



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTH WONSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 13th April 2026 at 7.30PM

To be held at South Wonston Sports & Recreation Pavilion

Present: Chair Perrins, Cllrs Peal, Hussain, Tucker, Sheppard, Berry and Lohani, Lt Col Janet Johnston, Reverend Jo Criscenti, City Councillor Godfrey, City Councillor Horrill & Clerk Mrs R Jones

26/001 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Jordan and County Cllr Warwick.

26/002 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No interests to be declared.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders.

26/003 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident from South Wonston asked what has happened to the clothes bank. Clerk spoke to The Salvation Army who said that it was removed on behalf of Winchester City Council.

26/004 REPORTS FROM LOCAL COUNCILLORS, MOD and POLICE

Cllr Godfrey gave an update from Winchester City Council which included:

- Local Government Review was agreed just before purdah. The decision on the grouping is noted below;
- The local plan has been approved with all the modifications required and with 6.2 years-worth of land supply. It is not expected that any specific applications will be successful which are not covered by the Local Plan. The Local Plan review will start soon and face a new housing target of 4000 or more homes which will affect most parishes. After a Call for Sites last December, proposals for the Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment will be published this summer. A large number appeared in our ward last time and it is possible Micheldever New Town may emerge again. **Changes to the National Planning Policy Framework will mean that Supplementary Planning Documents will no longer be identified as planning documents and Village Design Statements which form part of these will lose their impact and have to reflect the Local Plan in a different way.**

Lt Col Janet Johnston gave a further update from Worthy Down which included:

- Triple Crown event – 13th May 2026;
- Worthy Down Museum - events that run during the summer to be shared within the village;
- Astro turf football pitches are not fit for purpose and require resurfacing, so currently unavailable to hire for winter football practice;
- Discussion about land to the east of the pavilion.

Cllr Warwick from Hampshire County Council was unable to attend, but submitted her monthly report which is attached to the minutes.

DEVOLUTION & REORGANISATION

Information from Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council – 25.2.26

Today, the Government has announced its decision on the structure of new councils across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and has opted for **Option 1a**. There will be four new mainland councils, keeping the Isle of Wight as a separate unitary council. It means there will be a new mid-Hampshire council created from the footprint of the districts of Winchester, East Hampshire, Test Valley and the New Forest, including

the relevant services from Hampshire County Council. This is the option that has boundary changes

The five new councils in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight will be:

- North Hampshire: Basingstoke, Hart and Rushmoor
- Mid Hampshire: New Forest, Test Valley, Winchester and East Hampshire
- South West Hampshire: Eastleigh and Southampton
- South East Hampshire: Portsmouth, Havant, Gosport and Fareham
- Isle of Wight

Option 1A includes the following boundary changes:

- Moving the parishes of Totton and Eling, Marchwood, Hythe and Dibden, Fawley (currently under New Forest District Council) and Chilworth, Nursling, Rownhams and Valley Park (currently under Test Valley Borough Council) to the South West unitary council.

Moving the parishes of Newlands (currently under Winchester City Council) Clanfield, Horndean and Rowlands Castle (currently under East Hampshire District Council) to the South East unitary council

What this means for residents

At the moment, there is still a lot of detail we don't yet know and we'll keep you up to date as plans progress. Everything remains the same for you until the new council is formed. We, as Winchester City Council, will continue to deliver services, and while we're doing this, we'll be working closely with our confirmed partner councils to create a new unitary council, responsible for all your services in one place. The new council will be up and running on 1 April 2028.

The Chair resumed Standing Orders

26/005 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9th MARCH 2026. THE MOST RECENT MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL SIGNED AT THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting following minor amendments.

26/006 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9th MARCH 2026

To be noted

26/007 FINANCE

- Recent Transactions

A spreadsheet of recent transactions was provided for all Members.

It was RESOLVED to approve the transactions. All aspects of social and environmental values have been considered. A copy is appended to these minutes.

- Account Reconciliations

The balances were noted and reconciliations to be signed by the Chair, to confirm the Council's monitoring role.

The Bank Balances as at 31st March 2026 were:

Co-op Deposit Account 7	£ 87,324.22
Lloyds Account 10	£106,085.64
Total =	£193,409.86

To be noted

- Financial Systems Risk Assessment 2025/26

Clerk explained the suggested changes compared to the previous year. The internal auditor has reviewed the document.

It was RESOLVED to approve the Risk Assessment.

The Chairman suspended standing orders

Cllr Horrill gave an update from Winchester City Council which included:

- The Winchester Sports Facility Assessment and Playing Field Strategy has been reviewed. This looks at current and future needs across the district;
- The new Mid Hants unitary authority will have two National Parks - New Forest and South Downs – which will impact planning.

26/008 PLANNING

- Applications to be considered.

Reference	26/00632/HOU
Alternative Reference	PP-14806344
Application Received	Tue 24 Mar 2026
Application Validated	Tue 24 Mar 2026
Address	3 Markson Road South Wonston Winchester Harr
Proposal	Proposed Side Extension and Garage Conversion to Create a Disabled Living Accommodation
Inspected By	Cllr June Perrins

Comment	The proposed extension is in keeping with the existing property and will run along the existing boundary. The new extension is well below the ridge height. There is also still adequate parking available in front of the new extension.
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- Decisions by WCC

Reference	26/00349/HOU
Alternative Reference	PP-14714579
Application Received	Fri 20 Feb 2026
Application Validated	Fri 20 Feb 2026
Address	53 Downlands Way South Wonston Winchester Hampshire SO21 3HS
Proposal	Single storey rear extension & internal redesign to consist of an enlarged kitchen/ dining/ social room overlooking the rear garden.
Inspected By	Cllr Perrins
Decision	Application Permitted

Reference	26/00075/TPO
Alternative Reference	PP-14628576
Application Received	16 January 2026
Application Validated	13 February 2026
Address	9 Orchard Close South Wonston Winchester Hamp
Proposal	T3 - Remove eastern stem down to approximately 12m to just below the area of necrotic bark (prune to appropriate side branch) ? see enclose image. Remove any poorly attached deadwood greater than 50mm in diameter.

Inspected By	Cllr June Perrins
Decision	Application Permitted

Reference	25/00641/FUL
Alternative Reference	PP-13820118
Application Received	Tue 25 Mar 2025
Application Validated	Tue 25 Mar 2025
Address	Land North Of 17 Blackthorn Close South Wo
Proposal	Proposed Residential Dwelling
Inspected By	Cllr Perrins
Decision	Application Withdrawn

To be noted

- Enforcements Open

An update on the open cases has been received for April which was shared with Councillors. There has been no change and case 26/00013/COU remains on the register

To be noted

- Local Plan- Update from Winchester City council

The Winchester District Local Plan has been recommended to council for adoption by Cabinet, and a final decision will be made at a full council meeting tomorrow. Our Local Plan has been progressing through the examination process, and on Wednesday 11 March we received confirmation from the Independent Planning Inspector, R

Barrett MRTPI IHBC, that they found the plan, with the main modifications, to be sound, legally compliant and ready for adoption. Following last summer's examination hearings, the eight-week public consultation on the Main Modifications concluded earlier this year, which ensured the Winchester District Local Plan met all the legal requirements set by government. The plan is being considered for adoption through our democratic decision-making process, and will be debated at Scrutiny Committee on 17 March 2026, before then being considered by Cabinet the following day and then full Council on Tuesday 24 March 2026.

SW01 West Hill Road North- no further update

To be noted

- Village Design Statement

On Monday 23rd March the second VDS Public Meeting was attended by 29 people. Banners at the end of Downs Rd and on West Hill Rd (mysteriously disappeared at some point) and Social Media posts seem to have resulted in such a good attendance. One more Public Meeting is proposed. Cllr Jordan will collate the suggestions made at the meeting into the next draft. One email was subsequently received from a parishioner about preserving local views and Rights of Way, including Drove Links Rd (still private) and reducing traffic along Alresford Drove to protect vulnerable users.

COMMENTS FROM THE SECOND VDS MEETING 23/03/2026

IN ATTENDANCE: 29 residents including Parish Councillors and a City Councillor.

IDENTITY AND KEY VIEWS

Views are always valued. Protection of these views means protection of our character and history. We should include views into and out of South Wonston. Views into the village should be from as far away as the South Downs National Park and Beacon Hill at Highclere. We should also include views towards the A34 and from Stavedown Rd and from Connaught Rd at Worthy Down towards South Wonston and the Water Tower. The role of topography is important: at the west end of the village the houses and the Water Tower are clearly visible but at the east end houses are not so visible where the ridge is lower. Development at the lower end should not spoil incoming views. The height of development is also a factor; three storeys aren't desirable.

GREEN SPACES, GAPS AND RURAL CHARACTER

Green spaces and gaps are important because they encourage wildlife, preserve archaeological sites and are good places to play for families.

South Wonston is defined by trees and greenery. The remains of a line of Scots Pines divides Waverley Drive where two phases of development took place, contributing to the character of South Wonston.

DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH WONSTON

Brownfield sites should be developed first. Blackthorn and Paddock Closes would be good sites for development without expanding the settlement boundary (i.e. within the settlement boundary). Where should traffic be channelled? Along the same roads or new ones? There is a danger of Alresford Drove becoming a rat run. A large development with no change to roads is not workable and should be reflected in the VDS. Industrial development in the village could include energy generation and infrastructure to achieve higher broadband speeds with the potential for employment opportunities, home working and less travelling. Where should employment sites go?

WHAT MUST NOT BE LOST

An important feeling of space in the village due to its layout.

A defined boundary (meaning a clear outline, not necessarily the settlement boundary?)

Rural character, not a commuter suburb.

Trees: significant groups breaking up the views round South Wonston.

Walks round the village and wider rural connections to Kings Worthy.

Safety: facilities, employment and no travel issues.

Fences: no high panels or gates to preserve spaciousness (possibly better expressed as an expectation of low fences and hedges?)

BIODIVERSITY

There is a need for protection. Deer, chalkland butterflies, birds of prey, owls and bats were mentioned. Planning applications shouldn't seek to mitigate development by providing bat boxes elsewhere. The VDS should be linked with the Sustainability Group's Bioblitz. Sparsholt College could be invited to undertake a practice survey. Trees are important. To counter non-native planting by developers, a long-term programme or tree strategy should be created to deliver native trees. The mental health benefits of access to green space were noted.

EXPECTATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Development should fit in with South Wonston. Residents raised issues of no overlooking, small gardens, houses not crammed in, community spaces, sympathetic brick colours, energy efficiency, parking (one car per house (but more cars a realistic prospect), not on street but drives, pressing for decent public transport, restricted parking being acceptable if good transport was available, more frequent and cheaper, the problem of late road adoption and the need for cars in the countryside leading to commuting. South Wonston has been described as the longest cul de sac (i.e. not a through route). Should the Alresford Drove revert to being a green track? More traffic and enlargement of the drove is not supportable. Better green space means fewer houses. More houses will bring more cars and nowhere to park. High density and no parking spaces will change the character of the village. Better green space and smaller houses with parking for visitors and residents is desirable. The village must be balanced out by space to avoid an enclosed feeling.

WHAT WOULD MAKE SOUTH WONSTON BETTER?

Public buildings,

Solar Panels.

Changes not driven by developers.

Geo energy: ground source heat pumps.

Community energy development: independence from the National Grid, local power into the grid or for local benefit?

Features to accord with the aesthetics of South Wonston.

Roof orientation: dormer windows on the cool side (natural cooling) and more north-south orientation than east-west for new builds.

No solar farms.

Infrastructure to be adopted.

Mains drainage and water supply secured.

Sewers to be adopted with roads and to be of an acceptable standard. A condition for development not to be finalized until the infrastructure is settled.

GP services should return to the village. The Surgery plot must be protected against development.

Need to secure a Memorial Garden for the deposition of ashes in or outside the settlement area. Where could this be located? Allotments are also needed. The BMX track area on the recreation ground was suggested.

Land put forward for development but not yet in line should be invested in for community assets.

Do we want solar panels on DIO land to the south?

Where could a communications mast be sited for better coverage?

Infrastructure improvements especially electricity should be funded by the developer.

To be noted**26/009 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ORCHARD & ALLOTMENTS**

No update

- to receive an update from the Sustainability Working Party; see the below minutes of the meeting

JTH WONSTON SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATION TEAM MEETING

7.30pm – 9.00pm, 7th April 2026, The Pavilion

MINUTES

Apologies for absence: Lillie Holmes, Nickey Turner, Phil Oram, John Cooper, Sonia Roper, Neil Roper.

Present: Kim Blakeway, Sally Taviner, John Smith, Stephen Godfrey

Agree minutes from previous meetings and matters arising

Netting poster outline – Reviewed and comments sent to Sonia Roper.
 Support for WeCAN – Kim to suggest match funding approach.
 OnePlanet platform. App is to help link goals with outcomes/actions.
 SWS needs to consider what projects might usefully access this information.

Summer Fete Grant. Ideas for consideration: School project; Bat box projects; Bee bricks for distribution; Swift boxes; Hedge projects; Free trees for planting; Biodiversity survey around the village. Stephen to seek feedback from group and from Clare Knock.

Gardening advice – Avril Burt is providing this service.

Parish Council – Updates

Swift box caller – turn on

WiFi password for pavilion – what is it?

First Aid Training for 2-3 people still required – c£300

Pull Up Banner – c£120

Review recent events

- Repair Café –28th March – 14 customers attended. Another 64kg of waste and 870kg equivalent CO2 emissions was prevented. Knives sharpened.
- SW PC Village Design Statement Public Workshop – 23rd March 2026 – well attended and VDS is improving. VDS to be reviewed when next shared
- WeCan Network Event 10 Mar – well received

Forthcoming events

- Repair Café – 25th April and 30th May and Plant Sale. Group to seek contributions for plant sale
- School Summer Fun Day – 16th May 11-1. Skaletrix and SWS Energy Group. Stu Mills to bring track. John and Sally to set up thermal imaging camera and Stephen to close up. Display boards and other items?
- South Wonston School Climate Action Plan – Nickey and Vi to contact school again.
- WeCan Network Event – 12 May St Laurence Room, Colebrook St - 1900

Sub-Group Updates

- Travel
- Circular economy
- Energy – Pull Up Banner for Thermal Camera - £120. Sally to provide design ideas. Kim to find details of ethical supplier. Case Study to be developed in autumn using thermal image camera.
- Food Group

Communications

- Monthly Newsletter – regular schedule
- Website/Social Media
- West Dever News items – Repair Café with Plant Sale

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 5th May 2026, 7.30pm in South Wonston Pavilion.

- Air Quality

Cllr Jordan submitted a report which has been shared with Councillors and is on the website. It is still showing as good but can this now be moved to outside the school.

To be noted

- Pavilion Solar Panels Project Plan

Clerk issued tender documents to the list of solar suppliers with a closing date of Friday 10th April. A number of them made arrangements to meet Clerk and Cllr Sheppard at the Pavilion before submitting tenders. Cllr Sheppard has written an update and shared with Councillors. There was a discussion about the differences between the quotes and what differences the solar company providers are suggesting. Cllr Shepherd agreed that she would put all the costs into a table.

To be noted

26/010 RIGHTS OF WAY & AMENITY LAND

- Lengthsmen Work

Additional Agreed Cost 25/26

Lengthsman scheme pays for 30 hours per year. (3 visits x 10 hours each) = £900 4 visits 12 hours each visit = 48 hours £1440 Balance £1000 scheme funding Line Total £440.00. This was formally agreed in April 2026. The Parish Council have decided to continue with this arrangement for 2026/27.

It was RESOLVED to approve the additional spend

26/011 PAVILION & RECREATION

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PAVILION AND RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE 11/03/26

PRESENT: Cllrs Perrins (Chair) and Peal and Clerk Mrs R. Jones.

APOLOGIES: Cllr Hussein.

PAVILION AND RECREATION GROUND

The tennis court and bus shelters are to be cleaned by Pro Clean. The tennis net will be replaced for the summer season. A windbreak for the court on which banners can be displayed is to be purchased. Caloo will clean, service and re-paint the outdoor gym equipment in the summer. Pro Clean will clean the drinking fountain.

Solar Panel Project: it was agreed that three quotes would be needed for the 35-panel model favoured by the Parish Council. Clerk had found a company which recommends best value gas and electricity suppliers. She offered to investigate which supplier offers the best savings. She also referred to a shared email about financial journalist Martin Lewis's advice on the break-even point when project costs may be recovered. Members thought that, as the solar panels and associated equipment would cost more than £20,000, independent financial advice should be sought.

Changing Rooms: the handyman/caretaker is set to clean the changing rooms after football on 8th March. Russell Mack has repaired the damaged bench. Members approved the suggestion of a deep clean. Clerk agreed to locate a suitable firm.

Members considered the purchase of aprons printed with appropriate wording for the Community Café volunteers to reinforce the Parish Council's image. Clerk undertook to source them.

A mobile café run by a resident of Worthy Down will appear on the Recreation Ground Car Park in summer. The same electrical connection and safety method used by previous mobile café owners will be used. Clerk was given the go-ahead to seek three quotes for the tree house proposed for the playground.

The rainwater harvesting facility which flushed the male and female toilets has broken down; the pump is broken and the fuse board is being tripped. It was decided to use mains water for flushing as a safety precaution.

The Car Park lights are also tripping the mains circuit. A local electrician will resolve the situation.

Insurance: Clerk drew members' attention to building valuation advice from the Hampshire Association of Local Councils.

Members agreed to explore sources of new chairs of robust quality with a solid seat (no gap) and wipe-clean surface. This is an on-going item.

DATE OF THE LAST MEETING

To be announced.

To be noted

- Football

Clerk and Cllr Stu Tucker's have met with The Secretary and Chairman of Swifts to understand their plans for the next football season, which seemed very positive. Cllr Stu Tucker to give an update to Council

Clerks notes to the meeting

Current Age Group Structure Going Forward

2025/26

Under 7

Under 9- New, started training

Under 16 – don't play here. Will finish top of league this year.

Under 18 Team

Sunday Team – to continue

2026/27

Under 8

Under 10

Maybe opportunity to resurrect an under 18 – made up from under 16 above + Littleton + K/Worthy

2x Sunday Team (maybe possible to have 2 teams to include under 18 from 25/26)

Approached to run under 13 girls team from Andover

- Swifts will look to get a volunteer car parking attendant
- What's App – Add Stu
- Media & Fixtures – volunteer required

Costs for 26/27 = ? to discuss based on teams playing for 2026/27

Garage – clearing poles over the next month

Goal Sets

Full Set of Adult Goals

Full Set of Adult Goals & Sockets – Stored At Gratton and opportunity to bring to South Wonston. Will leave in Sutton Scotney

Need to buy a set of full size goals – grant from FA (75%?) £2.5K - £3K. Stu and Rachael to speak to the Council about supporting with a grant. Swifts will buy a new set for under 10's

Rachael to contact WD to see about Swifts using floodlit football pitch – 2 nights a week x 1hr Mid Oct – End of March - £. Some children from WD play for the teams

Under 8 coaching through club
 Ryan Brown did his own coaching
 Player pathway to Adult football

Community Engagement

Banners
 Sponsorship banners
 Race nights at club
 Annual Awards – Friday 19th June 6.30 – 10.00

Discussed fixtures for 2025/26 Sunday team – ready to invoice
 NB – to unplug batteries for floodlights in store cupboard

To be noted

26/012 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

- To receive updates from City Council Warwick and Councillors

1. Southern Water Works

Clerk would like to comment that this has been run very poorly by Southern Water. Following the email below there was a comment on Facebook by a resident to say that Southern Water have now pulled off site. Clerk will look to ensure that when they return this will be better shared by social media, clearly letter writing is very dated and didn't reflect the opening and closing of the road.

To be noted

2. Lighting on Downs Road

Cllr Lohani reported, following guidance from HCC street lighting, it has been confirmed that the street lights in South Wonston area are switched off during night as part of current energy saving measures. Therefore, replacing or upgrading the existing light would not make a difference, as the lighting is intentionally turned off during these hours. However, under section 278 agreement between HCC and potential developers, we may be able to request a lamp replacement as part of their contribution to the development. This could save SWPC approx. £16,000.

To be noted

- **M3 junction 9 improvements project**

Updates shared with the Parish Council and put on Facebook and Instagram.

To be noted

- **Speed Detection Unit**

GT Digital has taken over the running, charging and reporting of data from the two SDU's. The SDU batteries are on charge and therefore both units should be back online by Monday 13/04/26. Clerk to send over the company information so the software can be downloaded and information reported to the May Parish Council meeting.

To be noted**26/013 GENERAL AMENITIES**

- **Litter Picking Christmas Hill & Alresford Drove**

Both roads have been cleared by volunteers from the village and the RRT Charity.

A big thank you to everyone who helped!

To be noted

- **Ashes Interment: Parcel of land on Downs Road.**

Cllr John Berry discussed with the Councillors the possibility of a parcel of land on Downs Road becoming available for Ash interment. He needs to find out from the land owner the size as it is currently very overgrown and whether the land can be purchased.

To be noted.**26/014 COMMUNITY UPDATES**

Residents to be reminded that correspondences should go via Clerk so they can be recorded and shown in the log below

- **Correspondences were received from:**

9/3/26 – A resident of South Wonston – Amenity land cut back in Lovell Close

16/3/26 (x3) – A resident of South Wonston – Tennis Court Bookings
 20/3/26 – A resident of South Wonston - Bollard installed on restricted byway
 21/3/26 – A resident of South Wonston - Mobile sauna
 23/3/26 – A resident of South Wonston - unable to attend VDS meeting, supporting work done
 26/3/26 (x2) – A resident of South Wonston - Public order incident, request of any footage
 26/3/26 – A resident of South Wonston – VDS comments
 31/3/26 – A resident of South Wonston - tennis net
 10/4/26 – A resident of South Wonston - Pickleball

To be noted

- Annual Parish Council Meeting

Cllrs to discuss Agenda items and guest speakers to be invited.

Ideas of guest speakers

- Local Plan – declined invite as they are a small team
- National Highways – A34/ M3 Junction 9 – update with last yrs speakers – Accepted invitation
- Worthy Down Museum – Accepted invitation
- Introduce a Parish Council awards scheme

Agreed Date – Thursday 28th May at 6pm

To be noted

- Website

The website continues to be updated with relevant statutory information. Cllr Stu Tucker has offered to support the Clerk with developing the website and updating the photos.

To be noted

- Social Media Update

Meta has changed how they report “Reach” it’s now called “Views” and is meant to be a more realistic interpretation of how many people actually view content.

Social media management for February

Facebook – 19, posts, 32 stories, 0 reels. Followers (658 February, 658 March)

Created 4 pieces of content

Instagram – (82 February, 88 March)

South Wonston emailed Newsletter (9th February, 34)

Further banners have been created to go around the tennis court windbreak.

To be noted

Community Engagement

Cllr Sam Jordan and Cllr Ann Peal have written a Communication Strategy which includes:

1. Communication philosophy
2. Communications strategy

3. ***Required next step*** - a detailed communications plan that meets the objectives set out in the strategy. – to be written by Clerk once the strategy is voted on and adopted.

IT WAS RESOLVED to approve as a working document.

- **Village Newsletter.**

Cllr Hussain gave an update following the issue of the 1st Edition and details of the 2nd edition.

South Wonston emailed Newsletter subscribers (9 February, 34 March)

Can all Councillors please make sure they have signed up to receive the newsletter.

To be noted

26/015 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 11th May 2026** at 7.30pm at the South Wonston

The meeting closed at 9.55pm