

Farmborough Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Location: Farmborough Memorial Hall

Date: 13/01/2026

Councillors Present:

Chair: Sam Ross	David Howard	Nick Barnett
Agnes Nowak	Mark Goodchild	Phil Gray
Dan Pidcock	Martin Carter	

Clerk: Debbie Tutchell

1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Rob Breckon

2 Declarations of Interest

None

Public Participation (3 minutes per person)

No one present

Action/Vote

3 Minutes

a To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th December 2025.

No amendments required, proposed by MC seconded by MG
Minutes signed off by SR

4 Approved

b To receive reports on any further matters arising from the decisions of the last meeting

None

4 Planning

a To agree/ report responses to the following applications:

- i. 24/02031/FUL Land Between Old Lane, Conygre Brook Old Lane
Full Planning Application for Earthworks and Pedestrian Pathway at Land Between Old Lane and Conygre Brook Old Lane, Brook View, Farmborough.

The Parish Council makes the following comments with no recommendation:

- The northern end of the footpath requires a dropped kerb to be included in the proposal and conditions.
- The material proposal for the full length of the footpath is unclear. The current gravel surface washes out with heavy rain and is unsuitable long term. This is not a suitable surface for wheelchair users, which is an intended use of this path as an alternative to Timsbury Road.
- It is unclear from the diagrams the proposed inclination of the footpath, particularly at the SW corner, currently not suitable for wheelchair users.
- Prior to the original earthworks, a reptile (slow worm) relocation activity was undertaken and a screen placed to protect the area from spill, now termed the buffer (blue lined) area. The proposed fill areas at the south side of the pony paddock are directly above this line and care should be taken to avoid spill into this area.

- A significant amount of construction waste (including concrete, bags of cement, plastic and metal/rebar) remains buried on site with a potential danger to wildlife and the public. These need removing, including in the reptile zone.
- All cut materials should be screened to remove oversized stones and waste so that it is not reused as the fill material but is removed from site.
- An adequate long term management plan (30+ years) for the meadow area and footpath needs to be included as a pre-commencement condition as suggested by the council ecologist. Details of the management company or contact designated for managing the site area is also required.

Proposed by DP Seconded by DH

8 in favour

b To report B&NES decisions for the following applications:

- 25/03497/VAR The Paddocks Timsbury Road Farmborough
Variation of Condition 3 (Contaminated Land), Condition 4 (wildlife protection and enhancement), Condition 5 (implementation of wildlife scheme), Condition 11 (materials) and Condition 17 (plans list) of 22/00980/FUL (Conversion of rural building to form two semi-detached dwellings).
Decision - PERMIT
- 25/03591/FUL Stream House , The Street, Farmborough, BA2 0AL
Demolish existing conservatory and replace with new single storey extension.
Decision - PERMIT
- 25/04130/FUL Spring House, Castle Farm, Farmborough BA2 0DD
Erection of single storey infill extension within western courtyard.
Decision - PERMIT

c To report on other planning matters (referrals, enforcement, appeals etc...)

None

5 Finance and HR

a To approve the monthly finance report for December 2025

Approved

8 in favour

b Balance of accounts on 31st December 2025

- Current account: £ £20,710.53
- Savings account: £20,978.67

c To note and confirm that each councillor is paid up to date on their council tax for the ability to vote on the budget in January 2026

Noted all confirmed up to date

d To determine the 2026/2027 Budget

The budget figures were presented by the Clerk, SR and MC who outlined areas of increasing costs. Items discussed and considered as needing investment this coming year to support both community groups and parish assets are:

- Continuing funding for the youth club.
- Supporting community groups through an increase in grant funding/ donations, which cover a wide range of age demographics from pre-school children through to seniors.
- Additional equipment and dedicated storage facilities for the village sweeper.

- Fire safety equipment for the Pavilion.
- Increase in funding required for legal fees for both new leases and the renewal of expiring leases.

The additional increases and investment in parish facilities and services increased the budget for 2026-2027, which was agreed.

Proposed by MC Seconded by DP

8 in Favour

e To agree the 2026/2027 Precept

A vote to agree the precept figure of £68,500.

8 in Favour

This equates to a Band D property paying £127.57 to the parish per year. An increase of around £13 on last year.

ACTION: Clerk to email the precept form to BANES

Clerk

f To note the progress of financial recovery from Handy Compliance

The matter remains live with the bailiff for a further visit; however, following the last attendance on 16th October, where a Stage 2 letter was left, the case has been passed to the call centre team to make regular attempts to contact the debtor in order to secure payment. This includes telephone calls, text messages, and further correspondence being issued between enforcement visits. To date, no contact or response from the debtor has been received.

g To note the progress of the Glebe Land Lease

The lease has been sent to Land Registry for registration. To note Land Registry is currently backlogged with applications and are taking several months (or years) to process applications.

h To consider candidates for co-option onto the Parish Council

None

i To note the Clerk's appraisal and outcome.

Six month appraisal was positive. Clerk will begin CiLCA training in September.

j To consider the topic for an ad to be included in the next issue of the Flyer

March issue: Farmborough Village Day - full page

April issue: insert explaining precept increase and key spending for 2026/27

6 To receive a report from the Clerk

FiLCA training course completed in December 2025.

7 Parks, Open Spaces and Environment

a Play & Fitness Equipment

- i. To note any report and actions from the Working group
Nothing to report

b Allotments

- i. To note any report and actions from the Working Group
Nothing to report

c Farmborough Climate and Nature Emergency

- i. To note any report and actions from the Working Group
AN attended BANES CANN meeting in Bath, in November. Information was based more about Bath rather than the rural areas. Seemed aimed at business owners rather than individual members of the community.

d Tree Inspection (B&NES)

- i. To note any report and actions from the tree inspection works required
Awaiting response from Tree surgeon
ACTION: Clerk to chase

Clerk

8 Highways, Rights of Way and Infrastructure

a To receive an update on Community Speed Watch

Nothing to report

b To agree on any additional tasks for the Village Road Sweeper

None

Residents have mentioned litter being left on the streets after weekly recycling collections

ACTION: Clerk to email BANES waste services to report

Clerk

9 Community Engagement

a Emergency Planning Working Group

- i. To note any report and actions from the Working Group
Meeting held with B&NES emergency planning team to identify information required for Farmborough's emergency plan – need to include essential instructions and action plans to assist and support an emergency response.
ACTION: MC to update the plan following this conversation

MC

10 Reports

a Farmborough Recreation Ground Committee (was Sports & Social)

Committee meeting held last week, planning village day on the 31st May.
Planning for the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the pavilion

b Memorial Hall Committee

Number of building works to be started. Heating upgrading works to be undertaken in the Ray Hunt Room. Work to be undertaken on updating the bar area. Annual hall quiz night to be held 24th January 2026.

c To receive a report from the Ward Councillor

Highways issues continue to dominate messages from residents, concerns over speeding and the desire for traffic calming similar to Timsbury the most notable. Ongoing local flooding issues are being addressed by B&NES drainage team. Meetings attended in the last month: Local Plan – feedback on consultation, not much to report.

Meetings attending next month: Local policing and Corporate PDS - budget

d To receive any reports from Councillors

None

e To receive items put forward for discussion at the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 11th February 2026

TCCC expected to return regarding their request for a fence/barrier along part of the east side of the recreation ground.

Meeting ended: 9.36pm

Signed by



Chair to the Parish Council, as an accurate representation of the meeting, agreed on 10 February 2026