

NETLEY MARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Netley Marsh Community Hall, on 18 March 2026

Present: Cllr Welbourn, (Chairman), Cllr Cook, Cllr Haysom and Cllr Johnstone.

In attendance: Cllr Penman, Cllr Reilly, Cllr Tipp, the Parish Clerk and the RFO/Clerks Assistant:

199. **Welcome**

Cllr Welbourn welcomed Councillors and Members of the Public to the meeting

200. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Merrill, Cllr Shaw and Cllr Smith - and reasons given accepted.

210. **Public Participation** – none

202. **Declaration of Interests** - none

203. **Approval of minutes of 18 February 2026**

The minutes having been circulated were agreed and were signed by the Chairman.

204. **Planning**

204.i Planning and appeal decisions from NFNPA and NFDC were noted.

26/00275CONS	Old Forge, Ringwood Road, Woodlands, Southampton, SO40 7GY	Prune 3 x Poplar trees	Noted
--------------	---	------------------------	-------

204.ii **Local Plan Proposals, specifically the proposed industrial area immediately adjacent to the National Park to the south of A36.** Following discussion it was agreed to combine the comments sent by email by Cllr Cook and Cllr Johnstone – to oppose plans for SDGO A (ii) and express support for such development SDGO A (i) and for land adjacent to this site north of Cheynes Farm to the Ower roundabout. If planning permission is given for any of these proposals, NMPC would expect suitable public transport links to be part of any conditions, also cycle routes. Flooding issues need to be addressed and if the proposals include additional housing health, education and local shopping services should be included. The Clerk will also respond to the Local Plan questionnaire, relevant paragraphs will be advised by Cllr Johnstone.

Clerk to send comments to NFDC and complete relevant sections of the Local Plan questionnaire.

205. **County, National Park & District Matters**

205.i Cllr Penman reported on HCC matters. A meeting re. flooding with CVIare Simpson and Cllrs Penman and Haysom will be arranged. HCC, Southampton and Portsmouth City Councils and the Isle of Wight Council have been advised they will be the first to move to the new devolution system. Information on the HCC budget will be available in time for the APM. A number of mobility aids have been distributed to Netley Marsh residents by Cllr Penman, for which he was thanked. School Transport will be reconsidered after the May elections. An email from Mrs Barnett re. buses will be forwarded to Cllr Penman. Cllr Penman has an HCC grant allowance, an application will be made regarding works on the Bartley Village Hall clock and tower. Totton & Eling Town Council would welcome discussions on the developments north of A36. It was agreed information discussions could take place after the May elections.

Clerk to forward email to Cllr Penman

205. ii Cllr Reilly NFDC advised the meeting that the final distribution of wheelie bins is now in progress with new style collections starting on 11 May. Grants from both Vllr Reilly and Cllr Tipp

have been agreed towards sundry expenses connected with the SID/Speedwatch scheme for which the Councillors were thanked.

206. Matters Arising

206.i Speedwatch, Cllr Johnstone advised that the grant application to the Police & Crime Commissioner for SID equipment had been approved. Insurance cover for public liability, the equipment and for Cllr Johnstone installing equipment on existing poles on behalf of the Council, needs to be confirmed with Clear Insurance. The Council also needs to ensure all works are approved by HCC.

Clerk to check with Clear Insurance

Clerk to contact HCC

206.ii Developments adjacent to the A36 – see 204.ii and 205.i above. Cllr Johnstone reported that the working group is developing a list of projects which may be able to be funded from CIL contributions. All halls have responded but some voluntary organisations responses are awaited. These need following up. Cllr Haysom suggested Testwood Lakes and the Sea Scouts could be approached. He will liaise with Cllr Johnstone on this.

Clerk and Cllr Johnstone to liaise over follow up.

Cllr Johnstone to liaise with Cllr Haysom re Testwood Lakes and the Sea Scouts

207. Members Report

207.i Netley Marsh Community Hall Cllr Johnstone reported finances are improving. The Pre-School is concerned about numbers from September. The Pre-School reported that the ditch at the top of the recreation ground is blocked. Agreed Clerk to ask the Groundsman to report on this. Bins were not mentioned at the hall meeting. Clerk will forward the email re. bins to Cllr Johnstone.

Clerk to contact Groundsman and Pre-School

Clerk to forward bins email to Cllr Johnstone

207.ii Outlook magazine The Spring issue is now available. The bin installed near the Hall noticeboard is too high and the Groundsman will be asked to put it on the horizontal fence bars.

Clerk to contact Groundsman.

207.iii Play area – Further to the Groundsmans report, it was agreed to replace the swing seat but to leave other matters until after the next annual inspection. **Playground inspection 2026** the Clerk will contact Play Inspection Company to confirm when they will be doing this.

Clerk to contact Creative Play and VitaPlay for quotes for the swing seat

Clerk to contact Play Inspection

208. Conservation Area Review Working Group Cllr Cook reported the work is complete and the report has been sent to NFNPA. Their response is awaited. All Councillors involved in this work were thanked for their input. This item is no longer needed on the agenda.

209. Footpaths and Bridleways Cllr Haysom reported that wire fencing has been installed at the bottom of a stile on Footpath 166/13/1 – at the Track/FB point on the map. This prevents dogs being able to get through so is an issue for residents with dogs. Agreed Clerk will contact HCC Rights of Way to determine the rules on this.

It was noted that a resident in the north of the parish has been asked to reinstate a path in the area of FP 166/19/1

210. Lengthsman nothing to report

211. Groundsman War Memorial work completed. Gym bike remains outstanding. Outlook box, the Clerk has asked the Groundsman to lower it. All noted. Wood treatment over the summer needs to be done, the Clerk will ask the Groundsman to treat, all seats and noticeboards and the fences adjacent to the hall car park and round the Jubilee tree.

Clerk to contact Groundsman.

212. **Clerk/RFO** Report RFO resignation received. RFO will prepare a draft advertisement for the post. Adverts will be placed on noticeboards, Facebook and the Waterside Herald. Other local Councils will be asked to put it on their websites.
213. **Correspondence** a list of correspondence had been circulated. Matters requiring attention were

UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology	Countryside Survey request	Clerk to respond. NMPC agree they may survey, if possible to include the top field beyond the recreation ground and send a report to the Council. A note will be placed on the website.
-----------------------------------	----------------------------	---

214. **Financial matters**

214.i **Expenditure**

Detail	Details	Net	VAT	Gross
TLC webmaintenance inv2741/3 Feb payment	Online	15.00		15.00
Andy Tyler Groundsman 1126	Online	200.00		200.00
Clerk	Online	798.26		798.26
Locum Clerk Inv 237	Online	307.50		307.50
RFO/Assistant Clerk	Online	568.31	74.30	642.61
Lloyds Bank monthly fee	Auto payment	4.25		4.25
HMRC PAYE	Online	737.31		737.31
TLC Outlook Spring 2026 invoice	online	184.17		184.17
SLCC Inv BK225369 and 370	Online	107.00	21.40	128.40
HALC inv 7924 amendment	Online	17.83	3.57	21.40
				3,038.90

214.ii Reconciliation	
Current Account	
02-Feb	519.81
unpresented payments above	3,038.90
Earlier Unpresented payments	0.00
unpresented credits	-
Current a/c reconciled balance	-2,519.09
Savings ac br forward	21,240.42
Savings ac income	
Savings Ac withdrawn	2,500.00
Savings Ac Bal	18,740.42
High Interest Ac	15,994.44
Total cash at bank	32,215.77

214.iii **Transfers** from the deposit to the current account, totalling £2500.00 were approved.

214.iv **Grass cutting and path maintenance 2026.** It was agreed to accept the quote from Gardeners South, grass £288.33 per month for 9 months of the year, total for the year £2550. Path maintenance £800 over 8 months. All prices subject to the addition VAT.

214.v **Conflicts of interest** between Councillors and staff of NMPC – with BDO the external auditors. It was confirmed there were no conflicts of interest. Noted.

215. **Parish Matters**

215.i. Councillors' items

215.i.a New Forest Consultative Committee report: Cllr Cook outlined the discussions, including Foxlease properties purchased, outline budget and Forestry England and the car park charges imposition which was quite contentious. It was noted that no finance projections had been made available for the car park proposals.

215.i.b Cllr Haysom reported that there is a real issue with dog poo bags being left hanging on gates. There are also fencing issues in the forest area adjacent to Woodlands Road.

215.i.c It was agreed to send flowers up to the value of £30 and a card to Cllr Merrill.

215ii. APM 24 April 2026 - Speaker – Sally March New Forest Commoner noted. It was agreed to ask Cllr Shaw to assist the Clerk with light refreshments.

1st Draft report the Clerk will circulate this, all Cllrs items need to be with the Clerk by 9am 7 April

216. **Confidential** - No matters were taken.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm.

Clerk to the Council to: All Members of the Council

Next meeting Wednesday 15th April 2026 7.00pm at Woodlands Road Community Hall

APM Friday 24th April 2026 7.00pm at Woodlands Road Community Hall

Signed:

date: 15 April 2026