

MINUTES OF THE MICHELDEVER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at East Stratton Village Hall, Church Bank Road, East Stratton.
at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5th March 2025

Councillors present: William Helen (Chairman), David Wandless, Peter O’Keefe, Roger Townsend, Olly Bramley, Lynn Drury, Nick Greenwood, Graham Foot.
In attendance: HCCllr Jackie Porter, DCllr Stephen Godfrey.
Public: 5
Apologies: Cllr Suzy Findley, Cllr Andrew Adams, DCllr Caroline Horrill.

522 CODE OF CONDUCT Cllr William Helen – ESVH (NPI), Cllr Olly Bramley – ESVH (NPI), Cllr Peter O’Keefe – Northbrook Hall (NPI), Cllr Nick Greenwood – ESVH (NPI).

523 MINUTES of the meeting of 5th February 2025 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.

524 MATTERS ARISING from the minutes

524.1 513.1 Village Clock A bat survey is scheduled for March or April 2025.

524.2 513.2 Southbrook Development (Hobbs View) DCllr Horrill is continuing to liaise with the builder in respect of the car park and other unfinished work.

524.3 513.3 The Dove Inn and Half Moon, Assets of Community Value It has been reported that positive work is in progress and that a further update will be provided in April.

524.4 New Devolution & Local Government Reorganisation See 525.1 and 525.2 below.

The meeting adjourned for reports and questions from the public

525 REPORTS

525.1 HCCllr Porter provided a written report (Appendix 1) and drew particular attention to a £13 million Bus Service Improvement Programme which is aiming to restore bus services to at least pre pandemic levels, the HCC budget deficit and rising school transport costs and a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and consultation (available on the HCC website).

The election of a strategic mayor will take place on 7th May 2026 and there will therefore be no county elections in 2025. The local government re-organisation is a separate work programme with first proposals to be submitted by 21st March 2025. HCCllr Porter noted that Hampshire may try for unitary authorities smaller than the Government figure of 500,000 and that conversations are ongoing. Papers will be published on 12th/13th March. HCC are hosting an on-line update for councillors on 19th March.

Cllr Bramley advised HCCllr Porter that the Post Office van did not visit Micheldever on three consecutive weeks and that residents were not made aware that it would not be arriving. HCCllr Porter will investigate.

525.2 DCllr Godfrey noted, in respect of local government re-organisation, that each of the fifteen local authorities seems to have a different plan. The work by consultants KPMG, who have been jointly employed by all the authorities, may provide statistical detail to give more clarity. It is not clear what level of support will be available to parish councils with fewer unitary councillors and no district council.

The Carousel Park appeal plan had to be submitted within eleven months of the decision. Answers to the questions sent by WCC to the agent (for Carousel Park) have been received and discussions are continuing. A decision will be made by Friday on whether the proposed plan will be accepted. Payment has been received for Phase 2.

An application has been made for 150-188 homes on the edge of Winchester and it is thought that such challenges to the existing Local Plan will become more frequent. The proposal for 20 thousand homes at Micheldever Station is another method of challenge by developers. Assurances have been received at cabinet that WCC policy has not changed in respect of new towns.

The Popham Airfield AGM is being held at the Warren Centre on 22nd March and a large attendance is expected. Small grants (up to £1000) are still available from WCC for qualifying bids.

Chairman’s initials Date

526 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

526.1 A resident attended the meeting to raise concerns about the speed of traffic on Overton Road. It was noted that in Alton, cameras record average speeds.

HCCllr Porter will investigate how permission has been given for these.

526.2 Sue Bell noted a recent incident in Micheldever Station, where a rough sleeper was sleeping outside the station building. The Police were informed and visited but then left. On the following morning there was obstreperous behaviour and items were dropped onto the tracks. The emergency call button did not initially work, when it did a message was left. An approaching train, which was not scheduled to stop, was flagged down and the driver dealt with the items on the track. The rough sleeper confronted the driver but he agreed to go on the train to Winchester where Police met him. Sue noted that she felt that the railway dealt very well with the incident whilst the Police response was very poor.
 Sue noted that VE Day is 2 days before the Micheldever Station event on 10th/11th May and requested that there be no clash of events.
 Cllr Bramley noted that the consensus appears to be to celebrate VJ Day instead.

The meeting resumed

527 CORRESPONDENCE received by the Clerk in the past month:

Forestry Commission	Request to draw residents' attention to issues with spruce trees which should be reported.	Item to be included in April Dever.
HCC Community Ranger	Details of new Community Engagement Ranger, Andrew Dawson, North East Access Team.	ROW Volunteers will liaise with Andrew over suitable date to attend PC meeting.
Rural Affordable Homes	Spotlight event, Tuesday 18 th March at Curdridge Reading Room.	Noted.

528 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

528.1 <u>New Applications</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Draft comments</u>
665 Barn A, New Farm, Church Bank Road, East Stratton	Change of use of agricultural building to C3 dwelling house including window changes. Affects the setting of a public Right of way.	Object – no detail provided on protection of ROW.

528.2 The comment on 665 was **agreed**.
 It was noted that a new enforcement case has been opened in respect of land near Coxford Farm, Overton Road.

528.3 517.3 Affordable Housing & Exception Sites
Barron Close WCC are currently reviewing the financial viability of small development projects.

528.4 517.4 Winchester Local Plan The independent inspection of the Plan is awaited.

528.5 517.5 Carousel Park See 525.2 above.

528.6 517.6 Community Greening Campaign & Climate Emergency Noted that WinAcc are facilitating many community events. Details are available at www.winacc.org.uk and via their digital newsletters.

529 PARISH SERVICES

529.1 518.1 Highways Matters The Lengthsman is next due in the Parish on 25th March and councillors were asked to advise Cllr Bramley of any suitable tasks for him to undertake.
 Cllr Bramley is continuing to try to obtain a quote to repair the second bench at Bilberry Lane.
 Cllr Bramley will be attending a further meeting with Iain Curry (BCM) and residents affected by the water running off from fields behind their properties in Micheldever.
 HCCllr Porter advised that she has not yet been advised of the date of the parking consultations for Micheldever and East Stratton.

Chairman's initials Date

529.2 518.2 Network Rail No new reports received this month.

529.3 518.3 SID & Community Funded Initiatives It was **agreed** to order speed limit stickers to a value of around £20 to be used on the SID plates when the device is sited at a different location.

530 SPORTS & RECREATION

530.1 519.1 Warren Field & Play Area Grass cutting quotes were considered. It was **agreed** that the contract for Warren Field should be awarded to the Warren Centre for 2025.

530.2 519.2 LRPF Pavilion & Play Area It was **agreed** that the contract for cutting the LRPF should remain with Grass & Grounds for a further year.
Cllr Bramley will liaise with the ROW Volunteers over the proposed landscaping of the bin area at the LRPF.

531 FINANCE

531.1 Accounts for payment were **agreed**.

		Total	VAT	Net
WCC	Dog bins (July-Dec'24)	260.00	0.00	260.00
Stocksigns Ltd	SID posts	305.23	50.87	254.36
Lynsey Sweeney	ROW expenses (from funds held)	322.20	53.70	268.50
Nigel Pratt	ROW expenses (from funds held)	73.93	12.32	61.61
Peter O'Keefe	Website domain & hosting	304.78	50.80	253.98
Jocelyn Jenkins	February expenses	71.65	0.00	71.65
Jocelyn Jenkins	February salary	955.24	0.00	955.24
DD NEST	February pension contributions	220.57	0.00	220.57

RFO's Report

531.2 520.2 Balances & Bank reconciliation Balances report at 31st January 2025.

Cash held: £51,111.94 Reserves: Earmarked: £39,962. General: £11,150.

531.3 520.3 Bank Accounts This month's payments have been made by BACs from the Unitary Trust account. The mandate form was signed to add Councillor Drury to the mandate for the Unitary Trust account. The Financial Regulations will now be amended to reflect the procedure for making and approving BACs payments.

531.4 520.4 Risk Management The 2025/26 Risk Management Report was **agreed** and signed.

Emergency Plan The Plan is being transferred to the new HCC format.

531.5 New 2024/25 End of Year and Audit The updated Asset Register and Publication Scheme were **agreed**.

532 OTHER COMMITTEES

532.1 521.1 Northbrook Hall Auditions have taken place for the summer production. New lighting has been installed.

532.2 521.2 The Warren Centre Improvements to the car park are being considered by the Committee.

532.3 521.3 East Stratton Village Hall Redecorating is to be undertaken in June.

532.4 521.4 Allotments Renewals are continuing.

532.5 521.5 Media and Broadband The new emails are almost all set up and operating.

532.6 521.6 Monthly Dever item Promotion of the Parish Assembly.

532.7 Other Council matters

532.7.1 521.7.1 Portrait of King Charles It was **agreed** to refund Cllr O'Keefe for the cost of obtaining a framed portrait of the King for Northbrook Hall (around £59).

532.7.2 New Parish Assembly It was **agreed** that the Chairman would ask the Dever Society if they could speak at the Assembly about the latest development in the Micheldever Station 'New Town' proposal.
Cllr Bramley will organise the catering for the Assembly.

Chairman's initials Date

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm

Next meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at East Stratton Village Hall, Church Bank Road, East Stratton.

Parish Assembly: 7.30pm Wednesday 16th April 2025 at Northbrook Hall, Duke Street, Micheldever.

Chairman's signature Date