



MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18th SEPTEMBER 2025, 7.30PM, AT MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr J Channing (Chairman) Cllr Mrs. J Barnett (vice chairman), Cllr P Barnett & Cllr G Jenkins.

In attendance: Heather Bournier – Clerk
HCC David Drew
Vicky Fletcher General Manager National Trust
Marie Stubbington-TVBC Engagement Officer
1 member of the public.

Apologies for Absence

1) Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr A Simmonds & TVBC Cllr Alison Johnston.

2) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interests for matters on the agenda. All Councillors confirmed no amendments were required to Register of Interest forms.

Minutes & Matters arising

3) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2025 were agreed unanimously as a correct record. These were signed by the Chairman.

4) Public Participation

Gillian Chase attended for the final time as she has moved from the parish and wanted to express thanks to all those who have given their time to be Councillors in the 38 years she had lived in the village. The Parish Council thanked Gill for all of her voluntary work in the time she had lived here.

5) Village Hall Update

The Clerk reported following the July Parish Council meeting she had asked the National Trust to refer to the consultant who had recommended the work to be undertaken to remediate the cracking when it last affected to Village Hall and to inspect the work that had been carried out. The Trust has confirmed this will be reviewed in the next couple of weeks.

The Clerk also confirmed she now had sight of a very limited summary of the insurance policy taken out by the Trust to which the Parish Council contribute financially. Details would be reviewed once the cause of the problem was ascertained.

The Clerk confirmed she had taken legal advice on the lease and had been advised that the first steps to be taken should be to ascertain the cause of the damage and the second to establish what insurance cover was in place.

Vicky Fletcher assured all present that the hall was safe to use. She suggested that the income from lettings could be part of the solution in that it could help pay for repairs. The Clerk said the lease would need to change if that was agreed. It was agreed there should be a meeting where representatives of the National Trust, the Parish Council and the Village Hall committee were present, to discuss the issues, once the structural report is available.

6) National Trust Report

Vicky Fletcher, General Manager of Mottisfont Abbey, reported that Newlyns Farmhouse will be renovated as

the funds have now become available. There will be a retrospective listed building application for works to the old kitchen café and a further application for renovating pathways will also be needed. The National Trust as an organisation is restructuring with the aim of cost cutting.

7) Speed Indicator Devices

The Clerk confirmed she had approached TBVC Cllr Johnston to establish if she were able to support an application for a Councillor grant of £1,000.00. A reply is awaited.

In the meantime it was agreed the Clerk would circulate her final report for SID sites for agreement before submitting it to Hampshire Highways.

8) County and Borough Councillors' Reports

HCC Cllr David Drew – had sent his recent report which has been circulated to all Councillors.

TVBC Ali Johnston-had sent her apologies.

9) TVBC Community Engagement Officer

Marie Stubbington TVBC Community Engagement Officer gave details on grants available including Councillor community grants and Community Asset Fund grants.

She also reported a rural community & business Enterprise Grant was about to be launched which will provide grants to support community groups and rural businesses – for example, support for equipment in community hubs, farms looking to diversify and traditional rural businesses like thatching. Full details will be sent to the Clerk. Finally, she said that small Rural Prosperity grants were available to fund for wild flower meadows or community orchards.

10) Community Bus

Cllr P Barnett reported the Broughton Community Bus committee were attempting to raise funds for the purchase of a new community bus. The bus served both Broughton & Mottisfont parishes transporting passengers to nearby towns and events. The bus committee had secured several grants but still had a shortfall on the estimated costs and had asked Mottisfont Parish Council to make a contribution, the suggested figure being £2,000. The MPC budget included a sum of £1000 as a grant for the community bus. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed, that the Parish Council is prepared to contribute the committed sum of £1000 but they would like to know the actual quoted costs of the project before committing any further funds.

11) Local Government Reorganisation.

Proposals for the reorganisation of Hampshire from both TVBC and HCC have been circulated and consultations taken place. Both will be reviewed by central government which will make the final decision as to which authorities will join to form new unitary groups. It is expected a mayor will be appointed in the spring of 2026.

12) Planning

The following decisions by TVBC were noted: None

Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications reviewed between meetings were endorsed: None

Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications were endorsed:

25/01903/PDQS- prior approval for barn conversion-Kimbridge Farm-no comment

25/02050/FULLS-replacement garage with annex over, Wayside, Barley Hill, Dunbridge-no objection

Cllr Channing reported that TVBC Planning had informed him that the application for 12 houses on the old Station Goods Yard at Dunbridge remained pending while discussions with Network Rail are undertaken.

13) Highways issues

Cllr Simmonds had sent apologies.

14) Resilience

Cllr Mrs J Barnett had nothing new to report.

15) Clerks' salary Increase

Revised pay scales to provide inflationary and performance related pay have been issued by the Local Government Association. Cllr Mrs P Barnet had reviewed these alongside the current Clerk's salary and proposed the inflationary rise be agreed plus one scale point rise for performance. Seconded by Cllr Channing all agreed. The agreed rise will be backdated to 1st April 2025.

16) Finance

i) To note the bank balances 09/09/2025: -

TSB Charity account

£10732.47

TSB Business Instant

£12039.04

ii) To approve the following payments and authorise on line transactions: -

National Trust Insurance	£663.40
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H Bournier sal Aug	£322.80
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HMRC	£83.20
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Clerks Exps	£ 30.73
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H Bournier sal Sep	£322.80
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HMRC	£83.20
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Future payment

H Bournier sal October	£354.10
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HMRC	£92.41
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Clerks back pay	£133.10(gross)
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17) Correspondence

18) Any Other Business-

The Clerk said the November meeting would include discussions on 2026 meeting dates and the 2026/27 budget. She will circulate details to aid discussion prior to the meeting.

19) Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 20th November 2025 7.30pm at Mottisfont Village Hall