

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAIN COUNCIL OF
FELPHAM PARISH COUNCIL 6TH OCTOBER 2026**

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear, Vice Chair: Councillor Pat Young
Councillors: Bob Budd, Kirsty Halls, Glen Hewlett, Russ Parkinson, Maggie Watling

MC 88. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors: Emma Aylward, Antony Bassett, Tom Harty, Gloria Moss, Graham Page, Jane Parker, Rick Parker, Dave Smart

MC 89. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None

MC 90. QUESTION TIME:

There were four members of the public present.

The President of Felpham Sailing Club attended to advise councillors of the importance and success of the club in Felpham: One of the top 10 sailing clubs in GB, British Youth Sailing Recognised Club, provides training for up to 60 children throughout year, recently held West Sussex Regatta. Next year solo nationals will be held at Felpham Sailing Club, bringing tourism into area. The club also operates rescue boats. Recent grant applications have been unsuccessful, and the club would once again like to build a better relationship with Felpham Parish Council.

Councillors explained that the grants budget has been cut and that all applications are carefully considered particularly regarding whether previous successful applications have been made and the number of Felpham residents that directly benefit.

The decision to move Fun on the Prom to Fun in the Park was made due to the event outgrowing the limited space at the greensward. The Sailing Club were warmly invited to attend the event on 7th August 2027.

MC 91. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES:

None

MC 92. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No updates to report.

**MC 93. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE
MAIN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8TH SEPTEMBER 2026.**

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

MC 94. CLERK'S REPORT

- A response to the questions put to Sussex Police has been received and circulated to all councillors.
- Reports have been made to Arun District Council regarding the infrequent emptying of rubbish bins on Blake's Mead Estate and graffiti on the skate park.
- Emails were sent to the Chair of Planning and Elections at Arun District Council regarding the implications of the Community Governance Review on the Felpham Neighbourhood Plan. **Clerk to object via consultation.**
- There has been vandalism to the noticeboard at Flansham Park and repairs have been instructed.

MC 95. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Reports of antisocial student behaviour and vandalism at the Downview Road bus stop were received with the bus stop glass being smashed. Clerk contacted Felpham Community College and Arun District Council to report.

MC 96. 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 David Darling** submitted the following report in advance:

1.WSCC Member briefing 25th September confirming that LGR paused and reviewed.

Arun DC elections now very likely to go ahead in May 2027.

2.I attended Yapton Parish Council meeting 14th September where the Hoe Lane/Flansham boundary was discussed.

The feelings expressed by Cllrs present were that it should remain within Yapton. Lauren Bailey was asked to complete the Arun DC consultation to this effect.

MC 97. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE DATED 8TH SEPTEMBER 2026.

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

MC 98. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE DATED 8TH SEPTEMBER 2026.

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

MC 99. CLERK'S REPORT

None

MC 100. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, LICENSING & NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE DATED 8TH SEPTEMBER 2026

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

MC 101. CLERK'S REPORT

None

MC 102. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PROJECTS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE DATED 15TH SEPTEMBER 2026

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

MC 103. CLERK'S REPORT

None

MC 104. TO DECLARE A VACANCY

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (1972 (Section 87(2)): Vacancy for a councillor public notice is hereby given that a casual vacancy has occurred in the office of Councillor for the Parish of Felpham due to the resignation of Jules Verhulpen. Rule 5(2) of The Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 now applies and the notice will be displayed with effect from 7/10/26.

MC 105. TO RATIFY THE DECISION OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE TO APPROVE DONATION OF UNUSED COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES.

Councillor Glen Hewlett proposed that councillors ratify the decision of the Finance and Administration Committee to approve the donation of unused councillor allowances. This was seconded by Councillor Bob Budd and unanimously agreed.

MC 106. TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF DEFIBRILLATOR EQUIPMENT

Councillor Kirsty Halls proposed that councillors approve the purchase of defibrillator equipment costing £1058.70 ex VAT. This was seconded by Councillor Bob Budd and unanimously agreed.

Councillor Kirsty Halls proposed an extension to the meeting time. This was seconded by Councillor Glen Hewlett and unanimously agreed.

MC 106. TO APPROVE THE USE OF CIL FUNDS TO PURCHASE TWO PICNIC TABLES.

A recent asset inspection identified the need to replace two picnic tables at Flansham Playground.

Councillor Glen Hewlett proposed that councillors approve the purchase and installation of two picnic tables from CIL funds. This was seconded by Councillor Kirsty Halls and unanimously agreed.

MC 107. BUDGET SETTING

Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear reminded councillors that any amendments to budgets would need to be proposed by the end of the month. Chairs and Vice Chairs are reminded to liaise with the RFO.

Councillor Bob Budd enquired regarding the possibility of computer training and a budget exists for councillor training.

MC 108. MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE:

None

MC 109. BUSINESS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION:

Councillor Russ Marsden-Sear advised councillors that the Finance and Administration Committee had authorised the purchase of a gift for a councillor who is currently unable to attend meetings.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd November 2026.

Approved.....Chairman

Date