

**Minutes of the Amport Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 16th June 2025, 7.30pm at
Monxton & Amport Village Hall**

Present: Cllr C Harris – Chairman, Cllr S Coke-Vice Chairman, Cllr A Montagu, Cllr Harvey, Cllr P Waller & Cllr Mrs T Hawkings-Byass,

Also present

Heather Bourner – Parish Clerk

HCC C Donnelly

TVBC Maureen Flood

1 Member of the public

Apologies

1) Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC S Hasselmann, Cllr Clare Hemmings, Cllr Mrs S Baker, Cllr H Dix & Cllr Mrs D Stephenson.

Public Participation

2) The member of public had nothing specific to discuss.

3) Declarations of Interest

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

4) Minutes of previous meetings & matters arising

Resolved: The minutes of the meetings held on 19th May were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Coke seconded Cllr Montagu. All in favour.

5) Specific reports

Principle & Process-Cllr Coke had nothing to report.

Devolution- Cllr Harris reported that information is still awaited as to what proposals will be put forward by the authorities on the devolution of local government in Hampshire from next year. There is apparently no consensus in the county as to how the proposed unitary authorities should be constituted. TVBC are forming a group to discuss the possibilities of delivery of local services by Parish Councils.

The Fen & Green- Cllr Harris confirmed that there have been two recent successful wedding receptions on the green for local families and the School Sports Day was held on Monday 16th June. He also confirmed he had recently cut back the verge on the roadside. Finally, he noted there is still a problem with litter and the removal of the pegs used to secure the football goals.

Play Area -Cllr Harvey confirmed that there were no problems with equipment at the play area. The annual report had highlighted bolts on the disabled swing that needed to be tightened. Cllr Harvey will do this.

Weyhill- Cllr Hemmings had sent apologies.

Footpaths- Cllr Hawkings-Byass reported the footpath up the hill by the church had been fenced in by the new land owner. This had caused some concern with locals but it was confirmed there is ample width for the footpath as the hedge had been cut back. Growth on other footpaths will be monitored.

Communications – Cllr Hawkings-Byass will be drafting the next newsletter after 26th June and would like articles to include.

Projects- Cllr Harvey had been researching how the car parking side of the Village Green could be improved. He showed photographs of the current situation where telegraph poles had been laid down. Options to improve this included a wooden fence, concrete posts with a chain, a ditch and bund or larger stone posts or balls. He recommended large stones which costs approx. £50 each and approx. 60 would be needed. After considerable discussion it was agreed the existing poles that are good can be re-sited to extend the size of the parking area and some new replacements purchased to fill the gaps. Cllr Harvey will

research the cost of new telegraph poles and the costs of some stones to create access points. He will provide details at the next meeting.

Neighbourhood Plan— Cllr Stephenson was not present but had confirmed by email the plan was submitted to TVBC for sustainability assessment and strategic environment assessment over 4 weeks ago. Sarah Hughes Head of Neighbourhood planning at TVBC confirmed the plan has been sent for consultation to the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England. The first two have responded with no comments. Once the third response is received there will then be a further 6-week consultation on Reg 16 during which time the Neighbourhood Plan steering group will be sent a list of approved examiners. Once appointed they will take up to 6 weeks and come back with comments which will need to be reviewed. Once approved there will need to be 56 days before a date for referendum can be set.

Highways- Cllr Harris reported some work to trim verges, mend potholes and remove temporary signs has now taken place. Concerns raised by many parties regarding the HCC report a problem site have been reviewed and HCC have agreed to address this, hopefully providing a solution by the end of the summer.

Southern Water -Cllr Harris confirmed there were discussions at a recent meeting regarding the current state of the lay-bys at the Water Pumping Stations (WPS) in Amport and in East Cholderton. The lay-by in Amport was re-seeded in mid-May (at a low cost) but vehicles had driven over the ground with a matter of hours. This was reported but a response is awaited.

Southern Water have said the lay-by at Mullens Pond is no longer needed to park their tankers, and discussions are underway as to whether the lay-by can be re-modelled to present a more coherent pull in, with better access to the WPS, or alternatively removed.

Resilience Plan- Cllr Waller said he had attended a TVBC meeting and established Amport are in a similar position to most parishes in that a draft plan is in place. The plan to stage a crisis scenario in the autumn will bring some more ideas. Use of a satellite internet service was discussed if there was a complete power failure, while some individuals have this it was agreed to be cost prohibitive to the Parish Council.

School Liaison-Cllr Baker confirmed parking issues remain a problem at school drop off and collection times.

6) The Hawk Inn

Cllr Harris reported he had met with the manager of Upham Inns to discuss the parking issues at the Hawk. Locals did not want vehicles parking on the green and preferred parking alongside the road. This had caused damage to the roadside and they were considering putting in some parking mats which would strengthen the kerb to allow roadside parking. They wanted to engage with locals and customers to find a working solution and Cllr Harris has asked them for views.

Upham Inns want to help and support the community and are happy to have the defibrillator sited at the Hawk. The Parish Council have agreed to supply a new waterproof box to replace the old one which now leaks. They are also happy to consider placing the machine in a more prominent position. The Clerk will arrange to purchase the new box and discuss the location with the manager.

Clerks report

7) The Clerk reported as follows-

A quote had been received from GreenFlints for the repairs to the bridge in The Fen. This was discussed and Cllr Coke proposed the quote for £986.80 plus vat was agreed. This was seconded by Cllr Harvey. All in favour.

Hampshire Highways have confirmed the work required to fit the new posts for the speed awareness signs will take place in early August.

The Clerk confirmed she had spoken to Hugo Fox and regarding the application for a .gov email service. There had been some issue with the suggested email address and after some discussion this was changed to www.amportthantparishcouncil.gov.uk. Hugo Fox is now awaiting confirmation before proceeding.

Finally, she confirmed both parties who had hired the Village Green for private events had been sent an invoice for £100 as per the terms and conditions. This prompted some discussion about when the charges

were last considered. Cllr Montagu proposed these should be increased to £200 plus electricity costs. This was seconded by Cllr Harvey. All in favour. The clerk will update the document.

Finance

8)

1) To note the bank balances as at 09/06/2025

Lloyds savings £21812.14

Lloyds current £8770.06

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

H Bourner salary	£583.20
HMRC	£175.61
H Bourner exp.	£35.66
Kinex (DD)	£0.27
Ray Welch	£270.00
Tait's printers	£110.00
Web site	£11.99
Monxton & Amport V Hall	£30.00
J Wright (camera from grant)	£157.99
GreenFlints footpath cut	£1140.00
Do the Numbers	£250.00

Borough & County Councillor Reports.

9) HCC Chris Donnelly highlighted summer camps to be held in Test Valley especially aimed at those children entitled to free school meals.

He said that there had been several complaints to HCC regarding road closures. He explained that utilities companies had to be given permission to close roads however there is an intention from September when a residents disruption charge will be levied, a permit to close the road will be allowed but a charge for each day of disruption will be levied.

TVBC M Flood referred to her recent report in particular the revised draft local plan. She said the revised figures for housing development which were top down from the government had now been included in the draft plan. She said a meeting of the council is due on 18th of June to consider when the public consultation will begin and end.

Several points were raised by those present about the plan, in particular the proposal for over 1000 houses at Weyhill. Many views were raised and all will be encouraged to respond to the consultation

Finally, she also confirmed the new Community Asset Fund is now open,

10) Planning

The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

24/01288/FULLN- installation of solar farm, Land at Lains Farm, Quarley-permission

25/00827/VARN- vary conditions to full application at Greenacre, Dauntsey Lane- permission

Reviewed between meetings:

None

Resolved: that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed:

25/00995/LBWN- replace front door, 1 Mount Pleasant-no objection

25/01116/FULLN-install garden office, Canberra, Sarson Lane-no objections.

Enforcement case-25/0279/REG - Land to West of Pyle Cottage-closed

Draft Local Plan- TVBC have recently published the draft revised local plan and it is expected public consultation will open on 18th June

Correspondence

11) None

New Items for next agenda

12) None at present

Community News

13) Amport and Monxton Village fete will be held on 5th July 2025.

Date of next meeting

14) The next meeting will be on Monday 21st July 2025, 7.30pm at **Monxton & Amport Village Hall**