Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held
on the 19th October 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: 2 Members of the Public and Melissa Hildreth – Clerk

26-149 - Apologies for Absence- To receive and record. ***None***

26-150- 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. ***None***

26-151- Open Public Forum- The public is invited to speak on matters relevant to the meeting. ***Both members of the public in favour of the planning application at Shelleys. One suggested plantings to protect the view from the Church.***

26-152- Minutes of Previous Meeting- To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the *7th of September 2026*, having been circulated to members, be signed as a correct record. ***Meeting minutes for 7th of September 2026 were resolved as accurate and were signed by the Chairman.***

26-153- Matters Arising- All items have been actioned or will be reported on later in the meeting with the exception of the following from **9th September 2026**: ***26-144.2-Tree Survey –*** awaiting dates for it to be completed. ***26-145-Entrance Gate*** -Clerk has written to Hampshire Highways for any permissions needed. ***26-139-Resilience***-To hear an update on the group at the meeting in December. ***26-143- Play Bark***-Clerk wrote to Holmes for an explanation regarding the bark and has had no response.

26-154- County Cllr Millar and District Cllr Richards – To hear the latest reports from the County and District Council ***Cllr Millar unable to attend. Cllr Richards reports the following: NF District will be conducting a consultation about their budget which will last until the 10th of November. £1.25 million in savings needs to be found. There are 6 points for savings- Stopping grants, reducing grounds maintenance, reducing hours at the information offices, transferring responsibility of the public toilets to the town councils, cutting business waste services and to reduce the climate change budget.***

26-155- Budget 27-28 – To agree to a working group to create the budget for 27-28**. Cllr Greenwood, Cllr Horley and Cllr Hildreth to meet on 10 November to work on the 27-28 budget.**

26-156-On-going complaint- To hear an update concerning a complaint about individually notifying members of public regarding agenda items of interest, specifically planning items***. Chairman wrote a response to the complainant which was delivered two weeks prior to the meeting. No return response has been received so far. The situation to be monitored.***

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26-157- Annual review of Clerk- To create a working group for the clerk annual review. ***Cllr Groom and Cllr Batten to meet with clerk in November. Clerk to email for possible dates.***

26-158- Planning – To discuss and decide recommendations for the following applications:

26-158.1- APPLICATION NO: 26/10876
SHELLEYS, MARTIN ROAD, MARTIN SP6 3LF
DESCRIPTION: Erect building for use as stables on land rear of dwelling
PAR 1 Permission- The proposal would enhance the existing building and is considered appropriate in scale and design, reflecting the character of the property and surrounding village. The development represents an acceptable use of the land and would not harm the character or appearance of the area. To minimise views of the development from the church, a condition requiring additional native hedgerow planting is recommended.

26-159-Review of the Code of Conduct and Standing Orders- To hear the results of the task group reviewing the possible use of the Local Government Association code of conduct and changing some wording in the Standing Orders. To make a decisions regarding the results. ***It is resolved to change the Standing Orders 13b to 'withdraw from the meeting room' and that the LGA Appendix B will be used with our current Code of Conduct as it is a better explanation of the Codes. Clerk to update the documents on the website and give to councillors.***

26-160-Generator- To discuss what further measures need to be taken for the generator. ***Cllr Richards will report more at the next meeting. It needs to run to determine where it should be placed on the building for noise considerations.***

26-161 -**Defibrillator-**To hear an update on best placement for another defibrillator and what grants or programs might be on offer. ***Cllr Richards to approach the Hart of Martin if they would allow a defibrillator to be placed at their building. It is recommended that defibs be placed no closer than 200m apart. It is resolved to apply for a British Heart Association grant so long as the Hart agrees to the placement.***

26-162-Newsletter-Update on the progress of the newsletter. ***Cllr Richards to complete the newsletter hopefully this week.***

26-163-Update on Bench-To hear any news concerning the replacement of the bench from the Green. ***Have heard from the insurance that they will cover the bench. There is a £100 excess. It is unclear how much will be received as the email not clear. It was decided that it would be better to have wooden benches and that two would be better. Clerk to write for clarification.***

26-164-Affordable Housing- To hear an update on affordable housing***. Plans have not been sent to planning but are very close. There are questions to where the Wessex line is placed across the site. Costing are now being completed. Each home will have showers-no baths, garden sheds, and air pump heating. There will be a package sewage treatment plant. When ready the plans should be posted in the Hart and the Village Hall for villagers to see. Planning should have a decision for Feb-March 2027. There will be no more steering committee meetings after planning approval.***

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26-165-Recreation Grounds- To hear about wet pour as an option in the playground and decide any further actions. ***Three companies approached for quotes. The area under the swings and climbing frame needs to be measured before they would give an accurate quote. One did quote £200 a square meter for wet pour. It was £150 for rubber mulch. More investigation needed with ROSPA to see what is fully required. Swings seats are in need of replacement. Council RESOLVES the cost of £136.94 x 2 swings maybe spent and that the funds can go to the equals card payment.***

26-166- 2027 Meeting Dates – Dates proposed are 11 January, 8 March, 12 April (Assembly), 10 May (ACM), 21 June, 2 August, 13 September, 1 November, 6 December ***RESOLVED to accept these dates***

26-167-Sillens Lane path-Update on condition of latch and gap in fencing. ***Mr. Hooper has completed the repairs free of charge.***

26-167.2-**Longbarrow path** – update on quote to cut back the path. ***Council resolves to accept the quote for the cut back of the path and hedging at £250 +VAT. To be completed in FEB 2027.***

26-168-Financial Matters

26-168.1- **To receive Clerk's General Report –** MPC assets that need relocating. ***Painting equipment to go to Cllr Batten, Cllr Greenwood to keep the litter picking equipment and Cllr Richards to keep to extension cable, hose and water pump. Resolved for the projector to be retired as it is outdated. The Community Account as of today has £11,148.04 and the Instant Access Savings has £4005.53.***

26-168.2- To agree to pay the following invoices: ***RESOLVED to accept these 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

26-168.3- To ratify the following payments from the bank account: ***RATIFIED***

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

26-168.4- Paid from Equals card- Council to ratify payments: ***RATIFIED***

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

26-169- Minor Matters and Items for the Next Agenda -Councillors to report minor matters and items for future agendas. – MCA approached Council to conduct a litter pick, - Clock at the church has been refurbished by the generosity of Roy Mollet and Alistair Groom. – Cllr Batten has had a request for a zip line in the recreation grounds. – Footpath near Denate's Barn is blocked. -Footpath behind Hangerfields requires cutting back.

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

Posted 1 September 2026

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