Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held
on the 7th of September 2026 at 7pm at the Blandford Hall, Martin

	In Attendance	Apologies	Absent
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: 1 Member of the Public and Melissa Hildreth – Clerk

26-129 - Apologies for Absence- To receive and record. ***None received.***

26-130- 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. ***Cllr Greenwood declares an interest in agenda item 26-137.1.***

26-131- Open Public Forum- The public is invited to speak on matters relevant to the meeting. ***A member of the public speaks in favour of agenda item 26-137.1***

26-132- Minutes of Previous Meeting- To resolve that the minutes of the annual meeting of the Council held on the *27th of July 2026*, having been circulated to members, be signed as a correct record. ***Meeting minutes for 27th of July 2026 were resolved as accurate and were signed by the Chairman.***

26-133- Matters Arising- All items have been actioned or will be reported on later in the meeting with the exception of the following from **27th July 2026**: **26-110.2-CIL Fund Grants**-Cllr Richards has applied for a grant for another SID. Currently, awaiting decision.

26-134-Invalid meeting-The Clerk reported that the meeting held on 17 August 2026 was not validly convened due to an omission in the summons. In accordance with Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972, all decisions made at that meeting are void. The Council noted that any actions arising have been withdrawn and where appropriate the business will be reconsidered at this properly convened meeting. ***A complaint has been made regarding this meeting and how it was announced to those who were previously concerned with the topic. This is still being addressed and will be updated at the next meeting.***

26-135- Minutes Error- To consider a motion to amend the minutes of the meeting held on ***22 June*** due to an identified error. The heading states the meeting took place at the Hart Martin. It should have read Blandford Hall. ***The Council ratified this corrections of 22 June meeting minutes..***

26-136-County Cllr Millar and District Cllr Richards – To hear the latest reports from County and District Council***. Cllr Millar unable to attend. Cllr Richards reported on the stream lining of the planning system. The District Council Planning Committee will be used only in very specific circumstances. Most applications will be decided by just the planning officer. These changes will take place on 31 October. Parish council comments will still be taken as before. Parish councils will be unable to force applications to the Planning Committee. The NFDC Local Plan has been stopped while awaiting the LGR changes. As of today the LGR for Hampshire has been paused for review***.

26-137- Planning – To discuss and decide recommendations for the following applications:

Councillor Greenwood leaves the room for the discussion and vote of this application.
26-137.1- Planning *-26/10827*
Full Planning Permission
QUEENS FARM, MARTIN ROAD, MARTIN SP6 3LR
Erect timber framed and timber clad agricultural building on the land and extend access track.
Council votes to recommend PAR 1 Permission. The Council has no objections to the proposed plans.

26-137.2-Tree Works- *CONS/26/0458*
Proposed Works: Greenage tree x 1 Fell
1 St Georges Cottages, Martin Road, Martin, Fordingbridge, SP6 3LQ
Council votes to recommend no objections to these tree works.

26-138-Review of the Code of Conduct and Standing Orders- To discuss and decide starting a task group to review possible use of the Local Government Association code of conduct and review the wording of the Standing Orders regarding withdrawing from a meeting. ***Cllrs Richards, Hildreth and Groom to meet as a Task Group to discuss possible changes to the Code of Conduct and Standing Orders. Clerk to send documents to group.***

26-139-**Resilience**-To discuss what measures the council might take if there were a fire in the area. ***It was agree that a section on fire would be added. Cllr Richards will work on getting the resilience committee together for a meeting.***

26-139.2 -Generator- To discuss what further measures need to be taken for the generator. ***It is secure in a building at the moment. A way to make it secure outside the building when used needs to be arranged. Also, the electrician needs to come back to add the area where the generator joins the building system. Cllr Richards will bring more details next meeting about placement and security needs. Clerk accepts key to generator to be kept securely with other MPC items.***

26-140 -**Defibrillator-**To discuss and decide if another defibrillator is needed in the village. ***Council RESOLVES to add another defibrillator closer to the Hart side of the village. Grants to be found and Clerk to check protocol for how people are guided to a defibrillator.***

26-140.2 – To discuss and decide on the purchase of new pads for the defibrillator- ***Council RESOLVES to approve spending £73.13 on new PADS for the current defibrillator. Funds to go to the Equals card for payment.***

26-141- Training- There is a HALC training event on planning. Cllr Horley has asked to attend. The cost is £59+VAT. Discuss and decide***. Council RESOLVES to allow Cllr Horley to attend the training. Clerk to enrol Cllr Horley.***

26-142-Affordable Housing- To hear an update on affordable housing. -***Drainage testing complete. Landscaping plans being finalised. Planning application should go in the week of the 14th of September. Hopeful to have spades in the ground by end of 2027.***

26-143-Recreation Grounds- To discuss and decide on requirements for cushioning in playground and if there are any other alternatives to play bark. ***Various options discussed. Cllr Horley to have quotes for wet pour for the next meeting if possible. Clerk to write to Holmes to see why our last delivery of play bark was so full of large slivers.***

26.143.2-To receive the weekly inspection sheets for the playground-***Cllr Greenwood gave the inspection reports from February 26 until August 26. Recommends larger swing seats need refreshing. Clerk to have quotes for next meeting.***

26-144-**Tree Reports**- To discuss and decide whether to accept quotes for Bustard Pond (9809) for £486.00 and Martin Green (9810) for £141.74- ***Council RESOLVES to accept both quotes. Funding from budget and contingency. Clerk to inform tree surveyor.***

26-145-**Entrance gate** -update about A354 side of village entrance gate. Discuss and decide further actions. ***Council agrees to have one fence panel at both ends of the Village. The gate at A354 end to be removed. Clerk to approach Hampshire Highways to ask for permission for a fence panel at the East Martin junction side of the village. Cost per panel quoted was £245.***

26-146-Delegation of Authority-To discuss and decide on this document that will give authority to the clerk in specific circumstance for tree works only. ***RESOLVED to agree that the delegation for tree works only is accepted.***

26-147-Financial Matters

26-147.1- **To receive Clerk's General Report -** ***Commercial Instant Access-£4003.88 Community Account-£6209.87***

26-147.2- To agree to pay the following invoices: ***RESOLVED to make the following payments***

Blandford Hall Meetings-July inv603 - £20
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To Equals card -£70.94 (delivery and VAT for replacement swing)(Total swing cost) £275.64
9th Earl Agricultural Estate -£5 (for Bustard Pond)
M Hooper- inv1905 Extra Grass- £225.60
M Hooper-inv1904 Community Orchard-£72

26-147.3- To ratify the following payments from the bank account: ***Payments RATIFIED***

Bank Service Charge-August £4.25 **Community First (generator insurance)** -£90.35

26-147.4- Paid from Equals card- Council to ratify payments: ***Payments RATIFIED***

MS365-*August - £10.21* **Lebara-** *August –£5* **SGS-Engineering.com**-*£4869.98*
Amazon -*£81.61(Board and fence repair supplies)*

26-148- Minor Matters and Items for the Next Agenda -Councillors to report minor matters and items for future agendas***.– Clock will be serviced by Cumbria Clock Co once the dial has been renovated***

-Quotes to cut Longbarrow grass and sides for wilding – Repair of latch on Sillens Lane gate – Update on bench – Update on complaint – Discussion about planting bulbs around the village – Dates for next year– Affordable Housing Update

Date of Next Meeting is 19 October 2026 Melissa Hilbrath ***Clerk - Martin Parish Council***

Posted 30 September 2026