

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

Cllrs. Present: Cllr. Len Arthur, Cllr. Kevin Baker, Cllr. Peter Funnell (Chair), Cllr. Tara Madgwick (from 19.33 hours) Cllr. Joanne Young

In attendance:

Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston – Test Valley Borough Council
Members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr. Tim Coomer – Lockerley Parish Council
Cllr. Jane Waller – Lockerley Parish Council
County Cllr. Nick Adams-King – Hampshire County Council

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None recorded

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None recorded.

4. TO RESOLVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15 JUNE 2026

The Chair reviewed the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 15 June 2026. Members unanimously RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of this meeting as a true and correct record. The Chair signed the Minutes as a true and correct record.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD 15 JUNE 2026

All matters arising from the meeting held on 15 June 2026 have been expedited and duly noted or discussed further at this meeting as separate agenda items. Cllr. Kevin Baker requested that a meeting with key agencies regarding parking enforcement and policing be chased again with Test Valley Borough Council, as there have been no developments in this regard. The Parish Clerk advised that he will chase Marie Stubbington (Test Valley Borough Council Community Engagement Officer) and Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston requested to be copied in on the email to be sent.

6. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston provided an update report on the latest regarding Test Valley Borough Council matters and the proposed changes that will be taking place in respect of planning matters and representation as part of the future local government reorganisation. Members asked Borough Cllr. Alison Johnston to kindly chase the status of the Parish Council's grant application for the replacement bench. She advised that she would certainly do that as a priority.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

All items of correspondence have all been previously circulated to members and duly noted. It was noted that the recent local scouts application for grants has been successful and a significant sum has been awarded.

8. TO RESOLVE THE FINANCE SCHEDULE FOR JUNE/JULY 2026

The Parish Clerk advised members of the financial schedule for June/July 2026 and the financial position of the Parish Council. The total expenditure amounted to £9,648.41 and

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income received totalled £95.44

The amounts were made up as scheduled below:

EXPENDITURE

Kevin Glyn-Davies – Refund of Expenses - Capper & Jones Solicitors dated 8 June 2026 – Witness Fee for Lease - £10.00 (VAT - £0.00) £10.00

Kevin Glyn-Davies – Refund of Expenses – Amazon Invoice GB6059IQVVP9PI dated 12 June 2026 – White paper hand towels - £11.87 (VAT - £2.38) £14.25

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

Kevin Glyn-Davies – Refund of Expenses – Amazon Invoice GB601FWMBLW95I dated 12 June 2026 – 54 toilet rolls - £11.79 (VAT - £2.36) £14.15

Kevin Glyn-Davies – Refund of Expenses – Amazon Invoice GB64ZZ5R1AEUI dated 12 June 2026 – Toilet gel, brush and holder - £4.12 (VAT - £0.82) £4.94

Lockerley and East Dean Memorial Hall – Invoice LVH0668 dated 19 April 2026 – Hire of the Annex for Parish Council meeting on 16 March 2026 - £11.00 (VAT - £0.00) £11.00

Winchester Diocesan Board of Finance via Blake Morgan solicitors – Invoice BM100244797 dated 22 June 2026 – Lease renewal preparation for Glebe Field - £2,878.00 (VAT - £575.60) £3,453.60

Enpress Limited – Invoice SI-9061 dated 27 June 2026 – 400 Chatterbox newsletters printing - £45.00 (VAT - £0.00) £45.00

Lockerley and East Dean Memorial Hall – Invoice LVH0730 dated 1 July 2026 – Hire of the Annex for Parish Council meeting on 20 July 2026 - £14.00 (VAT - £0.00) £14.00

Lockerley and East Dean Memorial Hall – Letter dated 26 June 2026 – Grant towards roof replacement project - £5,000.00 (VAT - £0.00) £5,000.00

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

Smartest Energy – Invoice FSHNQ79X6/005 dated 3 July 2026 – Electric usage for period 1 June 2026 to 30 June 2026 - £5.05 (VAT - £0.25) £5.30

INCOME

Interest paid as at 10 July 2026 - £95.44

Members RESOLVED the expenditure of the parish council for June/July 2026 as prescribed above, totalling £9,648.41 expenditure and the income for the parish council of £95.44

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9. TO RESOLVE CONTRACT FOR NECESSARY TREE WORKS

Cllr. Joanne Young advised all present that after extensive evaluation of the quotes meeting a strict expectation matrix, the most qualified supplier appears to be Awbridge Arborists with a Level 6 standard. The two quotes obtained are from Awbridge Arborists for a survey of trees at Butts Green, Oval Road, Lockerley Common and Tote Hill Common amounting to £1,550.00 (VAT - £310.00) £1,860.00 and a quote for tree works at Lockerley Green for £680.00 (VAT - £136.00) £816.00. A Level 6 standard carries weight should there be any potential issue arising in court, which is not expected. On balance and after careful scrutiny, Members RESOLVED to award the tree works contract to Awbridge Arborists at £1,550.00 (VAT - £310.00) £1,860.00.

10. TO DISCUSS AND RESOLVE SECURITY MEASURES TO THE GLEBE FIELD

The Chair advised members that security for the access to the Glebe Field remains the responsibility of the Parish Council. As a consequence, a reputable supplier has been on site to evaluate how security can be addressed. SW Marchant Ltd (fencing specialists) has advised to supply 1no. Galvanised drop bollard with disk lock comprising 100x100x4mm drop bollard to be set into concrete bases 750mm below ground level. All bollards to be lockable by means of a high security padlock. All finished galvanised and coloured in chevron high visibility yellow and black. Existing height restrictor barrier to have a 50x50mm post welded to it to help secure the bottom barrier. Total £945.00 (VAT - £189.00) £1,134.00.

The Chair explained that in respect of the scout access the suggestion from the supplier is to fit 2no. galvanised drop bollards with disc lock, comprising of: 100x100x4mm drop bollard to be set into concrete bases 750mm below ground level. All bollards to be lockable by means of a high security padlock. All finished and galvanised and coloured in chevron high visibility yellow and black. All for the price of £1,072.00 (VAT - £214.40) £1,286.40. If both jobs are undertaken at the same time, a discount is offered. Members RESOLVED to place the order and have the work carried out for both access sites.

Members agreed that it was essential to have the scouts agree with the way forward to address security concerns and to liaise with Mike Smith for the scouts to pay their contribution towards costs. The earlier the better to enable to get works completed in the Summer months. Cllr. Joanne Young advised that she would make contact with Mike Smith and discuss accordingly.

Whilst on the subject of field access, there has been a request to use the Glebe Field for a wedding to which Members agreed to such use.

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

Cllr. Len Arthur provided the following report:

It will be a short report this time due to the replacement roof and installation of insulation.

The events that have taken place in June / July since the last meeting, which includes.

- 19/06 Village lunch club

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- 20/06 Lockerley fete, [raising funds with our human fruit machine]
- 20/06 Pop-up pub [after fete party]
- 03/07 Seniors Youth Club
- 04/07 Summer Bingo Night
- 10/07 Juniors Youth Club
- 19/07 Village Lunch Club

These events were all well attended. The roof project starts on the 20 July 2026 with the scaffolding being erected. The Hall committee have no plans to restart the extra events until September. The usual events will still carry on during this period, as long as it is safe to do so.

The contractor's plan is to work on the roof in sections progressing around the building rather than removing the roof in one go. Hopefully the weather will be kind to them during this work.

12. TO DETERMINE AND RESOLVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Clerk advised members of one planning application received since the last meeting. Cllr. Len Arthur declared an interest in planning application 26/01459/FULLS and took no part in discussion or voting.

26/01295/FULLS – Creation of a bin store and enclosure at Butler's Close, Lockerley - **RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

26/01425/PDQS – To determine if prior approval is required for the change of use and conversion of agricultural building to one dwelling house (Use Class C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion at New Farm House, Carters Clay Road, Lockerley – **RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

26/01437/FULLS – Conversion of former stable building to two-bedroom dwelling house with associated works at The Beeches, Carters Clay Road, Lockerley – **RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION but subject to the caveat that swallow bricks are used for nesting and auxiliary nest cups for housemartins are included**

26/01459/FULLS - Installation of a ground mounted Battery Energy Storage System comprising two battery modules, a wall mounted hybrid inverter and associated electrical infrastructure at Memorial Hall, Butts Green, Lockerley – **RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

13. TO RECEIVE A POLICE REPORT

None received. Members agreed that as there has been no police presence and reports for some considerable time at parish council meetings, this agenda item should no longer be included on future agendas.

14. FOOTPATHS AND ROADS

Cllr. Joanne Young advised members on the latest developments in respect of the FP7 project restoration works involving the boardwalk and the kissing gate. It is anticipated that works will cost just over £4,000 and it is hoped that a prospective grant application to the community grant fund at Test Valley for 50% of the costs will shortly be submitted. It is hoped that the boardwalk will be looked after by Hampshire County Council.

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A prepared footpath and roads report from Cllr. Jane Waller was tabled per the below:

Lengthsman

Our Lengthsman Shane has completed the clearance of Footpath 32 that connects Pains Hill to FP33 which connects Top Green to Lockerley Downs and beyond.

Self-seeded trees and shrubs have been left in places along the edges but will need regular maintenance to control their growth, (especially the Field Maples and the Poplars). Shane was unable to access FP33 to clear the undergrowth as the locks had been changed on the farm gate. The landowner has been spoken to and this work has been scheduled for clearance by them.

Shane is scheduled to clear the Tote Hill ditch in July. This is a containing ditch and the depth needs to be maintained to prevent flooding. The grips will be reinstated to ensure rainwater is cleared from the road.

Footpaths

The start of the heatwaves resulted in a massive growth spurt along all our footpaths. Both owners and volunteers have been helping with the clearance of undergrowth and this has been most helpful. The stiles and gates are often the areas that need special attention. We thank those who have been out with their secateurs and loppers to improve these access points to our paths.

Stiles and Gates

Where possible access to our paths is slowly being improved by removing stiles and gates altogether. Where this is not practical, landowners are encouraged to replace stiles with gates. Work on Pains Hill Farm has resulted in FP25 being correctly aligned and a gate on the roadside installed to replace the stile. Plans are underway to replace the kissing gate on FP7, (located over the bridge beyond Butts Green) and to improve the access to the water meadow.

Culverts, Ditches and Grips

The maintenance of ditches, riparian responsibility, is with the landowners. Neglected ditches and watercourse exacerbate the possibility of flooding.

This work should be undertaken before the autumn.

Our Lengthsman will be clearing the ditches where Lockerley Parish lands are adjacent.

15. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

A member of the public raised the question concerning improvements to the land immediately in front of the Village Hall. It was explained that this is not the responsibility or within the jurisdiction of the Parish Council. That said, members agreed that they would consider:

1. Whether the Parish Council should contact the private owners and ask if they can assure us that they are fulfilling their duties under the Occupiers Liability Act 1957 to keep the public safe?

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2. Should a Tree Preservation Order Assessment be sought to protect the Oak Tree on that strip of land, prior to any contact with the owner?

Cllr. Joanne Young stated she would look into whether a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) would be appropriate.

Cllr. Tara Madgwick appraised all present on the matters that were discussed at the TVAPTC meeting that focussed exclusively on the local plan strategy and planning reforms. Test Valley Borough Council is facing a significantly worsened planning context due to government reforms and high housing targets. National policy changes in late 2024 increased the housing need for Test Valley by 78%, rising from roughly 550 homes per year to approximately 930. The borough has lost its five-year housing land supply, meaning planning decisions now weigh heavily in favour of the need for new homes, regardless of local preferences. There is an urgent risk that the council will fail the "housing delivery test" by the end of the year, which further weakens its ability to refuse speculative planning applications. Over 1,400 homes have come forward through planning applications in the last month alone, with development proposals now moving faster than the local plan process itself.

Test Valley Borough Council will recommend to the full council on Wednesday that they pivot from the current plan-making system to the government's new "30-month gateway system." This new system is more prescriptive, with set timeframes for scoping, draft plans, and final consultations, aimed at streamlining the process. An indicative timeline suggests a scoping consultation by the end of this year, with a draft plan by late 2026 and potential adoption by 2027 or 2028.

Hampshire is transitioning to four unitary authorities by April 2028; most of Test Valley will join "Mid Hampshire," while three southern parishes will move to "South West Hampshire." A new mayor for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight will eventually produce a Spatial Development Strategy (SDS) that sets high-level housing numbers for the region. There is significant uncertainty regarding how the new boundaries will affect current planning work, as the local plan has a 15-year shelf life while boundaries change in 18 months. Neighbouring authorities like East Hampshire and Winchester are already moving toward the new plan-making system to align with these regional changes.

**16. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS TO LEAVE THE MEETING
(ADMISSION TO MEETINGS ACT 1960)**

Members RESOLVED that all members of the public and press leave the meeting pursuant to the Admission to Meetings Act 1960.

17. EXEMPT BUSINESS – PARISH ROOM

Matters relating to the Parish Room were discussed.

In the absence of any further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 20.15 hours.

The Chair advised that there will be no meeting in August and the next meeting will be on 21 September 2026 at 6.00pm at the Lockerley Memorial Hall.