



Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 27th of October 2025 at 7pm at Blandford Hall, Martin.

	<u>In Attendance</u>	<u>Apologies</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Councillor S. Greenwood	✓		
Councillor S. Hooper	✓		
Councillor J. Richards	✓		
Councillor B. Batten	✓		
Councillor E. Horley	✓		
VACANT			
VACANT			

Also, IN ATTENDANCE: Melissa Hildreth – Clerk and 2 members of the public

25-129 - Apologies for Absence- To receive and record. *Coopted candidate Tom Horrell unable to attend. His apology was accepted.*

25-130- Councillors' Declarations of Interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011. *No interests declared.*

25-131- Open Public Forum- The public is invited to speak on matters relevant to the meeting. *No Comments made.*

25-132- Minutes of Previous Meeting- To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 15th of September 2025, having been circulated to members, be signed as a correct record. *Minutes of 15th of September meeting signed by Chairman as a correct record.*

25-133- Declaration of Acceptance - MPC welcomes Tom Horrell to the Council. He is to sign his Declaration of Acceptance and turn in his Register of Interests form. *Tom Horrell unable to attend. Clerk to speak with him to have his acceptance signed before next meeting.*

25-134- Matters Arising- *All items have been actioned or will be reported on later in the meeting with the exception of the following from 15 SEP 25: 25-084-Bustard Pond-Clerk has heard from Longford Estate. They are awaiting word from their lawyer. 25-103 – Complaints about the road crossing at Martin Drove End and the A354 – Hampshire Highways have trimmed back the trees and hedges obscuring the warning signs on the A354. 25-116.1 -Clerk has written to Hampshire Highways and is awaiting a reply. 25-116.2-Still investigating costs of an information sign to place at top of village*

25-135-Guest Speaker- Royal British Legion in the Western downlands villages. *Speaker Mike Richards unable to attend. Clerk to invite him to the next meeting in December.*

25-136-Guest Speaker-Asian Hornets update. Speaker John Butler. *A very informative talk was given concerning Asian Hornets. Two nests as close as Verwood were destroyed this year. There were also a record total number of nests destroyed. It was agreed that the council would help cover printing costs to cover an information campaign in the Village. Martin is likely to see Asian Hornets next year. A spotting group will be set up to prepare for finding nests after any sighting. There will be a public meeting in Blandford Hall on 27 November to inform the community further about the Asian Hornet threat to pollinators.*

25-137 -Affordable Housing – To ratify an updated terms of reference. *Terms of reference were ratified.*

25-137.2 -To approve the cost of the rental of Blandford Hall for £20 a meeting.

Council approves the £20 cost for the next affordable housing meeting.

25-138-Resilience – Update on resilience. *Questionnaire has gone out and there was a good response rate. A paper version to go out to those without internet. Helpers have been invited to a meeting on 30/10. Council approves £20 to pay for the meeting room at The Hart of Martin. The grant application to SSE for a large generator at The Hart of Martin has been approved.*

25-139- Design Code-To discuss and decide on how to complete the requirements for the District-Wide Design Code and Settlement Character Studies. *Tabled to discuss again at the next meeting to have more time to better understand the best way forward.*

25-140- Tree Survey – To decide on what actions to be taken from the tree survey. *Cllr Hooper to approach local contractor to see if they can carry out removing the trees identified as hazardous in the tree survey. Also to check for dead limbs coming from copse that might pose a hazard by the picnic tables in the Rec Grounds.*

25-141- Playground-To receive the weekly playground inspection reports. *Playground reports for JUNE to SEPT received either in the week. Everything acceptable.*

25-142- Newsletter-Update on progress of the newsletter. *Newsletter complete. All agree it is acceptable. Each councillor will deliver to a different part of the village.*

25-143- Councillor Vacancy – To note that a resignation letter has been received from Toby Scott-Ison and the process for announcing a casual vacancy has been started. *Council notes this resignation and that a Notice of Vacancy has been posted. The council formally thanks Toby Scott-Ison for all his hard work during his years on the council.*

25-144-Financial Matters-

25-144.1- To receive Clerk's General Report. *The bank account, as of today's meeting has £12093.48. The second half of the precept was received.*

25-144.2- To agree to pay the following invoices: *Council approved for both invoices to be paid.*

- Blandford Hall -Oct £20.00 HALC - HALC training - £64.20

25-144.3- To ratify the following payments from the bank account: *Payment ratified.*

- Bank Service Charge- £4.25

25-144.4- To ratify the following payments from the Equals Card: *Both payments ratified.*

- MS365-SEPT £9.72 Lebara- SEPT & OCT £10.00

25-145-Minor Matters and Items for the Next Agenda -Councillors to report minor matters and items for future agendas.

- *Thank you to all who came to the litter pick on Sunday the 26th of October*
- *Clerk to alert people of Martin there is littering picking equipment for use*
- *Affordable Housing Update.*

Date of Next Meeting is 8 December 2025

Melissa Hildreth Clerk - Martin Parish Council