

Farmborough Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Location: Farmborough Memorial Hall

Date: 10/02/2026

Councillors Present:

Chair: Sam Ross

Martin Carter

Nick Barnett

Mark Goodchild

Phil Gray

Clerk: Debbie Tutchell

1 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Rob Breckon, Agnes Nowak, Dan Pidcock, David Howard

2 Declarations of Interest

None

Public Participation (3 minutes per person)

Richard Appleyard from TCCC attended regarding items 5d and 9b.

Action/Vote

3 Minutes

a To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th January 2026

No amendments required, proposed by NB seconded by PG

5 Approved

Minutes signed off by SR

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. 26/00012/FUL Priston Lane Stud, Priston Lane, Farmborough

Retention of a mobile home that is currently permitted as a temporary rural workers dwelling. Erection of lean-to structure (Regularisation)

The Parish Council OBJECTS in PRINCIPLE to this application with the following comments:

- This site lies within the GREEN BELT and outside the Housing Development Boundary.
- The mobile home and stables exist on temporary planning applications that should be renewed every 5 years.
- The mobile home provides suitable accommodation for the nature of these rural activities and are the same as those detailed in application 22/02093/FUL. These activities can continue to function with a renewed temporary permission as there is no change in the justification for a permanent dwelling on this site.
- The Occupancy condition from 22/02093/FUL that requires "If the use of the land for horse breeding ceases, the mobile home shall be permanently removed from the land." should remain.
- The lean-to is a retrospective application. The additional structure is not considered to have an adverse impact on the Green belt.

Proposed by MC Seconded by MG

5 in favour

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

- i. **25/04295/FUL** St Andrews, Old Lane, Farmborough
Proposed refurbishment of a single-storey dwelling house with ground floor extension, addition of new studio and double garage, including storage for refuse, recycling and bicycles.

PERMIT

- ii. **24/02031/FUL** Land Between Old Lane and Conygre Brook, Farmborough
Reprofiling of the land, amendment to and delivery of the existing pedestrian pathway and associated landscaping.

PERMIT

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

- i. **25/04918/OUT** Parcel 4679, Hayeswood Road, Timsbury
SR raised the issue of this planning application and some of the impacts on our parish. Additional issues were raised by cllrs.

ACTION: SR to write a response for the parish and circulate to cllrs for approval, based on the issues discussed. SR

ACTION: Clerk to send response to the planning officer. Clerk

- ii. Planning application for single lane cricket practice nets at the Rec (adjacent to the MUGA) is ready for submission. TCCC has provided Barney Bonner at BPM Architects with the details of the nets. Barney will submit the application as Agent.

5 Finance and HR

a To approve the monthly finance report for January 2026

5 Approved

Additional payment approved to Harvest Energy Solutions to supply power cable and install disabled toilet alarm system at the Pavilion at a cost of £380 plus VAT

5 Approved

TO NOTE:

- i. Youth Club - Two youth work sessions have not been delivered due to sickness in the last quarter. These will be made up by arranging a summer trip.
ii. Main bank account balance is over £21k approaching the end of the financial year (end of March 26). Due to budgeted projects that have not yet commenced.

ACTION: Clerk will place £10k in reserve account next month, ring-fenced for these projects. Clerk

b Balance of accounts on 31st January 2026

- i. Current account: £21,295.49
ii. Savings account: £20,978.67

c To note the progress of financial recovery from Handy Compliance

No update available

d To note the progress of the 25-year lease with TCCC

Payment approval for solicitors to look over the Heads of Terms and lease.

Cost will be £1500-£2000

ACTION: Clerk to contact solicitors.

5 Approved

Clerk

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

None

**f To consider the topic for an ad to be included in the next issue of the Flyer
Note from last meeting – precept leaflet.**

No flyer being published for March. Will have precept leaflets ready for April Flyer.

ACTION: SR to put together leaflet and arrange printing.

SR

6 To receive a report from the Clerk

The VAT return was completed, remaining Section 137 grant forms were sent out, CIL report and precept request were submitted to B&NES Council. Follow-up emails have also been sent regarding required tree works.

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
A resident has enquired about the availability of allotments. The annual payment for all allotment holders is now due and remains at £25 (as agreed at the budget meeting in January). All allotment holders will be contacted by email to confirm whether they wish to retain their allotment or return it by 31st March.
ACTION: Clerk to email all allotment holders

Clerk

c Farmborough Climate and Nature Emergency

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

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

Nothing to report for sweeper.

Priston Lane, near the sewage works, has increasing litter.

ACTION: Clerk to report to fix my street

Clerk

9 Community Engagement

a Emergency Planning Working Group

- i. To note any report and actions from the Working Group
Draft report completed and presented to the PC by MC.
ACTION: Clerk to forward to BANES emergency planning office for review.

Clerk

b Temple Cloud Cricket Club

- i. To request a fence/barrier along part of the east side of the recreation ground.
Options for the fence/barrier to prevent lost balls, were either a wooden picket fence similar to that next to the pavilion or green mesh fencing. Posts would be needed to an approximate height of 1m. FPC preferred the option of green mesh fencing that is installed in removable panels and determined that this should be trialled for one season and then reviewed to decide whether it could remain in place permanently or should be removed out of season.
It was also noted that the new practice cricket net next to the MUGA would be an appropriate place for additional business advertising for the club.

5 in favour

c Correspondence

- i. Traffic Calming in Farmborough
Request from local resident for traffic calming measures similar to Timsbury, focusing on school walking routes and speeding near Butchers Arms/Bellifants. A meeting with the local highways officer to discuss traffic calming measures is needed. There has been funding allocated in B&NES 26/27 budget for feasibility studies of roads around Farmborough, but it is not yet clear which roads they are. May know more next month.
All agreed this needed more time for discussion and further information.
ACTION: Clerk to return this item to the agenda for March.
- ii. Letter from Dunkerton & Tunley Parish Council - Bus Service Proposal

Clerk

A request for support for a bus service proposal (reinstatement of the 179) was agreed.

ACTION: Clerk to respond and say that we support the proposal and to thank them for including Hobbs Wall and The Street, as this will benefit residents who currently struggle to access services.

10 Reports

a Farmborough Recreation Ground Committee (was Sports & Social)

Committee meeting held, requesting help with stall holders by the end of February.

b Memorial Hall Committee

7th March - 60th Birthday Party. All cllrs present agreed they would attend for part of the day. Table will have details about becoming a councillor and the precept. If leaflets are ready in time, they will be available for people to take away.

ACTION: Clerk to RSVP and request a table

Clerk

c To receive a report from the Ward Councillor

Highways are the biggest ongoing concern for residents, particularly speed of traffic and potholes. Traffic calming measures in Timsbury have also prompted queries. There is a line in the 26/27 B&NES budget for feasibility studies on roads across Clutton & Farmborough Ward, which SR put forward last year. It is unclear why we need feasibility studies while other villages don't, so SR has asked a cabinet question to clarify this, along with which roads are being studied. Although not guaranteed, the studies may result in funding for actual measures in the 27/28 budget.

Further funding for the 'Timsbury to Farmborough footway link' has also been secured for 26/27. This follows initial studies that picked up on a previous feasibility study in 2012. The project is continuing and is now in the phase of additional topographical surveys, contacting landowners, determining where the footway will be placed along with repositioning of the carriageway and any additional traffic calming measures. This project is still far from completion, but the ongoing funding shows commitment to make this happen.

Meetings attended:

- Local policing
- Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny (PDS) – linked to the budget.

Meetings attending this month:

- Chew and Somer Valley Fora
- Council Meeting (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 13th March 2026

Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Thursday 30th April at the Memorial Hall.

Meeting ended: 10.00pm

Signed by

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