

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COUNCIL OF
FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL 3RD MARCH 2026**

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear, Vice Chair: Councillor Pat Young
Councillors: Bob Budd, Kirsty Halls, Glen Hewlett, Gloria Moss, Graham Page, Rick Parker, Jane Parker, Russ Parkinson, Dave Smart, Maggie Watling
County Councillor Jaine Wild

MC 176. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors: Emma Aylward, Antony Bassett, Tom Harty, Jules Verhulpen

MC 177. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None

MC 178. QUESTION TIME:

There were two members of the public present.

One resident enquired regarding the footpath and steps in Flansham Play Park.
Clerk to email Arun District Council to chase.

MC 179. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES:

Councillor Russ Parkinson updated councillors regarding the first meeting of the Bognor Bathing Water Community Group.
Two FOIs are currently in place with Southern Water concerning Lidsey Treatment Works which has now been continuously discharging into the Rife and out onto beaches and into bathing waters since 31 December 2025.

A public meeting is planned for Tuesday 31st March at Aldwick Parish Council Hall 6pm-7.30pm. **Clerk to forward invite to councillors**

MC 180. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND COUNCIL ACTIVITY UPDATE

Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear confirmed his attendance at the recent WSALC and ESALC Chair's Meeting. The meeting was principally concerned with changes to the NPPF/Neighbourhood Plans as well as Parish Council Business Plans.

MC 181. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MAIN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3RD FEBRUARY 2026

The minutes of the Main Council Meeting were APPROVED as a true and accurate record.

MC 182. CLERK'S REPORT

- The Clerk updated councillors regarding recent complaints about unregistered motorbikes being ridden around Felpham footpaths causing a danger and noise nuisance to residents. **Clerk liaising with Sussex Police and WSCC.**
- The Clerk advised councillors that a site visit to Rabbit Island was planned with ADC Planning Officers, EA Officers and Sussex Police in attendance to investigate a variety of issues.
- A resident has enquired regarding a streetlight in Fittleworth Drive that had not been working for several years. Following the Clerk contacting WSCC the following response was received:

You are perfectly correct that light and one other further south, as denoted by the red dots on the below map, were both installed to improve light levels on these paths. Both should have been recorded by our service provider on to our live mapping but this appears not to have been the case.

Since this has now been brought to our attention I have told the service provider to get both units checked out ASAP and the one near you back in light and both added to our inventory for future fault reporting via <https://www.lightsoninwestsussex.co.uk/Public/ReportFault.aspx>

MC 183. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

A number of potholes in Felpham Village and Upper Bognor Road have been reported to West Sussex County Council by the Clerk and County Councillor Jaine Wild.

A further email update has been provided by WSCC:

Thank you for your further enquiry regarding the condition of the roads through Felpham village, namely Felpham Road and Upper Bognor Road.

Having checked with our Carriageway and Footway Team, I would advise that there have been no further developments since our last correspondence in January. As advised, Upper Bognor Road was re-assessed as it has clearly deteriorated in recent times, and the team are exploring the possibility of adding it (and Felpham Road) to the programme for delivery in 2027/28. The inclusion of these roads will not be known until about this time next year when the programme is confirmed.

At the current time, the team are working on getting the 2026/27 programme up and running. In about May, they will begin looking at sites for 2027/28.

I appreciate the level of enquiries concerning both of these roads is very high and I will keep you up to date over the course of the next 12 months with regard to any updates I receive from the Carriageway and Footway Team.

Finally, as you may have noticed, we have placed 'uneven road' boards at the Butlins entrance end of Upper Bognor Road to make road users aware of the surface condition in this particular section.

MC 184. REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- (i) **District Councillor Joan English** (Felpham East) – Not present at meeting and no reports received.
- (ii) **District Councillor Tom Harty** (Felpham East) – Not present at meeting and no reports received.
- (iii) **District Councillor Gill Madeley** (Felpham West) - Not present at meeting and no reports received.
- (iv) **District Councillor Elaine Stainton** (Felpham West) - Not present at meeting and no reports received.
- (v) **County Councillor Jaine Wild** submitted the following report in advance of the meeting:
 - 1. Have contacted WSCC a number of times regarding Pot Holes in Binsted Avenue, Downview Road and Felpham Village.
 - 2. Just this half term WSCC Highways have finished off the Footpath behind Downview School and new Footpath signs have gone up everywhere.
 - 3. I wrote to Tesco's Express re the litter and received a very positive e mail back
 - 4. Contacted WSCC Highways regarding a flooded pavement outside 61 Downview Road which they came to look at
 - 5. Received a multitude of e mails regarding the flooding all over Felpham and Bognor Regis, all of which I looked into reported and responded to
 - 6. One resident wasn't happy with the crossing at Drygrounds Lane regarding the signage and this was dealt with
 - 7. Contacted WSCC Highways regarding a sign needed saying no motorbikes on the footpath next to Golf Course
 - 8. Dealt with numerous e mails regarding Rabbit Island and waste being buried etc
 - 9. Had a meeting with WSCC Highways and the Chairman of Blakes Cottage re signage and other concerns
 - 10. Had a Teams meeting with WSCC on Secondary School Admissions and fulfilling of places there.

MC 185. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE DATED 3RD FEBRUARY 2026.

The minutes were APPROVED by the members present of the Finance & Administration Committee as a true and accurate record

MC 186. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported on correspondence from Arun District Council regarding the bus stop at Flansham Surgery. The Clerk has advised ADC that this stop is extensively used by residents and would need to be kept in place. Felpham Parish Council would not wish to take ownership from Arun District Council and incur associated future maintenance costs.

MC 187. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, LICENSING & NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE DATED 3RD FEBRUARY 2026

The minutes were APPROVED by the members present of the Planning, Licensing

& Neighbourhood Plan Committee as a true and accurate record.

MC 188. CLERK'S REPORT

None

MC 189. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PROJECTS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE DATED 10TH FEBRUARY 2026

The minutes were APPROVED by the members present of the Projects and Community Involvement Committee as a true and accurate record.

MC 190. CLERK'S REPORT

None

MC 191. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE DATED 10TH FEBRUARY 2026

The minutes were APPROVED by the members present of the Allotments and Open Spaces Committee as a true and accurate record.

MC 192. CLERK'S REPORT

None

MC 193. TO RATIFY THE DECISION OF THE ALLOTMENTS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE TO AUTHORISE REPAIRS TO THE FLINT WALL AT FAGS ALLOTMENTS.

Councillor Dave Smart proposed that councillors ratify the decision of the Allotments and Open Spaces Committee to authorise repairs to the flint wall at FAGS allotments at a cost of £6570.00 including VAT. This was seconded by Councillor Bob Budd and unanimously agreed.

MC 194. MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE:

None

MC 195. BUSINESS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION:

Councillor Dave Smart updated councillors regarding Blake's Cottage.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 7th April 2026 6.15pm

Approved.....Chairman

Date