

NORTHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Thursday 16th July 2026

Time: 6:30 pm

Venue: Village Hall, Northington

Present:	Juliet Blanshard	Chair
	Rhona Hatchley	
	Andy Bason	
	Russell Gordon-Smith	District Councillor
	Margot Power	District Councillor
	Jackie Porter	County Councillor
	Wendy Simson	Clerk

Apologies:	David Corney	
	Gail Taylor	
	Claire Pinnger	District Councillor

Minutes of the last meeting

The Councillors reviewed minutes for the meeting on 21st May 2026 and agreed the minutes as a true representation of the meeting. The Chair proposed that the minutes be formally accepted, Cllr Hatchley seconded this, the minutes were approved.

Matters arising from the last meeting.

1. Update on work to access faster broadband in the past

Cllr Taylor was not at the meeting to give an update, it was agreed that this item be included on the next agenda.

Action: Clerk to add as an agenda item for the next meeting.

2. Work to clear the ground near the Millennium Bench

The Chairman spoke to the contractor following the May meeting to confirm the contract but a start date could not be confirmed. The Chair agreed to speak to the contractor again.

Action: Chairman to provide an update on when the work will be completed.

Highways

1. Feedback on HCC Road Safety Survey for junction by Village Hall

Cllr Corney did not attend the meeting but gave the following update:

"I have submitted the application form. Fees will only be due once an engineer has been in touch and we have discussed options."

The engineer asked about the value of the Parish Council's CIL funding to support any work identified. Cllr Power informed the Councillors that Winchester's CIL funding application window opens in November and that this project would meet the criteria and so encouraged the Parish Council to apply if additional funds are required.

The Councillors asked that Cllr Corney ask to extend the survey to include the four locations for the Speed Indicator and suggest if there are more suitable suggestions which would cover the same areas.

Action: Cllr Corney to inform the Parish Council once a date is agreed to meet the engineer.

2. Feedback on missing road signs

The Chairman informed the Parish Council that the road sign before the entrance to the Grange as you enter the village from Alresford had been knocked down by a falling tree. The Chairman reviewed the report on the Hampshire Highways website which shows that the case is completed and closed. It appears that the sign to indicate a sharp bend has been replaced but not the speed indicator. Cllr Porter asked for the report number to be sent to her so she could follow up.

The report (21795584) made to ask for children crossing signs at the two locations on the B3046 where the school buses stop to pick up children was declined by Hampshire Highways, the response was as follows:

As I'm sure you will appreciate, Hampshire County Council receives many requests for parking restrictions across Hampshire. There is considerable demand for these measures, but we have a finite amount of resource which must be used where we are confident it will make a difference.

The County Council's policy is to support traffic management measures where evidence clearly indicates that it will offer direct benefits in terms of road casualty reduction. We have access to the Police database of all injury accidents reported in Hampshire and I can confirm that in the current five-year study period, at this location, there has been no reported injury accident recorded.

Traffic management measures are primarily focussed on those sites where there is a related road casualty collision history and where a treatable pattern or common causation of casualty collisions can be identified. I'm afraid this means that this location is a low priority for the investigation of traffic management measures currently.

Cllr Porter agreed to follow up both these issues with the Highways Team.

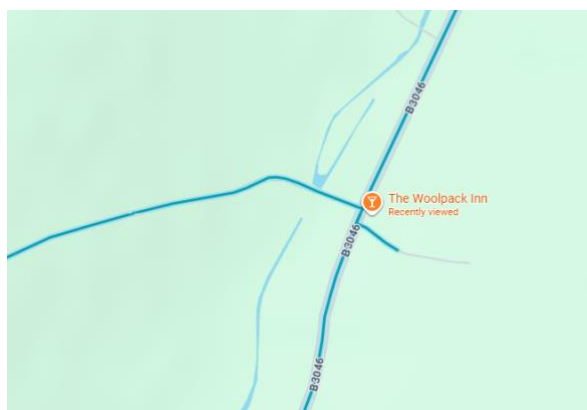
3. Update on location of Speed Indicator

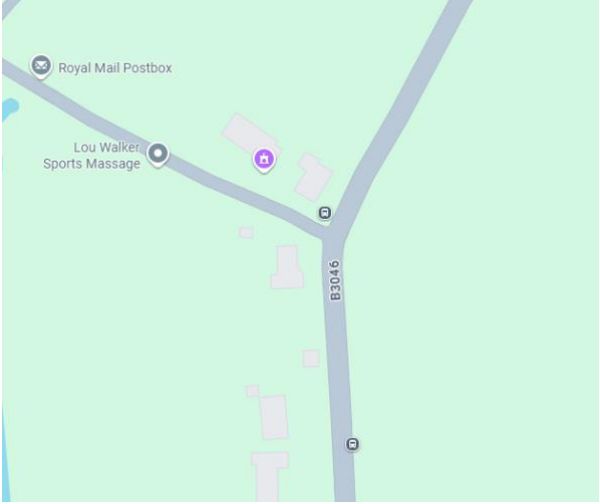
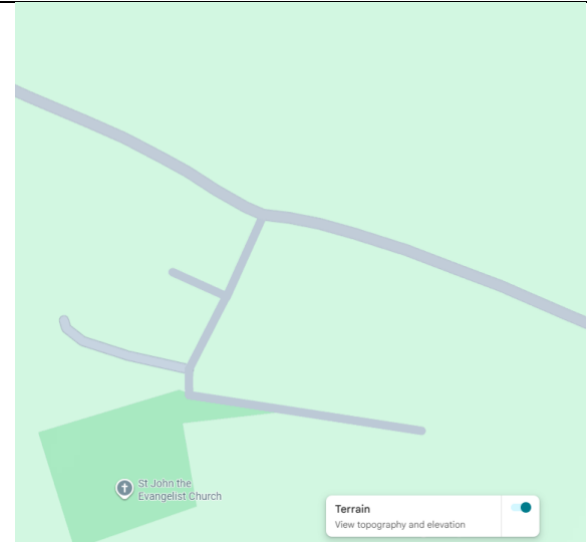
A resident asked that the proposed locations for the speed indicators be included in the minutes.

The four locations requested to install the Speed Indicator Device have been questioned by the Traffic Team, the locations and feedback is as follows:

Location 1 (opposite the Woolpack):

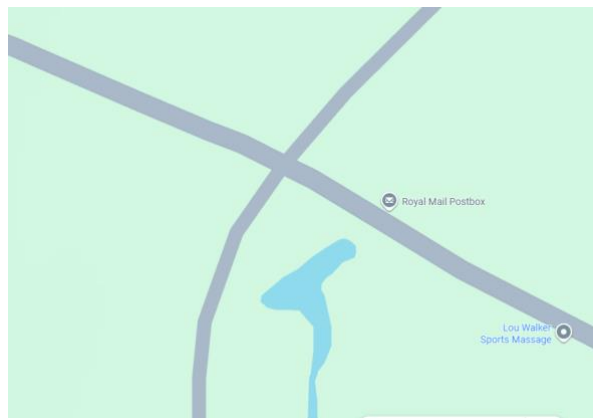
- The potential location has no footway to access the site safely.
- The grass verge appears to have limited space to accommodate the minimum requirements for the SID/SLR device. (The outside edge of the SID needs to be at-least 500mm from the edge of the carriageway. The post needs to be another 350mm from that point, and to ensure the SID is not blocked by anything further, another clearance of 350mm is recommended. The other 500mm is to ensure that it is not blocked by anything such as a fence or foliage etc... which will also



give you manoeuvrability for adjusting the device.) The SID/ SLR device may obscure visibility of vehicles exiting Western junction, opposite “The Woolpack Inn”	
Location 2 (Junction by the Village Hall): - Can you clarify which post you are specifying to have an extension post for and the SLR mounted onto? If placed on top of the Northington Direction sign this would potentially obstruct the visibility of the 30mph, 7.5t weigh limit Except for access signs at the junction leading to the Northington Village Hall. - As this location is in a 40mph speed limit. Our guidance indicates that “There must be adequate forward visibility - in a 40mph speed limit this is a minimum of 120m.” Due to the natural curvature of the road heading Northbound and the existing posts location, the forward visibility appears to be below minimum requirement.	
Location 3 (at the junction to the Church): - Can you confirm that this is a 30mph road and not a 40mph? - The location of the new post and SID/ SLR device would have to be installed on a high angled verge which we would not recommend due to safety concerns for the individual manoeuvring and installing. - The forward visibility at this location would not be suitable due to the high amounts of foliage at the northern side of the junction.	

Location 4 (on Northington Hill):

- Can you confirm if this is a 30mph road and not a 40mph?
- Can you confirm where the individual who would be mounting the SID / SLR park, to attend the location?
- It is possible but the existing post location may be too close to the edge of the carriageway due to your SID device being approx. 700mm in width. We would need to accommodate 500mm from the edge of the carriageway and approx. half the width of your SID device (approx. 350mm) so that you have manoeuvrability for mounting and adjusting the device at this location. (We may be able to relocate the post so that these tolerances are achievable)



The Councillors agreed that the engineer being engaged to complete the Road Safety Survey be asked to look at these location as well.

District Councillors Reports

The Councillors reports were circulated to the Parish Council earlier in the month.

Cllr Power informed the Parish Council that Hampshire is moving towards the Local Government Reorganisation. The election of the Shadow model of 5 Unitary Authorities will take place in May 2027 and the current model of Hampshire County Council and the 12 Borough or District Councils will disappear on 1st April 2028.

The election of the Mayor will take place in May 2028 but this may be moved forward to 2027.

A vote was passed by Hampshire to ensure pot holes are fixed properly first time and fewer temporary fixes will be used. This vote was carried through by the Liberal Democrats and Reform Councillors voting together.

Cllr Porter attended the opening of the extension of the Science Centre which now includes a Dinosaur area and an area celebrating the local chalk streams.

Financial Update

The Clerk detailed the payments to be made on the agenda, these are:

- Clerk's salary (April to June) - £300
- Insurance (due 31st July) - £214
- Village Hall Hire (16th July) - £30

Councillors approved all these payments.

Village Hall Update

Cllr Hatchley spoke to the Chair of the Village Hall Committee for an update. The BBQ has been cancelled due to the fire risk.

Cllr Hatchley agreed to report back to the Village Hall the dates for the Winchester CIL funding window.

Planning applications & related matters

The Parish Council have received three applications since the last meeting, they are:

- **Barn House (26/01015/FUL)** – Change of use of land from agriculture to a natural burial ground; an extension to the existing agricultural track; parking and turning of vehicles; landscaping and associated works. [The Councillors has not comments on this application.](#)
- **The Spinney (26/01169/FUL)** – Change of use of agricultural land to residential curtilage and undertaking of landscaping to create a terraced garden to the rear. [Comments by 20th July.](#) The Councillors discussed this application at length and agreed that given the various issues with the development that a comment be sent supporting other local concerns.
[Action: Clerk to draft a response and circulate to all Councillors to be submitted prior to the deadline.](#)
- **Rose Cottage (26/01173/VAR)** – Application to vary condition 2 of the application 19/02560/HOU. [Comments by 28th July.](#)

The Councillors agreed that they needed to study the plans and asked the Clerk to print A3 versions so Councillors could meet and fully understand the application being made.

[Action: Clerk to print plans and arrange a suitable date to meet.](#)

Lengthsman

The dates for 2026/27 are:

1. 3rd June
2. 29th September
3. 8th December
4. 9th March

General Correspondence

Speeding on Northington Hill

The Parish Council were approached by a resident about the tractors using Northington Hill and travelling a speed. One of the Councillors is a member of the local farming community and asked for more details about the colour and number plate of the vehicles so he can identify which farm they work at.

[Action: Clerk to ask the resident for more information including a photograph is possible.](#)

Replacement bench at the Church

The Chairman has been looking at replacements for the bench by the church which is very badly damaged and no longer safe to sit on. The existing bench (photograph on the left) has a decorative back which mimics the wall at the church and the Council have tried to get a bespoke bench made to replicate this design but all the options explored have hit a dead end.

A solution has been identified which provides seating without blocking the view and also allowing visitor to face either the view across the valley or the church. The photograph (on right) shows two of

the bench end to end both of which are 2m long. The benches are £299 each and there will be an additional cost for installation.



The Councillors approved the new benches and agreed to order two.

Action: Clerk and Chairman to contact supplier for delivery and invoicing details.

Date of the next meeting

Proposed dates of 2026 meeting.

- Thursday 17th September
- Thursday 19th November

New rural Policeman, PC Brad Hurt 29623, will be attending the September meeting.

The meeting ended at 7:40pm

Signed: (Juliet Blanshard, Chairman)

Dated: 17th September 2026