Minutes of the Amport Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th October 2026, 7.30pm at Monxton & Amport Village Hall

Present: Cllr C Harris -Chairman, Cllr S Coke-Vice Chairman, Cllr Dix, Cllr Montagu & Cllr D Peacock.

Also present
Heather Bourner – Parish Clerk
TVBC S Hasselmann
0 Members of the public

Apologies
1)Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC M Flood, Cllr Mrs S Baker, Cllr Hemmings, Cllr Mrs D Stephenson, Cllr P Harvey & Cllr Mrs T Hawkings-Byass.

2) Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest in matters on the agenda. All Councillors present confirmed that no changes to Register of Interest forms were required.

3) Co-option new Councilor
David Peacock had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and details of his experience and skills had been circulated to all councillors who unanimously agreed that he should be co-opted. David signed the necessary acceptance of office documents and joined the meeting.

4)Public Participation
There were no members of public present.

5) Minutes of previous meetings & maters arising
Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 1st September were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Coke, seconded Cllr Dix. All in favour.

Matters arising- The footpath sign for the permissive footpath at the end of Furzedown Lane, as discussed at the last meeting has now arrived and will be erected shortly.

6) Specific reports

Principle & Process- Cllr Coke had nothing specific to report

Devolution and the Draft Local Plan- Cllr Harris had nothing new to report

The Fen & Green- Cllr Harris said it was advisable to ask a tree surgeon to carry out an annual inspection of trees around the green to ensure safety. He will ask Tony Derbyshire to carry out a review.

Play Area -Cllr Harvey had sent apologies but reported that all play equipment was in good working order, except for missing bolt caps on the monkey trail.

Weyhill- Cllr Hemmings had sent apologies but noted that a significant amount of rubbish had accumulated since the recent litter pick. She will arrange for the newsletter to be delivered to businesses, so they are aware of clear ups and visit businesses when time allows, to ask them to be vigilant.

Footpaths- Cllr Hawkings-Byass had sent apologies.

Communications – There was a suggestion that all newsletters should have regular planning updates of any proposed building works. The Clerk will discuss this with Cllr Hawkings-Byass.

Projects- Cllr Harvey has written and circulated a project specification regarding the work required to improve the parking area on the Village Green. This was discussed and it was agreed the Clerk will contact TVBC to establish if any planning permission is required and get three quotes for the work to be carried out from Andover Ground Works, Greenflints & Acrewood

Highways- Cllr Harris asked that all councillors and residents report all identified road verge / hedge / tree issues problems to HCC, ideally with a "what three words" on the website. Report a problem to Hampshire County Council Highways | Transport and roads | Hampshire County Council

Southern Water – Cllr Harris reported on a meeting when he and Janet Wright had spoken to representatives of Southern Water regarding the sewer between East Cholderton and Amport where they had found a stretch of defective sewer, this will be repaired but a date for the work is awaited. Floyd Cooper, Operations Manager of Southern Water, will make a community presentation to residents in the PPF and others affected by groundwater infiltration, regarding the difficulties that they have faced this year, and its plans for improvement. This presentation will be held on **22nd October**, at 6.30 pm in Thruxton Memorial Hall.

Resilience Plan- Janet Wright had recently attended a TVBC workshop on the matter and had circulated her notes. It was suggested that in due course Amport & Monxton parishes get together to carry out a desktop exercise. Cllr Peacock agreed to take on the resilience portfolio and will review and update the plan.

School Liaison- Cllr Baker had sent apologies. The Clerk reported an email regarding free tickets to an under 21 Southampton Football game had been passed to the school.

7) Local Government Reorganisation and the draft local plan.
Cllr Harris had no new details to share.

8) A342 working group.
Cllr Harris reported the A342 Report on traffic issues in the area was submitted to HCC and TVBC on 4th October. The report has been acknowledged by both and it is hoped the working group will meet with them to discuss the way forward, possibly next week.

Clerks report
9) The Clerk reported as follows-

She had reported the faded lines in front of the telephone box where cars park inappropriately to HCC. They have agreed to reinstate the lines but will not make this a no parking zone.

Potential meeting dates for 2027 had been circulated. It was probable both the Clerk and the Chairman would be absent for the April meeting if it were on the third Monday of the month, it was therefore agreed to move the meeting to 12th April.

The Parish Council currently held funds in two Lloyds bank accounts. One was an investment account, but the interest rate was very low. As funds may well be needed quickly it was agreed these should not be transferred to an account which would restrict immediate access. Long term investments can be considered as the reserves grow.

Finance
10) 1) To note the bank balances as at 13/10/2026
Lloyds savings £20828.08
Lloyds current £32800.64

2)To approve the following payments and authorise online transactions: -

H Bourner salary(Oct)	£639.36
HMRC	£217.35
Web site	£11.99
Email service	£24.99
Clear energy (DD)	£27.10
Ray Welch	£360.00
Taits printers	£110.00
Clerks exps	£17.20
Prosigns	£54.00

3) Budget setting 2027/28
The Clerk had circulated a first draft of the budget for 2027/28 which was discussed. Cllr Montagu raised concerns about raising the precept by too much given the cost of living crisis he felt that spending should be restricted or possibly funded from grants. The quotes for the car park work would help inform the budget. The Clerk agreed to discuss possible grants for this work with Michelle Penn, TVBC community engagement officer. It was agreed the work of a planning consultant had been invaluable in the past, and the budget should include a contingency for this type of expenditure next year. Cllr Coke suggested an increase of 10% to the precept would be acceptable. The Clerk will amend her draft and circulate this again to Councillors for further discussion and hopefully agreement at the next meeting.

Borough & County Councillor Reports.
11) HCC Chris Donnelly was not present.

TVBC Cllr s Hasselmann referred to the recently circulated newsletter-in particular, she is trying to establish a timeline for the new gateway draft local plan which she will share when available.

12) Disposal of Monxton Village Green and car park.
Cllr Harris reported a hearing will take place in early November to determine whether Monxton Parish Council's application to register Monxton Village Green as a public space is successful. It is unclear whether the application will be strenuously resisted by the owner.
Monxton Parish Council has also received notice of the intention of the owner to dispose of/sell an Asset of Community Value ie the Village Green and former Black Swan Car Park. This creates a rare opportunity for Monxton Parish Council, or the Village Hall or residents, to offer to acquire the former car park for the village hall if a bid can be put together. The value of the car park is unknown at present. Details will be shared once they emerge.

13) The future of Parish Councils
Cllr Coke said he had been researching current views on the future of Parish Councils and how these may develop in the future. The hope is to be prepared for any changes and to focus on working together with other parishes.

14) **Planning**

1.To note the following TVBC decisions:
26/01494/VARN- vary condition 3-Amport House-permission.

2) Reviewed between meetings: 26/02034/VARN-vary conditions 3&4 and remove 11-Amport House- no objections

26/02053/TREEN- tree works, the Cottage on the Green- no objections

3)To review in meeting:

26/02173/TREEN-Tree works-Tilehurst, Furzedown Lane- no objections

26/02229/FULLN- construction of micro battery unit-Land at Lains Farm-no objections

Dauntsey Lane planning applications-25/02233/OUTN & 25/02226/OUTN will go before the Northern Area Planning committee on 29th October. Cllr H Dix has registered to speak on behalf of the Parish Council

Update on Amport House- Cllr Harris reported that the required planning consents and Listed Building Consent to make a material start to the main permission have been agreed. The sale of the building continues to progress.

Correspondence
15) There were no items of correspondence to note.

Community News
16) None.

Date of next meeting
17) The next meeting will be held on Monday 16th November 2026, 7.30pm at **Monxton & Amport Village Hall**