

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COUNCIL OF  
FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026**

**PRESENT:**

Chair: Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear, Vice Chair: Councillor Pat Young  
Councillors: Glen Hewlett, Gloria Moss, Russ Parkinson, Dave Smart, Maggie Wattling

**MC 196. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors: Emma Aylward, Antony Bassett, Bob Budd, Kirsty Halls, Tom Harty, Graham Page, Rick Parker, Jane Parker, Jules Verhulpen  
County Councillor Jaine Wild

**MC 197. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None

**MC 198. QUESTION TIME:**

There were four members of the public present.

**MC 199. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES:**

Councillor Russ Parkinson reported on the recent Bognor Bathing Group meeting which was poorly chaired by Southern Water.  
The Clerk reported on continuing correspondence with Southern Water/EA regarding the continuing storm overflows from Lidsey Treatment Works into Felpham bathing waters despite dry weather.  
Councillor Glen Hewlett updated councillors on recent correspondence received from The Littlehampton Society indicating the project's failure to secure support in the UK Government's Offshore Wind Allocation Round 7 (AR7) subsidy auction, announced on 14 January 2026.

**MC 200. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND COUNCIL ACTIVITY UPDATE**

Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear advised councillors of his attendance at the Mayor's civic end of year ceremony.  
Preparations for Fun in the Park are underway which will be a bigger event than previously.

**MC 201. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MAIN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2026**

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

**MC 202. CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported on continuing complaints from residents regarding the state of Felpham roads which have been sent to West Sussex Highways.

**MC 203. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**MC 204. 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:
  - 1. The bridge on Rabbit Island is still being worked on, I am enquiring on a final date so we can have a litter pick as lots of rubbish around in the river area.
  - 2. At a School admissions meeting I was told there were 48 vacant places at Felpham Community College, so everyone who wanted to go to certain schools has been able to. There were 144 fewer children applying for schools in West Sussex.
  - 3. I have been onto WSCC Highways at all times re the pot holes and some have now been repaired, and had a meeting with them at their Drayton depot site
  - 4. All street lights will becoming LED, there are 65,249 lanterns in West Sussex
  - 5. Traffic signals have now all been converted to LED and the new lights will save £594,000 in energy costs
  - 6. I have a site visit with my Planning Committee at Comet Corner on Friday 10th April and this will be discussed on Agenda Tuesday 14th April at County Hall Planning Committee.

Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear reminded councillors of the County Council elections next month. Thanks was offered to Felpham West Sussex County Councillor Jaine Wild for her exceptional work over recent years.

**MC 205. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE DATED 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2026.**

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

**MC 206. CLERK'S REPORT**

None

**MC 207. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, LICENSING & NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE DATED 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2026**

The minutes were APPROVED by the members present of the Planning, Licensing & Neighbourhood Plan Committee as a true and accurate record.

**MC 208. CLERK'S REPORT**

None

**MC 209. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PROJECTS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE DATED 10TH MARCH 2026**

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

**MC 210. CLERK'S REPORT**

None

**MC 211. TO RATIFY THE DECISION OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REGARDING CLERK/RFO HOURS**

**Councillor Glen Hewlett proposed that councillors ratify the decision of the Finance and Administration Committee regarding Clerk/RFO hours. This was seconded by Councillor Gloria Moss and unanimously agreed.**

**MC 212. TO RATIFY THE DECISION OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE TO APPROVE DONATION OF UNUSED COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES.**

**Councillor Dave Smart proposed that councillors ratify the decision of the Finance and Administration Committee to approve donation of unused councillor allowances. This was seconded by Councillor Russ Parkinson and unanimously agreed.**

**MC 213. TO RATIFY THE DECISION OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GRANTS WORKING PARTY.**

**Councillor Glen Hewlett proposed that councillors ratify the decision of the Finance and Administration Committee to approve the recommendations of the Grants Working Party. This was seconded by Councillor Maggie Wattling and unanimously agreed.**

**MC 214. MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE:**

None

**MC 215. BUSINESS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION:**

Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear reminded councillors that the date of the next Annual Parish Meeting, Main Council Meeting and Annual Parish Elector's Meeting will be Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Councillors to contact Clerk with any different committees or proposals for Chairs/Vice Chairs for ballot papers.

Councillor Dave Smart thanked Chair Russ Marsden-Sear for his work as Chair of Felpham Parish Council this year.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026:

- 6pm Annual Parish Meeting
- 6.30pm Main Council
- 7pm Annual Parish Elector's Meeting

Approved.....Chairman

Date .....