



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held
on the 22nd of June 2026 at 7pm at the Hart of Martin, Martin**

	<u>In Attendance</u>	<u>Apologies</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Councillor S. Greenwood (Chair)		✓	
Councillor J. Richards	✓		
Councillor B. Batten	✓		
Councillor E. Horley	✓		
Councillor T. Horrell	✓		
Councillor A. Groom (Vice Chair)	✓		
Councillor G. Hildreth	✓		

Also, IN ATTENDANCE: 8 Members of the Public and Melissa Hildreth – Clerk

26-082 - Apologies for Absence- To receive and record. *Apologies given by Suzanne Greenwood. Council accepts apology. Vice Chair Cllr Alistair Groom assumes the role of Chair for this meeting.*

26-083 -Declaration of Acceptance - MPC welcomes Gavin Hildreth. He has signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and has submitted his Register of Interests form.

26-084- 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. *The following Councillors declare an interest in item 26-098.1: Cllr Groom as he is a Director of the Community Shop which sells Bumbleberry items. Cllr Hildreth as he is an employee of the Community Shop. Cllr Richards as a Director of Future Farms. Cllr Batten as his son works for Bumbleberry. Cllr Horley declares an interest in 26-097 Grant Application as her husband does the accounting for Blanford Hall. Because this leaves only two councillors to discuss item 26-098.1, Cllrs Richards, Batten and Groom have asked for dispensations to listen, discuss and vote on the item. The Council has voted on and approved of the dispensations for Cllr Richards, Cllr Batten and Cllr Groom to allow a fairer vote for item 26-098.1.*

26-085- Open Public Forum- The public is invited to speak on matters relevant to the meeting. *Two members spoke against item 26-098.1. One of these members spoke on behalf of 5 others who were neighbours of the site in 26-098.1. Three members spoke in favour of item 26-098.1.*

26-086- Minutes of Previous Meeting- To resolve that the minutes of the annual meeting of the Council held on the 11th of May 2026, having been circulated to members, be signed as a correct record. *Meeting minutes for 11th of May 2026 were resolved as accurate and were signed by the Chairman.*

26-087- Matters Arising- All items have been actioned or will be reported on later in the meeting with the exception of the following from 11 MAY 26: **26-074-AGAR-Certificate of Exemption sent to BDO and was accepted.**

26-088-County Cllr Millar and District Cllr Richards – To welcome the Councillors to the meeting and hear the latest reports from County and District Councils. *Cllr Millar sends his apologies and hope to attend a meeting in the near future as our new county councillor. Cllr Richards spoke about LGR. A petition has been given to NFDC to act on stopping a section of the current NFDC being grouped with Southampton to create a unity council. NFDC took legal council and were told they were not likely to win a case so have decided not to pursue a judicial review. Hampshire County Council have decided to pursue a judicial review at the cost of £500,000. Council CIL funding now open. It is possible that the local plan may not go ahead until the new authority starts.*

26-089-Public Rights-To discuss and agree to the dates of the public rights being 24 June until – 4 August 2026. *The Council agrees to these dates and the clerk will post both online and on the notice boards.*

26-090-Bank Reconciliation for 25-26-to discuss and accept the bank reconciliation. *After reviewing the reconciliation the council votes to approve the document.*

26-091-CIL FUNDS-To discuss and decide on any plans for the CIL funding- *It was thought to see how much it would cost to convert the speed indicator device to solar power. Also how much it would cost to have another speed indicator device. Cllr Batten to pursue for the next meeting what the community might want for extra play ground equipment. This information would need to be discussed at the next meeting and an application would need to go in before AUG 7 so that a grant form NFDC CIL could be sought.*

26-092-Affordable Housing-To hear an update about affordable housing project. *The Open Afternoon attracted 35 people. Highlights of comments from people: It was wondered if traffic calming would be pursued for Townsend Lane as there will be increased traffic. Also it was wondered how the construction vehicles would get to site as it is a close road with a curve and many people parking on the street.*

26-093-STAR FEST- To discuss and decide what role Council will play and next steps- *It was decided that the Dark Skies representatives should speak with one another to decide if they wanted to take more action. The Council can be approached later if it is found they can be of use. Clerk to contact Martin Dark Skies representative and ask him to speak with the Damerham representative.*

26-094-Financial Matters-

26-094.1- To receive Clerk's General Report. *As of 22 June the current account had £18855.89*

26-094.2-To discuss and decide about opening an Instant Access Account- interest of .5%. *It was decided to open an instant access account to earn some interest. It was also decided to use the 3 month fixed term savings as it offered better interest, but only if the clerk found there were funds that would likely remain in reserve for that time period. A longer time period represented a higher risk should the funds need to be used.*

26-094.3- To agree to pay the following invoices: *All payments to creditors agreed*

Blandford Hall Council Meeting-May inv593 - £40.00,
Blandford Hall correction. Shorted inv 559 OCT by £24 & overpaid £5 on inv 550 AUG. Owe- £19
ROSPA-Playground inspection- Inv 97722-£118.80
Smiths of Derby Clock Inspection – Inv 0000140650 £409.20
Hamp Assoc of Loc Clls -Training - Inv 8479 £288.00
Do the Numbers –Internal Audit- Inv 12/2018 £175.00
Eileen Horley -Meeting refreshments-£10.69
BitDefender-Re-newel in July -£44.99 to equals card

26-094.4- To ratify the following payments from the bank account. *Council ratified these payments.*
Bank Service Charge-April, May and June £4.25 per month

26-094.5- Paid from Equals card- Council to ratify payments. *Council ratified these payments*
MS365-June - £10.21 Lebara- April, May and June – 3x£5
Correct payment for MS365 April & May -£10.21x2

26-095 - Green Areas/Rec ground

26-095.1- Bark-To discuss & agree £360 of bark (3 bulk bags)+ £36 delivery to be paid by equals card. *Council agreed to use the equals card to purchase bark.*

26-095.2 -Quote for weed killer -To discuss and decide spraying before bark at £25 +VAT *Council agree to this quotation. Clerk to inform contractor.*

26-095.3-ROSPA Report-To review report and discuss any actions. *Council read and approved the report. It is noted that a new swing seat could be bought. Cllr Batten to have a quote for the seat.*

26-095.4-Tree Reports To discuss having tree reports for the Green and Bustard Pond *Clerk to seek quotes for tree survey using same company as last time.*

26-095.5-Extra Cuts-To discuss quotes for extra cuts in orchard and on footpaths with etesia cutter-*Extra path to cost £225.60 and orchard to cost £ 72.00. Council agrees to the quotes. Cllr Richards to confirm the paths and clerk to inform contractor.*

26-096-Speed Indicator Device/Speed Watch Group

26-096.1-SID-To report results from Speed Indicator Device and decide any further actions- *Cllr Richards to include a page on the website and indicated which reports were best to use.*

26-096.2-Speed Gun-To approve spend on a Velocity Speed Gun for £141.47. This is over the £100 budgeted amount. ***Council approves up to £160 for the cost of a speed gun and the price continues to increase. Money to be sent to the equals card.***

26-097-Grant Application – To discuss and decide on Grant application from Blandford Hall for seating. ***Grant application approved for £250 to be sent to Blandford Hall.***

26-098- Planning – To discuss and decide recommendations for the following applications:

26-098.1 26/10514

Full Planning Permission

BUMBLEBERRY FIELD, MARTIN ROAD, MARTIN SP6 3LR

Temporary siting of a caravan for a period of five years for use as an agricultural workers dwelling

Council votes to recommend PAR 2 REFUSAL because there is concern that there will be increased environmental harm to the neighbours through noise and air quality. They would like to see further reports as to environmental impact on neighbours due to increased activity at the farm. Also, it was noted that the caravan would not enhance the landscape in this area of an ANOB.

26-098.2 26/10280

Full Planning Permission

Downlands Cottage, Martin Road, Martin SP6 3LA

*Alterations to single storey extension as approved under previous planning permission 22/11457;
oil storage tank with enclosure and bin store*

Council voted to recommend PAR 2 REFUSAL based on the lack of clear documentation for changes requested. They will accept the decision of the planning officer.

26-099 Internal Auditor- To discuss and decide on actions following the report from the internal auditor. ***A Model needs to be created, but the Council is happy overall with the result.***

26-100-Repair of Gate & Notice Board-To discuss and approve £120 in supply to paint entrance gate and notice board for fund to go to equals card. ***The Council approves this spend to the equals card.***

26-101-Generator & Resilience-To have an update on the completion of the resilience plan and when the generator might be bought and placed at the Hart. ***Cllr Richards suggests that the clerk should purchase the generator. She will send all the details that she has so that the clerk might do this.***

26-102- Minor Matters and Items for the Next Agenda -Councillors to report minor matters and items for future agendas.

- Newsletter
- Report water leak under bench by Townsend Lane

Date of Next Meeting is 27 July 2026

Melissa Hildreth Clerk - Martin Parish Council

Posted 15 June 2026