Greatham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held at Greatham Village Hall
Wednesday 14 October 2026 at 7.30pm

Present

Cllrs:.R Lafferty, C Rudd, S Pond, A Cheesman

Also present: District Cllr K Mitchell, County Cllr N Drew. Clerk S Humphrey. 7 members of the public (MOP).

26.112 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reported that works at the Village Hall had progressed well.

26.113 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from **Cllr Bartlett**.

26.114 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

26.115 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2026 were approved and signed as a correct record.

Resolved: Approved unanimously.

26.116 Update on Previous Actions Arising from Council Meetings

Coryton Almshouses Trustees Report
The report has now been received. A summary was presented by Cllr Lafferty. Members were referred to the full report at Appendix 5. Following correspondence received from the Coryton Secretary, it was agreed that the Council reserves the right to comment further if required.

Squaddie Box
No further information has been received following last month's presentation.

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26.117 Report from District Councillors

Members received the report from Cllrs Mitchell and Steevens (Appendix 1).

Key points included:

- A report of a troublesome dog in the village that has bitten a member of the public.
- Correspondence has been sent to SJ and Mike.
- Cllr Mitchell confirmed she is willing to liaise with the Council and the PCSO regarding the matter.
- Evidence is being gathered and discussions will take place with parents affected.
- Cllr Steevens advised that grant funding remains available and noted that the Parish Council may have a suitable project to support.

26.118 Report from County Councillor

Members received the report from Cllr Nick Drew (Appendix 2).

Points highlighted included:

- A recent site meeting with the Head of Highways had taken place in the village. No update has yet been received.
- Hampshire Grant funding has been fully allocated for the current year and will reset in March.
- Concerns remain regarding speeding in villages.
- Residents were encouraged to report incidents via 101, as reports help create evidence for future highway improvements and speed reduction measures.
- Data collection is important in supporting future campaigns.

26.119 Public Question Time

Remembrance Poppies
reported that poppies had been installed around the village. Additional poppies will be placed at Bakers Field and those on the bridge will also be installed.

Snailing Lane Maintenance
A member of the public reported that a previous request for Lengthsman works to clear kerbs and weeds on Snailing Lane had not been completed.

Cllr Lafferty advised that the road presents safety challenges and Highways would be contacted. Concerns were also raised regarding speeding traffic travelling at approximately 60mph and damage to roadside signs.

Members were advised to log issues with Hampshire County Council and obtain a reference number so that Cllr Drew can assist with follow-up action if necessary.

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Litter Along Roadside Concern was raised regarding litter between the Old Church and Liss Forest Road.

The Council will seek to organise a litter pick in the coming weeks. Due to road closure and health and safety requirements, roadside clearance works can take approximately six weeks to arrange. Volunteers will be sought.

Hambarn Roundabout Discussion took place regarding a proposed filter lane. Members noted that a traffic assessment would be required, with costs potentially ranging from £1,000 to £80,000. Any future scheme would require funding, potentially through CIL contributions. National Highways would need to be involved.

Post at Cove Estate MOP asked if the post on the entrance to the Cove estate could be wooden and not the usual plastic ones to enable them to match with the others in the village. The Clerk will contact Cove to see if this is possible.

26.120 Purchase of Christmas Tree and Festive Star

Members considered the purchase of:

- Christmas Tree (10-12ft) approximately £200
- Festive Star approximately £100

Resolved: Approved.
Proposed by Cllr Rudd , seconded by Cllr Cheesman.

26.121 Planning Applications

SDNP/25/00081/FUL

Location: Lone Barn Farm, Church Lane, Greatham, Liss GU33 6HB

Proposal: Application for the change of use of land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes and retention of hardstanding (retrospective).

Members noted correspondence from the interim Planning Enforcement Officer stating that:

- The planning appeal remains ongoing.
- The outcome of the appeal will determine the future of the site.
- Enforcement proceedings have been placed in abeyance pending the appeal decision.
- The appeal will be determined by written representations.

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26.122 Parish Council Finances and Administration

a) Payments Schedule

The payments schedule (Appendix 3) was approved.

Resolved: Approved.
Proposed by Cllr Rudd, seconded by Cllr Cheesman.

b) Finance Report

Members noted the September 2026 Finance Report and approved the associated bank reconciliations. (Appendix 4)

Resolved: Approved unanimously.

c) Clerk's Report

1. Grant Payment Error the Clerk advised members of an administrative error involving the receipt of an £800 grant payment intended for the Village Hall. Unbeknown to the Clerk the incorrect banking details had been supplied by the Village Hall, resulting in the funds being paid into the Parish Council account.

Arrangements are being made for the monies to be returned so that the payment can be redirected correctly. Members noted the update.

2. Remembrance Wreaths for both the Parish Council and St John's Church have been ordered. Cllr Laffery confirmed he will attend the Remembrance Service and lay the wreath on behalf of the Council.

3. Christmas Tree Licensing Required licences and associated documentation are currently being obtained.

4. Hedge and Footpath Maintenance it was reported that:

- Hedge cutting has commenced following the end of bird nesting season.
- Grass and hedge maintenance has been completed on Footpath 10 near Thele Knapp House.
- Clarification is required regarding responsibility for cutting the top section of the hedge.
- Four unsafe trees have been removed, and a further tree is being monitored.
- The footpath alongside the farmer's field remains overgrown with brambles and could be cleared during the winter period if members wish.
- Clarification is sought as to whether the footpath will connect with the proposed Cove development footpath.

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26.123 Speeding in the Village

Members received an update from Hampshire Highways.

Key points included:

- Highways officers have revisited the proposed locations for wooden posts and are assessing what works can be completed within the remaining budget.
- 30mph road roundels can be installed where existing speed limit signs are already in place.
- Edge-of-carriageway lining is also being considered to create a narrower visual road width and encourage lower vehicle speeds.
- A new application has been submitted for further road markings.

26.124 Defibrillator Replacement

Members considered the purchase of a replacement defibrillator at a maximum cost of **£699 plus VAT**. A wall bracket is not required, reducing the overall cost.

Resolved: Approved.
Proposed by Cllr Cheesman, seconded by Cllr Rudd.

26.125 New Flagpole

Members considered the increase in cost of the approved village flagpole project from **£1,000 to £1,500**.

Resolved: Approved.
Proposed by Cllr Cheesman, seconded by Cllr Lafferty.

26.126 Christmas Carols

Members considered arrangements for the annual Christmas Carol event.

Discussion noted:

- St John's Church had previously been the better-attended venue.
- It provides more suitable facilities for refreshments.
- The Parish Council cannot take responsibility for organising the event at the Old Church.

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- Alternative ideas included a summer picnic, harvest festival, or holding the event on the village green with the church illuminated.

Resolved: The majority voted against holding the Christmas Carol event at the Old Church.

Deferred: A decision on the final venue. The matter will be considered again at the next meeting, including options for St John's Church or the village green.

26.127 Reports from Representatives of Organisations, Outside Bodies, Leads and Groups

Community Hub Group

Members noted that:

- Pre-planning advice received from the South Downs National Park Authority is being discussed with Village Hall trustees.
- A site meeting is planned to identify the most suitable location for the Hub.
- Additional funding is being sought to support surveys and registration as a Community Benefit Society.
- Donations from residents are greatly appreciated and further contributions can be made via the Community Hub website.

Village Hall Update

Members noted:

- Improvements to the entrance lobby.
- Installation of new lighting.
- New flooring in the lobby and toilets.
- Installation of a new noticeboard.
- The Country Park path is nearing completion.

26.128 Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

- Budget and Precept
- Old Church Works
- Christmas Carol Service

26.129 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 11 November 2026 at 7.30pm

A minute's silence will be observed before commencement of meeting.

Meeting Close

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The meeting closed at **8.40pm**.

Appendix 1

Kirsty Mitchell and Michael Steevens: EHDC District Councillor Report

School travel

We are continuing to work with the school to explore alternative ways for children to get to school and reduce the number of cars arriving at drop-off and pick-up times. The school has been put in touch with Living Streets to look at ways to improve traffic around the school.

Dog near the village hall

A few parents have mentioned that the dog from the house next to the village hall has been out and about again recently. I also saw it wandering around the other day, and I understand an email has been circulated about it. I will contact EHDC again to ask for an update.

Councillor funding

We have received several applications for councillor funding from residents, as well as a number from the school. Mike and I still have some funding available, so please let us know if you are planning to apply.
As mentioned previously, we would like to use the bulk of our allowances within Greatham, as Whitehill and Bordon residents have a larger pool of councillors they can approach.

Health fair

A few weeks ago, all schools in the area were invited to send children to Greg Stafford's health fair in Bordon. Greatham School sent its young governors, and I attended with them as my son is a young governor this year. They were the only school to attend and thoroughly enjoyed the event.
The children spoke with Greg and Andy about securing additional funding for some eco-projects they would like to explore. We hope this will come to fruition.

Forest school access

I am still trying to secure access for the school to the wasteland behind the BT building next to the school. The school would like to extend its Forest School activities, but so far I have not received a firm answer.

Devolution and district elections

You will know that devolution has been put on hold, which means there will be another district election in May next year. Mike and I are pleased that this gives us the opportunity to continue working for Greatham, and we both plan to stand

Appendix 2

Petersfield Hangers Hampshire County Councillor Update October

Dear All

The most significant county-wide development was the Government's decision to withdraw its local government reorganisation proposals for Hampshire and the Solent. There have also been important updates on Hampshire's finances, the condition of our roads, major motorway works and the new Combined County Authority.

Locally, I have continued to chase pothole roadworks and planning applications – as always I would ask residents to please make me aware of issues with pothole submission numbers so I can follow these up.

Highways Information

Making the case for fairer highways funding

Hampshire has around 5,500 miles of roads to maintain—one of the largest local highway networks in the country—but we do not receive enough stable, long-term funding to keep that network in the condition we all want to see. The estimated maintenance backlog is now between £550 million and £600 million.

The County Council's Cabinet has agreed to strengthen our case to Government for a fairer share of Vehicle Excise Duty to be invested back into local roads, together with greater freedom to target highways funding where it will make the biggest difference.

We are not waiting for Government action. Since April, highways teams in Hampshire have delivered 42 resurfacing schemes, with 101 planned during 2026/27, completed 122 preventative surface treatments and 154 planned patching schemes covering more than 32,000 square metres. Between April and July, teams also repaired 17,590 reactive defects, including potholes.

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The long-term answer is to move increasingly from reacting to potholes to planned, preventative maintenance. Hampshire's highway assets are valued at around £17 billion, and looking after them properly is basic asset management as well as being important to residents and businesses.
Original update: facebook.com/nickadamsking

Reporting Highway Problems

Links to report road issues are here:

Potholes: https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/potholes

Tree/hedge problems:
https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/treehedge

Flooding/drainage issues:
https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/flooding

Pavement problems:
https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/paving

Broken or missing signs:
https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/brokensigns

Faulty street lights: https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/streetlight

Faded or missing road markings:
https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/road-markings

Problems with rights of way:
https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem

When reporting an issue, you'll be sent an email confirming a reference number. If you would like me to follow this up, do please forward that message to me and I will chase it for you.

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Local Government Reorganisation

Government withdraws its Hampshire decision

On 7 September, the Government withdrew its decision on local government reorganisation in Hampshire and the Solent and ordered a review. This was the best possible outcome at this stage and gives councils the opportunity to start again with proper time, evidence and financial analysis.

Hampshire County Council had launched Judicial Review proceedings because the Government had not provided satisfactory answers about the evidence behind the decision or the financial sustainability of the proposed new councils. The earlier proposals also risked splitting established communities, including the New Forest, and transferring major areas of growth and business-rate income between authorities.

This does not mean that nothing should change. It means that whatever comes next must be properly costed, financially sustainable and command much broader support.

Who pays for the abandoned process?

Councils across Hampshire were required to work to Government deadlines, incurring legal, consultancy and implementation costs and diverting many hours of senior officer time from service improvement and financial sustainability work.

HCC have asked the County Council to establish the full cost of the process to Hampshire and to call on Government to reimburse councils. Every pound unnecessarily spent on a process that has now been withdrawn is a pound that cannot be spent on services residents rely upon.

Hampshire County Council's Finances

During September, the Government confirmed more than £90 million of in-year Exceptional Financial Support for councils facing serious financial pressures, including £6 million for the Isle of Wight and £5 million for West Berkshire.

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Hampshire has not had to make a similar request because the County Council acted early. Over the past year, we delivered £95 million in savings, with a further £40 million of efficiencies built into this year's budget. That work enabled us to set a lawful, balanced £3.3 billion budget and manage this year's pressures without seeking exceptional permission to borrow or use capital resources for day-to-day costs.

That does not mean everything is fine. This year's budget relies on £108.5 million from reserves—almost twice the amount used last year—and those reserves can only be spent once. School transport costs, particularly for children with special educational needs and disabilities, have risen from £43 million to £83 million in four years, while demand for adult social care continues to increase.

In 2025/26 Hampshire received £91 per resident in general Government funding, compared with an English average of £205. The new funding formula reduces support by £10.9 million this year and by £42.9 million annually by 2028/29. HCC will continue pressing for a fair, long-term settlement that protects essential services without exhausting reserves or placing an ever-greater burden on us the local taxpayers.

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General Updates from HCC

Back-to-school support

Hampshire's back-to-school resources bring together advice on preparing for the first day, walking, wheeling, cycling and school transport, before- and after-school childcare, SEND support, vaccination, mental wellbeing, attendance and free school meals.

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school lunch. Families receiving certain benefits may also qualify for income-based free school meals beyond those years. A successful application can unlock extra support for a child and additional funding for their school.
Family information and support: Connect to Support Hampshire

Hampshire's young jazz musicians recognised

Hampshire Music Education Hub has been shortlisted at the Parliamentary Jazz Awards 2026 for its contribution to jazz education. Its inclusive programme supports more than 110 young musicians and introduces over 1,400 primary-school pupils to jazz each year.

This is wonderful recognition for the young performers, tutors, schools and partners who make Hampshire's jazz programme so welcoming and successful. Congratulations to everyone involved.

No tricks, just three choices: apply for a secondary school place by Halloween

Parents and carers in Hampshire are being reminded not to let the secondary school application deadline give them a fright this Halloween

No tricks, just three choices: apply for a secondary school place by Halloween | Hampshire County Council

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Hampshire County Council Leader responds on Government announcement to review Local Government Reorganisation for Hampshire and the Solent area

Hampshire County Council's Leader has commented following an announcement today by Government to withdraw and review its previous decision on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Hampshire and the wider Solent area

Hampshire County Council Leader responds on Government announcement to review Local Government Reorganisation for Hampshire and the Solent area | Hampshire County Council

Hampshire parkruns help raise awareness of World Suicide Prevention Day

Residents across Hampshire are being encouraged to learn more about suicide prevention, access support when they need it, and start conversations about mental wellbeing, ahead of World Suicide Prevention Day on 10 September 2026

Hampshire parkruns help raise awareness of World Suicide Prevention Day | Hampshire County Council

Three secondary schools to benefit from £9.8 million investment in building improvements

Three secondary schools to benefit from £9.8 million investment in building improvements | Hampshire County Council

Hampshire partnership powers growth, skills and opportunity across the county

Thousands of Hampshire residents and businesses are benefiting from programmes that are boosting skills, creating jobs and driving economic growth, according to the latest annual report on the work of the Hampshire Prosperity Partnership Board. By bringing together leaders from business, education and local government, the partnership is unlocking opportunities, attracting investment and building a more prosperous future for communities across the county

Hampshire partnership powers growth, skills and opportunity across the county | Hampshire County Council

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Green light for new primary school in Whitehill and Bordon

A new primary school for Whitehill and Bordon, providing places for up to 430 pupils including specialist facilities for children with special educational needs, has been given the go-ahead after Hampshire County Council's Regulatory Committee approved a planning application for the development

Green light for new primary school in Whitehill and Bordon | Hampshire County Council

£220,000 boost for successful Live Longer Better Hampshire programme

Older residents across Hampshire will benefit from a £220,000 investment to expand the successful Live Longer Better Hampshire programme, helping more people stay active, healthy and independent for longer

£220,000 boost for successful Live Longer Better Hampshire programme | Hampshire County Council

Accessible scales to help disabled residents monitor their health

A new £30,000 grant scheme will help make routine weight checks easier, safer and more dignified for disabled people across Hampshire

Accessible scales to help disabled residents monitor their health | Hampshire County Council

Everyday actions helping Hampshire tackle a changing climate

From reducing energy use in schools to developing skills needed for jobs in renewable power, helping wildlife thrive, and making sure communities are prepared for the future, Hampshire County Council's latest climate change report highlights the practical steps being taken to cut emissions and ensure Hampshire is prepared for the effects of a changing climate

Everyday actions helping Hampshire tackle a changing climate | Hampshire County Council

Smoking rates fall as Hampshire builds a healthier future

Smoking rates have fallen across Hampshire, more than 40,000 NHS health checks have been completed, and residents have been supported to improve

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their health through physical activity, family support and recovery services, according to new public health data from Hampshire County Council

Smoking rates fall as Hampshire builds a healthier future | Hampshire County Council

New support pathway to help Hampshire residents with complex care needs get home sooner after hospital stays

Older people, disabled residents and others who need ongoing care after a hospital stay could return home sooner and receive more coordinated support under a new approach approved by Hampshire County Council

New support pathway to help Hampshire residents with complex care needs get home sooner after hospital stays | Hampshire County Council

Hampshire County Council calls for fairer share of Vehicle Excise Duty to plug highways funding gap

Hampshire County Council is stepping up its call for a fairer share of national transport funding, urging Government to provide long-term, sustainable investment in local roads and give greater flexibility over how funding is spent

Hampshire County Council calls for fairer share of Vehicle Excise Duty to plug highways funding gap | Hampshire County Council

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Appendix 3

Greatham Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting
Greatham Village Hall
Wednesday 14th October 2026 at 7.30 pm

Payments 1st September 2026 to 30th September 2026

Invoice Date	Payee	Description	Net Total	Vat	Total
01/09/2026	Disking	IT/Website	69.70	13.94	83.64
01/09/2026	GiffGaff	Mobile phone contract	5.00	1.00	6.00
01/09/2026	RFO	Salary Aug	340.62	0	340.62
11/09/2026	Starboard Systems	Scribe accounting software Yearly subscription	408.00	81.60	489.60
11/09/2026	BDO	External Auditor costs	210.00	42.00	252.00
11/09/2026	Greatham VH	50% Grant for notice board	1580.00	0	1580.00
11/09/2026	Reg White	Old Church Maintenance	168.00	0	168.00
11/09/2026	Greatham VH	Hall Hire for meeting	7.50	0	7.50
11/09/2026	PCC	Grant to Church for Messy Play project	500.00	0	500.00
21/09/2026	G W Shelters	Refurb of Bus Shelters	10,840.00	2,168.00	13,008.00
21/09/2026	G Hare	Maint. And tree works	840.00	0	840.00
21/09/2026	Mr&Mrs Cope	Refund of donation for notice board	50.00	0	50.00
30/09/3036	GiffGaff	Mobile phone costs	5.00	1.00	6.00
30/09/2026	RFO	Salary Sept	340.62	0	340.62
30/09/2026	Unity Bank	Service Charge	7.00	0	7.00
		Total Paid out			**17,678.98**
		Invoice to pay			
07/08/2026	Greatham VHall	Hall booking for 9/9/26	7.50	0	7.50
07/10/2026	Gavin Hare	September services	780.00	0	780.00
17/10/2026	Reg White	Old Church Maintenance	168.00	0	168.00
		Total to pay			**£955.50**

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Appendix 4: Finance Report and Bank Reconciliations

Receipts 1st September 2026 to 30th September 2026

Total Receipts	**£**12,698.42
Balances as at 30th September 2026	
Current Account T1	£18,748.25
Deposit Account	£52,797.25
Total at Bank	**£71,545.50**

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Appendix 5

Coryton Almshouses Annual Report 2025

Introduction

The Alms houses were erected in 1881 by George Edward Coryton, JP of Liss Place, Petersfield. Coryton was from a family of well-known landowners and agriculturalists, he was born in 1819 and qualified as a county magistrate in Dec 1880 in Winchester (Hampshire Telegraph - Wednesday 22 December 1880). He died aged 67 on 22 March 1886.

The foundation stone inscription states 'in memory of the misses Evans of Darley, Derby'. The Evans family had established an industrial community with workers cottages and a church, and a Miss Evans of Darley House had erected a vicarage house in 1880 (Andrews, A., 2022). The inscription also states the alms houses were erected 'chiefly for the widows of agricultural labourers of the parish of Liss'. They were founded as a private charity and later, in the 1930s, transformed into a public charity, at the wish of Coryton's grandson Capt. A. F. Coryton and his relatives. 'The scheme will be self-supporting, as the endowment will be sufficient to keep the property in repair The Charity was established in 1936 to provide housing for those aged over 60 with limited means from the Liss, Greatham and Hawkley communities and who have at some point worked on the land or in an associated occupation. To that end, the Charity manages four attractive one-bedroom Victorian houses in West Liss.

Trustees

Andrew Crick Appointed 30 May 2019

Clayre Williams Appointed 21 June 2023

Susan Marriott Appointed 14 May 2023

Robert Broome Appointed 25 October 2023 resigned 24 April 2025

David Harvey Appointed 12 September 2025

CORYTON ALMSHOUSES (registered charity number 208239) – ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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