



MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20th NOVEMBER 2025, 7.30PM, AT MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL

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

In attendance: Heather Bourner – Clerk
HCC David Drew
TVBC Cllr Alison Johnston
Vicky Fletcher General Manager National Trust
0 members of the public

Apologies for Absence

1) There were no apologies for absence.

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 18th September 2025 were agreed unanimously as a correct record. These were signed by the Chairman.

4) Public Participation

There were no members of public present.

5) Village Hall Update

The Clerk reported following the September meeting the National Trust had asked the structural engineers who had recommended the work required to the cracking when it last affected the Village Hall, to inspect the work that had been carried out and establish why there was further cracking now. The Trust has confirmed that the engineers had visited but they are still awaiting the report. Sight of the report is required before the next steps can be decided.

6) National Trust Report

Vicky Fletcher, General Manager of Mottisfont Abbey, reported that there has been some recent break-ins to National Trust properties, although nothing was taken. The Police had attended and recorded details; they suspect the target was machinery. Details of any further issues will be circulated by the local WhatsApp group.

She further said that the recent restructuring at Mottisfont had resulted in some staff redundancies. Finally, she confirmed the Trust were receiving support from a Test Valley Borough Council officer with respect to the listed buildings consent required for the Kitchen Café. There were some issues with Biodiversity Net Gain linked to the application for a sturdy path to the kitchen café. Once resolved an application will be submitted.

7) Speed Indicator Devices

The Clerk confirmed she had sent the report of proposed sites to Hampshire County Council who will review this and then confirm which of those can be used.

She also reported on a grant stream available from the Police & Crime Commissioner which Parish Councils can apply for. Grants will only be given for machines which solely display the green smiley face and red frown face. She said sourcing such a machine was proving very difficult as every machine she can find shows an indicated speed. HCC David Drew agreed to speak to the Police & Crime Commissioner regarding this subject when he meets with her on 21st November. The grant stream closes on 28th November and the Clerk will submit an application before this if a grant can be provided that meets the Parish's requirements. TVBC Cllr A Johnston said that she will support a grant from her Councillor budget.

8) County and Borough Councillors' Reports

HCC Cllr David Drew – had sent his recent report which has been circulated to all Councillors. He highlighted a new consultation regarding Local Government reorganisation and urged all to submit their views.

TVBC Ali Johnston-also on the Test Valley preferred model for Local Government reorganisation and urged everyone to respond to the latest consultation as this will be the last opportunity. She said climate change grants for energy efficiencies are available and it is possible that the Village Hall could benefit. However, it was agreed it would be sensible to wait for the details of the report on the cracking before considering this.

9) Lengthsman

Cllr Simmonds reported an issue has arisen with funding. He has a list of work carried out and the costs, however the cluster lead has suggested the budget for Mottisfont is overspent this year. The figures held by the cluster lead do not match the details held by Cllr Simmonds. The Clerk will obtain full details so she can investigate.

10) Budget 2026/27

The Clerk had sent a draft budget calculation to all councillors and the content was discussed. This included normal day to day expenditure increased in line with inflation but also included a sum to provide funding for the speed awareness project and the purchase of a new community Broughton & Mottisfont Bus. If these sums are included the precept will need to rise to £12500.00. The matter was discussed at length but it was ultimately agreed that if the Parish Council are to meet parishioners' priorities, they need to be able to fund these. Several parishioners use the community bus and many parishioners have asked the Parish Council to do anything they can to prevent speeding traffic in the parish. It was therefore unanimously agreed to request a precept of £12500 for 2026/27.

11) Planning

The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

25/02050/FULLS replacement garage, Wayside, Barley Hill- permission

25/01903/PDQS- prior approval for barn conversion-Kimbridge Farm- approval required & granted

Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications reviewed between meetings were endorsed: 25/02406/LBWS- internal works to listed building-National Trust, Mottisfont Abbey- no objections

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

None

12) Highways issues

Cllr Simmonds had nothing specific to highlight but said work to fill some potholes has taken place. There are still some that require work and some drain problems still to resolve. He will continue to monitor these issues.

13) Resilience

Cllr Mrs J Barnett had nothing new to report but will now be exploring a grant for resilience equipment.

14) Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that although she had purchased defibrillator pads as advised these did not have the correct fittings and further pads had to be purchased. It was agreed as the incorrect pads could not be returned the Clerk would attempt to sell these to another Parish Council.

2026 meeting dates have been circulated to all councillors. These were agreed.

15) Finance

i) To note the bank balances 12/11/2025: -

TSB Charity account

£8665.40

TSB Business Instant

£12084.32

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

H Bournier sal Nov £354.02

HMRC £92.44

Clerks Exps £20.00

Future payment

H Bournier sal Dec £354.02

HMRC £92.44

H Bournier sal Jan £354.02

HMRC £92.44

16) Correspondence

Nothing to report.

17) Any Other Business-

None

18) Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 19th February 2026 7.30pm at Mottisfont Village Hall