



ROCKBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 11th November 2025** in the Pavilion, Sports Ground, Rockbourne, at **7.00pm**.

Members Present: Cllr Leeson (Chair), Cllr Wise (Vice-Chair), Cllr Branagan, Cllr Carmichael and Cllr Wiggins. Also present. District Cllr Richards and Mark Baulch (Clerk & RFO).

There was one member of the public in attendance (name recorded) as well as one invited speaker.

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Wallis

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Correspondence Received

The Council had received a number of e-mails as follows:

30th October from the Local Bus Team at Hampshire County Council regarding funds available for the renovation or replacement of bus shelters. The asset in Rockbourne may not be covered as it is not on an active bus route. However it was **DECIDED** that it was worth applying for a renovation grant. **ACTION:** Clerk to apply.

4th November from Hampshire County Council regarding Budget Consultation for 2026-2027. Closes on 7th December 2025.

7th November from Environment Agency on behalf of resident of Rock Cottage highlighting a large obstruction in the river bed that needs to be removed. **ACTION:** Cllr Leeson to put a message on the Bourne group and try to move this.

7th November from Cllr Wise with Minutes of the Meeting that had been held to discuss the possibility of CCTV being installed in the Village.

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meetings held on 2nd September 2025 and 14th October 2025.

All agreed as correct and they were signed by the Chair.

5. Action points from the minutes of the last meeting held on 14th October 2025

All actions had been dealt with.

6. Reports by the Downlands & New Forest Ward Councillor and representatives on outside bodies Public participation time

District Cllr Richards had no report to make but asked about the new rubbish collections. Cllr Branagan said that they worked fine, although Cllr Wallis has not had a collection at all. Cllr Wiggins said that they had been sporadic. Food waste was not picked up on Monday, for the second week in a row. It was picked up on Tuesday, but some had taken their bins in already. Service is patchy. Cllr Wise added that they were less reliable than before. There used to be a system in place to report things and then it would be sorted out. Bottle collection has not happened at all. District Cllr Richards said that you can report online. Cllr Leeson replied that this has to be done by midday the following day. Cllr Wise said that in this case, it was a whole road. District Cllr Richards said that Phase 1 was chaotic, Phase 2 seems generally to have been OK. Cllr Branagan agreed that the Main Road has been OK. Cllr Wise queried the way in which the black bins were being emptied by pulling black bags out of the bin. Cllr Wiggins reported that the lorry has been turning around in Glebe Farm entrance. Cllr Wise added that the glass collection from the pub has not happened for a month and District Cllr Richards replied that they should be collecting.

7. Royal British Legion

The Chair of the Damerham and Western Downland Branch of the Royal British Legion addressed Councillors. See separate document for details. Cllr Wise asked for clarification of the figures given, as it was said that there are 2.4 million veterans but only 180,000 Members of the Royal British Legion. This was confirmed as correct.

8. Public participation time

A Member of the Public asked for confirmation of the funding available for CCTV and SpeedWatch. Cllr Wise confirmed the Budget of £4,000 for CCTV and £4,000 for Speedwatch. He said that it is highly unlikely that we will spend lots of money on Speedwatch. There have been potentially cheaper solutions put forward for CCTV. The Member of the Public confirmed that they are all for it. Cllr Leeson said that he had a long conversation with a resident following the burglaries this week and he was very pleased with the response from the Police. They have taken some forensics. If we look like we want to help them and if we can provide evidence, they will be more responsive to us. Cllr Wiggins had a telephone call from the Police last week thanking us for help. But, in that case, they have dropped all charges due to lack of evidence. Cllr Leeson said that they asked him about ANPR and CCTV. Apparently they have ANPR in Whitsbury and that did work. Cllr Carmichael had seen some footage from a resident from this week, but you cannot see the number plate. In his own case, the Police think that they came from the footpath at the back.

9. Planning Matters

New Forest District Council is the local Planning Authority and consults Rockbourne Parish Council on planning applications received for Rockbourne Parish.

9a. Planning Applications

Reference 25/10806
Alternative Reference PP-14290447
Application Received Wed 3 Sep 2025
Application Validated Wed 3 Sep 2025
Address SPRINGBOURNE FARM, ROCKBOURNE SP6 3NS
Proposal Agricultural Pole Barn (Retrospective)

The Council had responded to this previously and the Clerk updated the Planning Portal with the same response ahead of the deadline, namely PAR2: we recommend REFUSAL for the reasons listed, but would accept the decision reached by the District Council's Officers under their delegated powers.

Reference 24/10446 (amended Mon 20 Oct 2025)
Alternative Reference PP-13050171
Application Received Mon 13 May 2024
Application Validated Tue 04 Jun 2024
Address THE TALLET & THYTHE COTTAGE, MANOR FARM, NEW ROAD, ROCKBOURNE SP6 3NN
Proposal Change of use of barn from holiday let accommodation to x2no. dwellings and retention of flue (Retrospective)

The Council had previously responded to this. Cllr Leeson **PROPOSED** a response of PAR 5 We are happy to accept the decision reached by the District Council's Officers under their delegated powers and Cllr Wise **SECONDED** this, with all agreeing.

Reference 25/10955
Alternative Reference PP-14409296
Application Received Mon 20 Oct 2025
Application Validated Tue 21 Oct 2025
Address Barn at BRICKHILL COTTAGE, ROCKBOURNE ROAD, ROCKBOURNE. SP6 1QG.
Proposal Change of use and fenestration alterations to agricultural building to create x1no. dwelling (Class C3) (Prior Approval Application)

Cllr Wise said that they are trying to prove that this building has been in continuous agricultural use, in order to qualify for permitted development. Council had previously responded to this. Cllr Carmichael **PROPOSED** a response of PAR 5 We are happy to accept the decision reached by the District Council's Officers under their delegated powers and Cllr Wise **SECONDED** this, with all agreeing.

Reference 25/10935
Alternative Reference PP-14408449
Application Received Tue 14 Oct 2025
Application Validated Tue 04 Nov 2025
Address STADDLE STONES, ROCKBOURNE. SP6 3NA.
Proposal Flood resistant barriers to front and rear door openings and lime mortar patch repairs (Application for Listed Building Consent)

Cllr Wiggins **PROPOSED** a response of PAR 1 We recommend PERMISSION, for the reasons listed, but would accept the decision reached by the District Council's Officers under their delegated powers and Cllr Leeson **SECONDED** this, with all agreeing. The reason being that this is to prevent flooding.

9b. Planning Decisions

Reference 25/10545
Alternative Reference PP-14060565
Application Received Fri 06 Jun 2025
Application Validated Wed 11 Jun 2025
Address LADYBIRD FARM, (previously CAE MALWEN), ROCKBOURNE, SP6 3NA.
Proposal Change of use of agricultural barn to x1no. dwelling with parking and landscaping
Status Decided
Decision Refused
Decision Issued Date Mon 20 Oct 2025

Reference 25/10780
Alternative Reference PP-14267795
Application Received Mon 25 Aug 2025
Application Validated Tue 26 Aug 2025
Address MUSHROOM FARM, ROCKBOURNE, SP6 3NS.
Proposal Change of use of existing agricultural building into a holiday let with hard and soft landscaping. Roof alterations, rooflights and fenestration alterations.
Status Decided
Decision Refused
Decision Issued Date Tue 21 Oct 2025

10. Payment of outstanding creditors

The Clerk presented the latest invoices and statement of accounts to the Councillors. There is a query over the latest water bill, as it is over three times the amount of previous bills. **ACTION:** Cllr Wiggins to ask a resident to check the meter and see whether we have a possible leak somewhere. A draft Budget was also presented. Cllr Carmichael asked about the provision of £2,000 for legal fees. Mark Baulch explained that this was for formalizing the ownership of the Recreation Ground. **ACTION:** Cllr Wise to research local conveyancers that may be able to undertake this work.

11. Potential CCTV Camera Trial

Cllr Wise had forwarded Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 6th November at 7pm in the Village Hall. It would be useful to formally recognize these. We need to demonstrate community support for the 20mph speed limit. 45 people attended and 42 of them signed a petition for a 20mph speed limit. There was also a vote on the principal of CCTV, with 16 in favour and 9 against. Should we have a poll on the Village WhatsApp group? The challenge is that it remains a concept. We need to try Cllr Carmichael's system at night. Cllr Carmichael said that it might need some research and development money. Cllr Branagan added that the other issue is balancing money and some people will not benefit from this. Cllr Wise said that it was the same for any play equipment, not all residents would use that. The CCTV would cover a lot of residents. If outside of the area, it is not as much help, but it might still capture some useful data. Cllr Carmichael felt that it was all going to come down to cost. Cllr Leeson said that it was still not covering the whole Village. It is a fact finding system at two points. Cllr Carmichael asked whether it is just something to record number plates or images of vehicles and people in vehicles? If just recording number plates, it may be less of an issue. Cllr Leeson said that this was down to set up and cameras. Cllr Carmichael added that we need to say what it is. Cllr Leeson said that the right cameras will do both. Cllr Carmichael felt that what it is we are trying to do needs to be very clear as well as the cost. Cllr Wise added that we need to explore further Cllr Carmichael's work to which he replied that he is happy to do that. Cllr Leeson said that the need for security is more on the agenda than speeding. We need to come up with the best idea for the best money. Cllr Wise added whether this is just the start and we then extend out. Cllr Branagan asked whether the New Road gates are usually shut? Cllr Wise replied that they are permanently shut. Cllr Wiggins asked whether it could cover the turning up to Whitsbury? Cllr Wise explained that the suggestion was from the width restriction gate on the North side and after the Damerham junction at the South end. Cllr Carmichael pointed out that some residents already have quite a lot of CCTV. Cllr Leeson said

that we need trials. Cllr Carmichael suggested that we need a camera without an infrared lens and with an infrared light source. Cllr Branagan said that it needs to be quite low. Cllr Carmichael suggested that about £100 would be sufficient. Cllr Branagan asked how the data gets extracted? Cllr Wise said that it is normally kept for 28 days and then overwritten. Cllr Leeson added that if set up for events only it would not be recording all of the time. Cllr Wise reiterated that we do not want to keep the data for ages. Cllr Carmichael asked whether the 20mph limit was more likely to be successful if people do keep to the 30mph limit? Cllr Wise explained that there used to be a three-deaths criteria. Now, we need community support (the petition), active Speedwatch (in place) and it must be fully funded. This last item is difficult, as they will not tell us what that actually equates to.

12. Users of Recreation Ground and Pavilion

Alderholt Youth Football Club have received and paid their invoice for October. Cllr Leeson asked about the signing off of the building regulations for the pavilion. Mark Baulch confirmed that we had still not heard back from New Forest District Council. Cllr Leeson said that they wanted to come back and inspect the walls to see what they were filled with. **ACTION:** Cllr Leeson will call the office again and ask for them to return to do this.

13. Working Groups (LGA1972 s7.48)

Cllr Wallis was not in attendance. The outcome of the grant application for playground equipment should be known on 3rd December.

Cllr Leeson said that the Bourne group has done quite a lot. They will try and sort out the reported obstruction.

Speedwatch and CCTV had already been discussed.

14. To arrange the date for the next meetings –

The next meetings will be Tuesday 9th December, Tuesday 13th January and Tuesday 10th February @7pm in the Pavilion. Those wanting to join the meetings are asked to please contact the Parish Clerk:

rockbourneclerk@outlook.com for details.