

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SELBORNE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN OAKHANGER VILLAGE HALL
ON WEDNESDAY 16TH JULY 2025 AT 7.30PM



Present: Cllr S Bennett (Chair)
Cllr Webster-Jones (Vice Chairman)
Cllr D Ashcroft
Cllr G Earney
Cllr H Grosvenor
Cllr S Hulbert
Cllr Nikki O'Donnell
Cllr Matt Turner

Also present: Julie Flenley, Locum Parish Clerk, no members of the public

25/38 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED to receive apologies of absence for this meeting from Cllrs Bridger, Megeney, Merian and Roger-Smith. Locum Clerk noted for the record.

25/39 Declarations of Interest

Councillors are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or other interest as defined in the Code of Conduct which they have in any item on the agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on, or discharge any function related to any matter in which you have declared a disclosable pecuniary interest and some other interests. You must withdraw from the room/meeting when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter.

RESOLVED to receive the following interests: Cllr Hulbert noted an interest in item 25/49 (payment). Cllr Webster-Jones noted an interest in the village shop (CIL funds, item 25/49), Cllr Grosvenor declared an interest in item 25/48 (Planning, Nuthatch). Locum Clerk noted for the record.

25/40 Approval of Minutes To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 18th June 2025 and outstanding minutes from 17th October 2024 and 29th April 2025.

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed that the minutes dated 17th October 2024 be agreed, seconded by Cllr Turner. 7 votes in favour, Cllr O'Donnell abstained due to not being present at the meeting. Motion carried. Locum Clerk retained for the record.

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed that the minutes dated 29th April 2025 be agreed, seconded by Cllr Grosvenor. Agreed unanimously, motion carried. Locum Clerk retained for the record.

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed that the minutes dated 18th June 2025 be agreed, seconded by Cllr Earney. 6 votes in favour, Cllrs Grosvenor and Turner abstained due to not being present at the meeting. Motion carried. Locum Clerk retained for the record.

25/41 Chairman's Announcements

Cllr Bennett noted that there were no announcements, barring the August recess which was to be noted.

25/42 Executive Officers summary

The Locum Clerk noted that the application for a standing water pipe at Goslings Croft had now been acknowledged by South East Water. They requested a site map of the area, and would provide a full quotation with 20 working days of receipt which would hopefully be received in time for the September full council agenda for resolution by the council. Updates would follow.

Flooding on Gracious Street – contact had been made with both the Environment Agency and Hampshire County Council on the area and it was hoped that a solution and works would be forthcoming prior to the wetter season. Locum Clerk to keep the council updated on progress.

The Locum Clerk further noted that the External Audit paperwork was completed and that the parish council had been selected as one of the 5% intermediate audit sample to provide further information to BDO by 1st July. All legal

information had been posted on the website by the required date and the Notice of Public Rights period for inspection of accounts was well underway, and was due to finish on 1st August 2025.

The Locum Clerk also noted that new pads and servicing for all three parish council defibrillators in the parish had been ordered. A defibrillator checklist had been circulated amongst council members and a scheme of checking would need to be implemented to ensure weekly checks were carried out. The Locum Clerk also noted that The Circuit had not had updates on the defibs for a number of months and that this would be done once the pads had been replaced.

CLLR BENNETT PROPOSED THAT THE STANDING ORDERS BE SUSPENDED AT 7.58PM TO HEAR REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. AGREED BY COUCNCILLORS, MOTION CARRIED, STANDING ORDERS SUSPENDED.

25/43 Public Questions

RESOLVED: There were no members of the public present; Cllr Ashcroft addressed the council as a member of the public and noted that ragwort was rampant in the village and was poisonous to both humans and animals. It was unlawful under the Weeds Act 1959 to allow it to spread and landowners had a responsibility to remove it and destroy it.

CLLR BENNETT PROPOSED THAT THE STANDING ORDERS BE RESUMED AT 8PM TO RECOMMENCE THE MEETING. AGREED BY COUCNILLORS, MOTION CARRIED, MEETING RESUMED.

25/44 To discuss and disclose any conflict of interest with BDO LLP (External Auditors)

The Locum Clerk reported that as part of the 5% selected councils, a declaration had to be made as to whether any councillors had an interest in BDO LLP.

RESOLVED: Cllr Webster-Jones noted that his employer had an interest (they had a tender with BDO). Cllr Webster-Jones left the meeting and returned following the closure of the agenda item. No other declarations of interest amongst the councillors were received. Locum Clerk noted for the record and to write to BDO informing them of the outcome.

25/45 To note and agree the Financial Regulations for 2025/26 (deferred from May 2025)

RESOLVED: Cllr Earney proposed that Selborne Parish Council adopt the Financial Regulations for 25/26. Seconded by Cllr Turner. Agreed by 7 councillors, with Cllr Webster-Jones abstaining. Motion carried. Locum Clerk noted for the record.

25/46 To note and agree the Standing Orders for 25/26 (deferred from May 2025)

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed that Selborne Parish Council adopt the Standing Orders for 25/26. Seconded by Cllr Turner. Agreed by unanimously, motion carried. Locum Clerk noted for the record.

25/47 To discuss and decide further actions following contact from HCC on CFI funding (emamil previously circulated)

Councillors noted that funds of £40,000 had been obtained towards safety measures in the parish for part 2 of a traffic calming scheme and that the funds needed to be drawn down if they have not already been. The proposed works also need to be established in order to comment on them.

RESOLVED: Locum Clerk to draw down the safety works funds and request a proposed schedule of works from HCC on safety improvements.

25/48 Planning: To consider and agree a response to the following planning application(s):

- SDNP/25/01424/HOUS - Forge Cottage , High Street, Selborne, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 3JW. Single storey rear extension. Decision due: 30th July 2025. Cllr Earney noted that the heritage statement was incomplete, however the flat roof was note visible from the road. Councillors noted the accompanying listed building consent application when discussing the application.

RESOLVED: Cllr Turner proposed that the council do not comment on the application. Seconded by Cllr Bennett. Agreed by 4 councillors, objected to by 2 councillors. Cllrs Ashcroft and O'Donnell abstained from the vote. Motion carried, Locum Clerk to write and noted for the record.

- SDNP/25/01425/LIS - Forge Cottage, High Street, Selborne, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 3JW. Single storey rear extension. Decision due: 30th July 2025. Cllr Earney noted the objections to the scheme by the Conservation Officer. Councillors noted the accompanying planning application when discussing the application.

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed that the council revert to the Conservation Offices comments on the application. Seconded by Cllr Earney. Agreed by 7 councillor, Cllrs Ashcroft abstained from the vote. Motion carried, Locum Clerk to write and noted for the record.

- SDNP/25/01888/LIS - Dowlings, Huckers Lane, Selborne, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 3JN. Repair of the structure of the barn prior to replacing the thatched roof. Decision due: 3 August 2025. Cllr Earney noted that the previous application submitted in 2022 allowed for owl roosting boxes which had not been erected.

RESOLVED: Cllr Earney proposed that the council accepts that the works to the roof are desperately needed, however the parish council would like to see the previously agreed owl boxes to be erected and confirmation from the Conservation Officer that the proposed works are agreed by an expert and comply with good conservation practices. Seconded by Cllr Turner. Agreed by 7 councillors, Cllr Ashcroft abstained from the vote. Motion carried, Locum Clerk noted for the record and to write.

CLLR GROSVENOR LEFT THE MEETING AT 8.27PM HAVING DECLARED AN INTEREST IN THE NEXT ITEM.

- SDNP/25/02396/HOUS - Nuthatch, Plum Fell Lane, Selborne, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 3JX. General repairs/improvements to building fabric, first floor alterations to form new bathrooms and conversion of potting shed to home office. Decision due: 5th August 2025. Councillors noted the accompanying listed building consent application when discussing the application.

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed that the council write to offer strong support to the proposals as they support modern family living requirements, and noted that the works are supportive of the historic nature of the existing house, however the dark night skies policy needed to be considered in relation to the outbuilding and an appropriate lighting scheme installed. Seconded by Cllr Earney. Agreed by 6 councillors, Cllr Ashcroft abstained from the vote. Motion carried, Locum Clerk noted for the record and to write.

- SDNP/25/02397/LIS - Nuthatch, Plum Fell Lane, Selborne, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 3JX. General repairs/improvements to building fabric, first floor alterations to form new bathrooms and conversion of potting shed to home office. Decision due: 5th August 2025. Councillors noted the accompanying planning application when discussing the application.

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed that the council write to offer strong support to the proposals as they support modern family living requirements, and noted that the works are supportive of the historic nature of the existing house, however the dark night skies policy needed to be considered in relation to the outbuilding and an appropriate lighting scheme installed. Seconded by Cllr Earney. Agreed by 6 councillors, Cllr Ashcroft abstained from the vote. Motion carried, Locum Clerk noted for the record and to write.

CLLR GROSVENOR RETURNED TO THE MEETING AT 8.32PM.

- a) To note bank balances, earmarked reserves (EMR's) and payments and receipts since the meeting on 18th June 2025. The Locum Clerk noted that current bank balances are £25,767.26 (current account) and £100,405.42 (deposit account). There were no payments other than what was agreed in the previous meeting (nothing made under delegated powers), and receipts of ££583.89 were reported. The EMR balances were as follows:

Reserve Status

	01/04/24	15/07/25
Village Project Fund	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Traffic Projects	£11,000.00	£11,000.00
Play Equipment replacement	£0.00	£0.00
S106 Funds	£0.00	£564.93
CIL Funds	£20,803.26	£13,305.33
Elections	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
COVID-19 Fund	£0.00	£0.00
CIL Selborne Village Shop		
CIL Selborne Village Shop earmarked reserve	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
Selborne village defibrillators	£0.00	£375.00
Autospeedwatch cameras	£0.00	£1,722.26
	£41,803.26	£36,967.52
	£41,803.26	£36,967.52

RESOLVED: Councillors noted the bank balances, EMR balances and receipts since 18th June 2025.

- b) To note CIL funds at the bank and resolve to move the balance to restricted reserves

Councillors noted that the CIL balance was currently £15,921.89.

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed that the funds be moved to Ear Marked Reserves as a restricted fund. Seconded by Cllr Earney. Agreed by 7 councillors, with Cllr Webster-Jones abstaining from the vote. Motion carried, Locum Clerk to amend the EMR's report to reflect the decision.

- c) To note the asset register as currently stands

RESOLVED: Councillors noted the asset register, the value of which remained at £181,898. The Locum Clerk recommended that an asset register review be completed to ensure that the register remained accurate and noted that items under £100 should to be removed as they were considered nominal value.

- d) To approve March, April, May & June 2025's bank reconciliation

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed to agree and sign April and May's bank reconciliations and defer June's, seconded by Cllr Earney. 6 councillors voted in favour, 1 abstention. Motion carried. Locum Clerk noted June, July and Augusts bank reconciliations for the September agenda and to retained the signed bank reconciliations for the record.

- e) To approve the proposed schedule of payments

RESOLVED: Cllr Bennett proposed that the payments list be approved. Seconded by Cllr Earney. Agreed by 6 councillors with 1 abstention. Motion carried. Locum Clerk noted for the record and to pay invoices.

Receipts and Payments for Approval at Full Council Meeting 16th July 2025

Payee	Description	Invoice no.	Method of Payment	Gross Invoice Amount (£)

Paid – expenditure previously approved at Council meeting/regular payments/payments under Clerk's delegation				
Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge		DD	7.50
EE Limited	Telephone Charges		DD	19.50
For approval				
RoSPA Playsafety	Annual Playground Inspection	Inv. 88450	BACS	249.60
Defib Shop.co.uk	Defibrillator Pads x 3	Inv. 1000281280	BACS	270.00
Defib Shop.co.uk	Defibrillator Servicing x 3	Inv. 1000281289	BACS	648.00
ID Verde	Bin Collection	Inv. 10943856	BACS	285.47
PJ Grace	Grass cutting – June	Inv. 07733	BACS	594.00
Julie Flenley	Locum Fees July 2025 & Expenses	Inv. 27	BACS	2,539.53
St. Mary Magdalen Church	S137 grant 24/25	N/A	BACS	400.00
Sarah Hulbert	VE Day Expenses	Various	BACS	544.34
Receipts				
Unity Trust Bank	Deposit Account Interest	N/A	BACS	583.89

25/50 To receive District Councillor report

RESOLVED: Members were asked to receive and note a report from the District Councillor, Cllr. David Ashcroft who gave a devolution update and that issued remained with the planning portal at EHDC which is causing frustration amongst both councillors, staff and other parish councils.

25/51 Date of next meetings:

RESOLVED: to note that the Parish Council meetings will be held on the following dates:

- 17th July 2025 – Staffing Committee, Selborne Pavilion
- 17th September 2025 - Full Council – Selborne Village Hall

Signed Date
Chairman