council
PCSO Hattie Locke
Mike Smith - 6th Romsey (Lockerley) Scouts
Sally Gore – Village Defibrillators
Members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston – Test Valley Borough Council

At this stage of the meeting, the Chair elected to receive a police report.

2. TO RECEIVE A POLICE REPORT

The Chair welcomed PCSO Hattie Locke to the meeting. PCSO Locke advised all present that she has been closely involved with issues relating to the garage at Butts Green. She has advised the owners that it is now imperative that they rearrange the cars as this is causing a nuisance and impacting the community and has given a time limit in which this must be done. She advised that if nothing changes, a Community Protection Order will be served on the garage. It was explained that a Community Protection Order (CPO), or Community Protection Notice (CPN), is a legal tool under the Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime Policing Act 2014 to stop persistent, unreasonable conduct that negatively impacts the community's quality of life. It can be issued by police, local authorities or designated PCSOs. CPNs can require individuals or businesses to stop certain actions or take steps to achieve specific results and can be escalated as considered necessary.

PCSO Locke informed all present that there have recently been spates of anti-social behaviour in Butlers Close and patrols have been increased to monitor the situation. There have been some burglaries, which are being investigated.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Tara Madgwick declared an interest on correspondence relating to a pre-planning consultation for a mobile phone base station at Lockerley Road, Romsey and neither participated in the discussion nor voted.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None recorded.

5. TO RESOLVE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 21 JULY 2025

The Chair reviewed the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 21 July 2025. Members unanimously RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of this meeting as a true and correct record. The Chair signed the Minutes accordingly.

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6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD 21 JULY 2025

All matters arising from the meeting held on 21 July 2025 have been expedited and duly noted or discussed further at this meeting as an agenda item.

At this stage of the meeting, the Chair elected to discuss the Glebe Field potential purchase and lease.

7. TO DISCUSS THE GLEBE FIELD POTENTIAL PURCHASE AND LEASE.

The Parish Clerk advised members that he has been in communication with Savills regarding the potential purchase and lease and has been advised that the Diocese is not considering the sale of the land. Should the parish council wish to enter into a new lease agreement, the Diocese would be happy to proceed on similar terms and conditions, subject to reasonable modern updates and a review of the rent. In response to the issues the Parish Council previously raised, the Diocese has commented as below:

The Diocese is happy to arrange and cover the cost of a tree survey, which will be facilitated in due course.

As for the mowing and hedge responsibilities, these remain with the Parish Council under Clause 6 of the lease: "To keep in proper repair and condition the hedges, ditches, fences and gates in and around the demised premises and to cut all hedges in proper seasons."

In terms of river safety, the boundary of the land owned by the Diocese stops before the river and therefore does not fall under the Diocesan responsibility. The Diocese has also confirmed that the permitted use as a public recreation ground includes use by others.

Members felt that the Glebe Field provides significant beneficial value to the community and accepted the comments received and that the Parish Council should enquire as to the level of the rent review proposed and this should be negotiated, prior to acceptance of any renewal. As regards to the Diocesan refusal to sell, this was noted but members requested that the response is made, advising the Diocese that if this position should change, the Parish Council should be offered first refusal for purchase negotiation.

8. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

County Cllr. Nick Adams-King provided the following report:

He stated that Hampshire County Council has responded to the Government's proposals to change the National Planning Policy Framework. The response included the following concerns to proposed significant uplift in housing numbers in the local area:

- Planning for homes must include supporting infrastructure.
- The proposed housing targets for Hampshire are overly ambitious.
- Environmental constraints cover 45% of Hampshire, affecting housing delivery.
- The annual target for new dwellings in Hampshire would increase from 5,884 to 10,071, which is considered excessive.
- The proposals and lack of transitional arrangements will have an immediate impact on the 5-year land supply, undermining the plan-led system and resulting in speculative development.
- Collaboration between local authorities is crucial for meeting housing and employment needs.

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Strategic planning should align with existing local government boundaries.

- Improving the existing system of developer contributions is preferred over the new Infrastructure Levy.
- The shift towards active travel and sustainable transport planning is welcomed.
- The County Council supports the opportunity to more explicitly make the link between climate change adaptation and health and well-being.
- There should also be a stronger link between the built environment and natural environment and mental health and well-being.
- Planning policy should recognise the severity of air pollution as a public health issue.
- Strengthened policies on climate change are welcomed. Strategic planning can help mitigate and adapt to climate impacts.

County Cllr. Nick Adams-King provided an update in respect of his discussions with Aster in relation to the sewerage treatments and the associated charges for residents and reported on developments.

9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

The Parish Clerk advised members of all correspondence received to date, which were noted without further comment.

The Parish Clerk advised members of specific note that Test Valley Borough Council has published their draft Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) proposals for Government entitled: 'Close Enough to be Local: Big Enough to be Strong'. Hampshire County Council has published its recommendations on the preferred option for the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) across Hampshire and the Solent area. Creating four new unitary councils for mainland Hampshire to replace the existing 14 councils would save at least £63.9 million a year. It proposes three different options for the four new unitary councils for mainland Hampshire, at an average populations size of 500,000, grouped around the major centres of Southampton, Portsmouth, Winchester and Basingstoke. The Isle of Wight would stay as its own island unitary authority as is currently the case.

The Parish Clerk advised members of the renewal requirement of the domain name of lockerley-pc.gov.uk of £125.00 plus VAT for each two year period. Members agreed to renew the two year period cost requirement accordingly.

Sally Gore presented a proposal that the Lockerley Parish Council takes over the responsibility for the two village defibrillators. It was explained that when Lockerley was part of NHS South Central Ambulance Community Responder Scheme, the two defibrillators were looked after by the village community responders. This service folded during Covid. The defibrillators are sited at the village hall and outside Lockerley Stores. They are looked after by Sally Gore and Nigel Hind who have no accountability to an overall organisation since the responder scheme ceased. As 'guardians' for the machines they are responsible for regular monthly checks to ensure everything is working satisfactorily. Sally and Nigel are happy to continue as guardians under the umbrella of the Parish Council. The machines are registered with 'Circuit' and NHS South Central Ambulance service.

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The Defibrillators are each of a different make of machine. The Lockerley Store defibrillator was purchased in December 2020 for the village hall several years before. The machines were paid for through village fundraising. Both machines have recently had new batteries and pads so no immediate costs are anticipated. There is £384.28 in the 'kitty' and Nigel Hind holds this. The ongoing costs are for new pads (replaced approximately every 4 years and if used) and battery replacement (approximately every 5 years). The cost can be as much as £400 (includes VAT) for new pads or battery.

The comment was made that in a recent report received from Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston, she made reference to being able to locate the nearest defibrillator closest to your location on various apps. She specifically noted that no defibrillators were registered or formally located in Lockerley, which is not the case. Sally Gore expressed her concern in this respect and it was agreed that this needed to be checked and the existing defibrillators registered accordingly.

Members unanimously agreed with the proposal to take over the management of the village defibrillators and act as the umbrella organisation forthwith.

A brief discussion took place concerning training in the use of defibrillators and Cllr. Tara Madgwick stated that Ross Hicks may be prepared to undertake this.

Cllr. Tara Madgwick advised members of a current Green Paper on the Future of the Post Office. The purpose of which is to open a dialogue on the future of the Post Office, from the services it provides to how to change the culture and the way the Post Office is managed. This was noted.

10. TO RESOLVE APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT AND CERTIFICATE SECTION 3 OF THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2024/2025 FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR END 31 MARCH 2025

The Parish Clerk advised members that the audit has been returned as an unqualified audit opinion on the accounts, which is the best result. Comments have been received from BDO, which are classed as other matters that do not affect the opinion, which BDO would like to draw to the attention of the Parish Council. These were raised, as legally required, to members accordingly.

Members considered the comments made but did not feel they were justified, relevant and wholly inaccurate. Furthermore, the comments made mislead parishioners unnecessarily. They felt that the Parish Council should raise a complaint with BDO and object strongly to the comments made.

Members RESOLVED approval of the external auditor's report and certificate Section 3 but subject to the specific caveat that the matters raised not affecting the auditor's opinion were inaccurate and not acceptable nor resolved and that a complaint must be made to BDO accordingly.

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11. TO RESOLVE THE FINANCE SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2025

The Parish Clerk advised members of the expenses of the Parish Council for Part July/August and September 2025, which amounted to £18,257.19 expenses as scheduled below and income received amounting to £20,397.69, together with the latest financial position of the Parish Council.

EXPENDITURE

£88.59 - Tara Madgwick – Fete Expenses – Etsy – Invoice 3717806157 dated 16 June 2025 – £12.08 - (VAT- £2.42) - £14.50 – 21 Flags/Letters. Amazon – Invoice DS-AEU-INV-GB-2025-323646187 dated 22 June 2025 - £5.40 (VAT – £1.08) - £6.48 – Butterfly sticky notes. Amazon – Invoice DS-AEU-INV-GB-2025-323646298 dated 22 June 2025 - £19.16 – (VAT - £3.83) - £22.99 – Fabric roll natural hessian for fabric table runner for arts/crafts. Amazon – Invoice DS-AEU-INV-GB-2025-324450864 dated 23 June 2025 - £5.80 (VAT - £1.16) - £6.96 – 12 sticky notes, 360 sheet bright post stickies. Amazon – Invoice DS-AEU-INV-GB-2025-324451420 dated 23 June 2025 - £22.64 (VAT - £4.54) - £27.18 – Shuffle art permanent marker pens. Amazon – Invoice DS-AEU-INV-2025-324451483 dated 23 June 2025 - £3.74 (VAT - £0.75) - £4.49 – Push pins for cork board. Amazon – Invoice DS-AEU-INV-GB-324451532 dated 23 June 2025 - £4.99 (VAT - £1.00) - £5.99 – 15 pieces push pins. £73.82 (VAT - £14.77) - £88.59

£23.26 - Kevin Baker – Playground – Amazon – Invoice GB54YM77JAEUI dated 4 July 2025 - £19.38 – (VAT - £3.88) - £23.26 – Silicone sealant

£474.00 - Summit Safety Solutions Limited – Invoice 7624 dated 25 July 2025 - £395.00 – (VAT - £79.00) - £474.00 – Fire risk assessment and consultancy fee for Parish Room

£16.50 - Lockerley and East Dean Memorial Hall – Invoice LVH0564 dated 8 July 2025 - £16.50 (VAT - £0.00) - £16.50 – Hire of The Annexe for a Lockerley Parish Council meeting

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

£14,434.80 - Southampton City Council – Invoice 81344348 dated 20 August 2025 - £12,029.00 – (VAT - £2,405.80) - £14,434.80 – Butts Green Parking Bays

£16.50 - Lockerley and East Dean Memorial Hall – Invoice LVH0569 dated 2 August 2025 - £16.50 (VAT - £0.00) - £16.50 – Hire of The Annex for an Extraordinary Lockerley Parish Council meeting

£252.00 - BDO – Invoice 00726118 dated 20 August 2025 - £210.00 (VAT - £42.00) - £252.00 – Limited Assurance Audit Fee

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

£96.00 - Test Valley Borough Council – Invoice 10068216 dated 28 August 2025 - £80.00 – (VAT - £16.00) – £96.00 - Treatment for wasps at Lockerley Parish Room

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£725.20 - Bonallack & Bishop Solicitors – Invoice 120948/001 dated 8 September 2025 -
£725.20 – Overall Total with the £500.00 paid on account is: £1,021.00 - (VAT - £204.20) -
£1,225.20

INCOME

Interest for July 2025 - £94.86

Community Asset Grant 50% Contribution to Butts Green Project - £6,014.50

Second Instalment of Precept from Test Valley Borough Council - £14,160.00

Robert Wallace – 50% contribution to Wasp Nest treatment - £40.00

Interest for August 2025 - £88.33

Members RESOLVED the expenditure of the parish council for Part July/August and September 2025 as prescribed above, totalling £18,257.19 expenditure and the income for the parish council of £20,397.69.

12. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE BUTTS GREEN WORKING PARTY

Cllr. Joanne Young provided an End of Project Report to the work that has taken place at Butts Green and the recommendations contained therein. Lockerley Parish Council has received three summary reports making recommendations to improve the safety and quality of the Butts Green facility. An action plan has been generated by these reports and updated. The conclusion is that the Butts Green Working Party has successfully achieved its objectives, providing valuable recommendations and implementing improvements to enhance the safety and quality of the Butts Green facility. There has been a significant biodiversity gain with minimal waste resulting from the project

Cllr. Kevin Baker reported that the Parish Council is waiting for the works to commence by Hampshire County Council for the poles to allow the SID project to start.

It was RESOLVED that the Butts Green Working Party be discontinued and that the Annual Greens survey is continued as a means of monitoring the quality of Butts Green facilities.

13. TO UPDATE ON RESILIENCE MATTERS

Cllr. Tara Madgwick advised members on the latest relating to resilience matters. There are a series of upcoming meetings taking place at which resilience matters will be discussed. There are a variety of points of focus to discuss with community representatives and engagement researchers and consideration needs to be made as to a slightly different focus of vulnerability groups.

14. WELCOME TO MARIE STUBBINGTON (COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER – TEST VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MID-TEST)

The Chair extended a warm welcome to Marie Stubbington to the Parish Council meeting. She explained to all present what her role as a Community Engagement Officer at Test Valley Borough Council entailed and how she can potentially help Lockerley achieve its aims and objectives. She asked the question as to how she and Test Valley Borough

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Council can help Lockerley Parish Council be sustainable and resilient in light of the comments made earlier by Cllr. Tara Madgwick. Marie Stubbington advised that there is a valuable resilience toolkit resource developed by Test Valley Borough Council for the Parish Council to make use of and begin to develop a resilience plan. She also stated that King's Somborne has developed a working plan, which the Parish Council could potentially use as a template and adapt. She reminded members of the upcoming Test Valley Association of Parish and Town Councils (TVAPTC) and Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) Joint Conference at King's Somborne Village Hall, taking place on 27 September 2025 from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

She concluded her report advising the Parish Council of various grant opportunities both existing and new ones about to be launched that are and will become available for Parish Councils.

15. TO DETERMINE AND RESOLVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Clerk advised members of the planning applications received since the last meeting:

25/01268/FULLS – Demolish outbuilding, two storey side and first floor rear extension, with single storey side extension linking to new double garage, alterations to chimneys and fenestration at Roseway Cottage, Butts Green, Lockerley – RESOLVED: Objection based on an incomplete and satisfactory biodiversity submission clearly specifying the biodiversity net gain and the absence of a formalised bat survey having not being included in the planning application. **This was an amended decision by Lockerley Parish Council.**

25/01810/FULLS - Installation of new domestic oil tank within the curtilage of the house and attach a new external oil fired boiler to the side elevation of the kitchen extension at Thatched Cottages, Carters Clay Road, Lockerley, Romsey, Hampshire. RESOLVED: No Objection

25/01811/LBWS – Installation of new domestic oil tank within the curtilage of the house and attach a new external oil fired boiler to the side elevation of the kitchen extension at Thatched Cottages, Carters Clay Road, Lockerley, Romsey, Hampshire. RESOLVED: No Objection

25/02120/AGNS – Determination if prior approval is required for a proposed agricultural storage building at Land South of the Cricketers/West of Critchell Green, Lockerley, Hampshire. RESOLVED: Objection due to insufficient access and the application not being in keeping with the local area.

25/02127/TELS – Determination if prior approval is required for the installation of a telecommunications base station comprising 20 metre high monopole supporting 3 antennas and GPS node, 3 equipment cabinets, and ancillary development thereto at Grass Verge, Land South Of Sixth Romsey Scout Group, Romsey Road, Lockerley, Hampshire. RESOLVED: Support and No Objection with the request that if the application is approved and proceeds, that the mobile phone mast is in brown or green.

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16. FOOTPATHS AND ROADS

Cllr. Jane Waller advised members of the following report:

The lengthsman's tasks scheduled for the summer months have all been completed.

Footpath 33 leading from Top Green to Lockerley Downs and the adjacent path 32 from the dog's leg bend on FP33 to Pains Hill was scheduled for July and the work eventually completed at the end of August, with the Pains Hill section of FP32 still to be cleared.

This less than satisfactory situation was exacerbated by the retirement of the organiser of the Lengthsman scheme in Stockbridge before a replacement could be found. The Chairman of Stockbridge Parish Council has now kindly taken on the role of Acting Lengthsman Coordinator until a full-time replacement can be appointed.

Outstanding Tasks

September 2025: The Parish Room hedge is scheduled to be cut.

October 2025: The Memorial Hall hedge will be cut, and the ditch cleared before the Remembrance Service on 9th November. The Hall Committee have requested the hedge be cut as low and as evenly as possible.

Other Issues

Blocked and broken culverts off fp6 have been reported. This affects the flow of the water within the ditch and frequently leads to flooding under the railway bridge.

The broken bridges and board walks on FP7 need replacing.

There is a broken stile on the dog leg bend at Chapel Lane at FP18.

Please continue to report any issues relating to our Lockerley footpath system to the Parish Council.

17. MEMBER QUESTIONS

None recorded.

18. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE REQUESTED TO LEAVE THE MEETING – ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS ACT 1960

Members RESOLVED to enact Exempt Business pursuant to the Admissions to Meetings Act 1960.

19. EXEMPT BUSINESS – TO RESOLVE THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 AUGUST 2025

The Chair reviewed the Minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on 6 August 2025. Members unanimously RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of this meeting as a true and correct record. The Chair signed the Minutes accordingly.

In the absence of any further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 21:01 hours.

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The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the Memorial Hall, Lockerley on 20 October 2025 starting at 18:00 hours.