



ROCKBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 10th March 2026** in the Pavilion, Sports Ground, Rockbourne, at **7.00pm**.

Members Present: Cllr Leeson (Chair), Cllr Carmichael, Cllr Wallis, Cllr Wiggins. Also present Mark Baulch (Clerk & RFO).

There were no members of the public in attendance.

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Branagan, Cllr Wise (Vice-Chair). Also, District Councillor Richards.

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Carmichael confirmed his interest in Item 8a.

3. Correspondence Received

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

From Hampshire Association of Local Councils on 12th February with regards to Emergency Planning & Community Resilience Workshop on 24th March. **ACTION:** Clerk to re-circulate to Councillors.

From Council Insurers on 3rd March regarding any changes required to Policy. **ACTION:** Clerk to respond with no changes and also seek quotes from other providers, although this has proved difficult in the past due to the wooden construction of the Pavilion and the Bus Shelter.

From a Member of the Public on 6th March regarding Planning Application 26/10094. This Application was discussed at the last Meeting, so no further action was proposed.

From Naomi Arnold, Development Management Officer at Hampshire County Council, regarding a letter received from Newbourne Farm. **ACTION:** Clerk to collate written responses from Councillors in order to draft a reply.

The Clerk also reminded Councillors of the correspondence previously received with regards to a cycle event passing through the Village on Saturday 14th March. Details are on the Notice Board and **ACTION:** Clerk will recirculate to the Village email group this week.

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting held on 10th February 2026

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

5. Action points from the minutes of the last meeting held on 10th February 2026

ACTION: Clerk to apply for grant for renovation of bus shelter. Clerk had received one quote for this work and submitted the grant application.

ACTION: Cllr Leeson will call the office again about the building regulations sign off and them checking the wall insulation. **CARRIED FORWARD.**

ACTION: Clerk to check on Planning requirements and obtain some quotes for matting or similar for the car parking area. Clerk continues to work on this and initial enquiries would seem to suggest that permission would not be required.

ACTION: Clerk to also look at Planning requirements for extending the slabs around the side of the building to the store. In this case, permission may well be required and so the Clerk will work on this further.

ACTION: Clerk should obtain some quotes for the repair of the zipwire. **CARRIED FORWARD.**

ACTION: Purchase a flood package, to include traffic cones and signs and to be kept at the Recreation Ground. Also some pumps that specifically pump down to a few millimetres of water. **CARRIED FORWARD.** Councillors had visited the property that was discussed at the last Meeting with regards to tree works. It was

clear that these works were necessary and so no further action is required.
Councillors had also visited the New Forest District Council Local Plan public information session in Fordingbridge. This was not felt to be positive and **ACTION:** Clerk will respond to New Forest District Council.

6. Reports by the Downlands & New Forest Ward Councillor and representatives on outside bodies
District.Cllr Richards had sent her apologies and no reports had been received.

7. Public participation time

There were no members of the public in attendance.

However, having declared his interest, Cllr Carmichael spoke as a member of the public with regard to Planning Applications listed in Item 8a.

The thatch on this property needs replacing and some beams need attention. External changes are limited to the replacing of the doors. Internally, the mezzanine floor at one end of the building will be reinstated. This building currently has bats in it and to mitigate the works, another building will also be replaced. This will consist of a new oak framed barn, replacing a collapsed building and which will include a specifically designed bat loft which the animals in the current location will be encouraged to locate to using recognised methods.

8. Planning Matters

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

8a. Planning Applications

References	26/10139 & 26/10140
Alternative Reference	PP-14689983
Applications Received	Wed 11 Feb 2026
Applications Validated	Tue 17 Feb 2026
Address	THE COTTAGE, ROCKBOURNE, SP6 3NA.
Proposals	10139 - External alterations to existing West Barn; Demolition of Pool Barn; erect replacement outbuilding to be used for storage, pool house and plant room. 10140 – Repair and associated works to thatched roof; replacement cladding and timber doors; replacement windows and vent; interior subdivision, including mezzanine and new staircase; demolition of existing pool barn (Application for Listed Building Consent).

Following the discussion above, Cllr Wallis asked whether planning permission would be required if it were not a listed building. The answer was that it would not. Cllr Carmichael then left the meeting and Cllr Wallis pointed out that the works could just be carried out anyway. Especially as this is a renovation and preservation project, not a new proposal. Neither building has any living accommodation, just occasional use facilities. Cllr Wallis therefore **PROPOSED:** a response of PAR3, We recommend PERMISSION, for the reasons listed. This was **AGREED** by Cllrs Leeson and Wiggins.

8b. Planning Decisions

Reference	25/11093
Alternative Reference	PP-14399119
Application Received	Mon 08 Dec 2025
Application Validated	Wed 17 Dec 2025
Address	3 THE TERRACE, ROCKBOURNE SP6 3NE
Proposal	Two storey rear extension and timber cladded shed in front garden
Decision	Granted Subject to Conditions

8c. Planning Appeals

Reference	25/10955
Alternative Reference	PP-14409296
Appeal Received	Mon 23 Feb 2026
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)

8d. Appeal Decisions

Reference	24/10783
Alternative Reference	PP-13307995
Appeal Received	Wed 27 Aug 2025
Address	LAND ADJ PROVOST FARM, ROCKBOURNE SP6 3NR
Proposal	2no agricultural buildings and associated hardstanding
Decision	Dismissed

9. Payment of outstanding creditors

The Clerk presented the latest invoices and statement of accounts to the Councillors.

10. Users of Recreation Ground and Pavilion

The Clerk continues to research ground products for the entrance and car parking area. Cllr Wallis had some photographs of some matting currently being used elsewhere in the Village that may be suitable. Cllr Wise is also looking in to the cost of a parking mat (embedded in the grass to prevent the ground getting churned up in winter). The costs vary substantially dependent on quality. This will be for the entrance area and to try and encourage users to stay within a defined (precise area to be agreed) parking area.

11. Working Groups (LGA1972 s7.48)

Cllr Wise had sent a report for the Traffic Working Group. Malcolm Smith from the Group attended the Hampshire PCC road safety summit on 3 March. Feedback is that road safety is a Police priority and that the Police are very keen on Speedwatch. They are also supportive of introducing 20mph speed limits. However, it is important to note that the PCC role is to be abolished as part of the local Government reorganisation with responsibility for policing handed to a new directly elected mayor. The Group is continuing to organise regular speedwatch sessions and has a regular meeting planned for later this month. Cllr Carmichael reported that he is continuing testing and provided Council with examples of the tests so far. The camera seems to be working really well. 95% of the registration plates read in daylight are really good, with 75% of those captured in darkness being legible. He has some more tests to run. The Bourne and flooding group had a working party on Sunday morning clearing weeds from Whitsbury Road downwards.

12. To arrange the date for the next meetings –

The next meeting will be Tuesday 14th April 2026 @7pm in the Sports Pavilion. Tuesday 12th May 2026 will be the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council, more details to follow. Those wanting to join the meetings are asked to please contact the Parish Clerk: rockbourneclerk@outlook.com for details.