

**Minutes of a meeting of
SHERFIELD ENGLISH PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 02 September 2026 at 7.30pm
at the Pavilion, Sherfield English Recreation Ground**

Present: Councillors Sheila Cook, Stephen Dovey, David Griffiths (Chairman),
Jerome Hoffman, Donnamarie Lewis and Rod Noble

In attendance: Mel Taylor (Parish Clerk)
Hampshire County and Test Valley Borough Councillor Nick Adams-King
3 members of public

26/313 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Graham Noble.

Test Valley Borough Councillor Gordon Bailey was unable to attend the meeting.

26/314 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN RELATION TO AGENDA ITEMS

Cllr Dovey declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item number 9 (minute reference 26/321), application 26/01857/FULLS, due to a potential family link.

Cllr Hoffman declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item number 16ci (minute reference 26/328ci) as Chairman of SERP2000.

Cllr Lewis declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item number 16b (minute reference 26/328b) as a member of the SEDCA Committee and newsletter Editor.

26/315 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 08 July 2026 as a true and accurate record.

26/316 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

26/317 OPEN FORUM

i. A resident addressed the Council to object to planning application 26/01810/PIPS (Plot 5, Newtown Road), raising concerns regarding pollution, flood risk, environmental impact and non-compliance with Local Plan policy COM2.

ii. The Chair of the SEDCA Committee advised that a survey had recently been published to gather feedback on the current village website prior to the proposed redesign. Early responses indicated that the majority of respondents currently visited the village website less than once-a-month and the SEDCA newsletter was the primary means of obtaining local information.

26/318 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Adams-King reported that an issue with notification of planning application 26/01810/PIPS was being addressed with Planning Officers.

The lack of sufficient local housing supply could result in Local Plan policy COM2 no longer being accepted as a primary reason for objection.

Chairman signature:

Date:

26/318 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS continued

Test Valley Borough Council has withdrawn its draft Local Plan and is now working with the emerging Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) unitary councils to prepare a new Plan. With the new Plan not expected until 2029, the borough remains vulnerable to speculative planning applications in the interim.

A new National Planning Policy Framework came into force at the beginning of August, with rules on “calling in” applications having changed, significantly limiting the ability of Councillors to bring applications before Committee. National statutory consultees were also under pressure to avoid objecting to housing proposals, and National Highways’ criteria for assessing planning applications has changed.

An update was given on discussions between Cllr Adams-King, Cllr Bailey and the new Planning Case Officer regarding the caravan site application, which had been approved subject to conditions, including a prohibition on sub-dividing units.

The Government was yet to submit its defence in response to the LGR judicial review, despite the deadline having passed. Cllr Adams-King reported on a video call with Angela Rayner (Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government), during which Cllr Adams-King enquired whether Mayoral elections could be brought forward to 2027 rather than 2028 and a response would be provided in due course.

The new unitary authority was required to have a Spatial Development Strategy in place by the end of 2027.

Members were informed of a planning application in Lockerley that may be appropriate for Sherfield English Parish Council to consider due to its proximity to the village boundary.

Cllr Adams-King was thanked for the updates and left the meeting

26/319 VILLAGE HALL

There was no report.

26/320 STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS 2026/27

Council reviewed the following documents for 2026/27: Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Risk Management and Asset Register.

RESOLVED to adopt the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Risk Management 2026/27 as presented and to adopt the Asset Register as amended.

26/321 PLANNING

a) Council considered the following planning applications:

Ref No.	Address	Proposal	RESOLVED
26/01810/PIPS	Plot 5 Newtown Road	Application for permission in principle – Erection of dwelling	Object on grounds of flood risk, environmental impact and non-compliance with Local Plan policy COM2, as highlighted in the resident’s briefing received in Open Forum (26/317i)
26/01857/FULLS	Site of Tin Tabernacle Salisbury Road	Renovation, extension and change of use of Tin Tabernacle building to be used as a single dwelling with associated engineering, access and landscape works	No Objection

It was agreed to prepare and agree a response to planning application 26/01538/FULLS Hillside Nursery, The Banks, Lockerley by email, due to the time constraint of responding within the consultation period.

Chairman signature:

Date:

b) The following planning updates and statuses were noted:

Ref No.	Address	Proposal	SEPC response	TVBC response
26/00306/FULLS	Pemberton Lodge Doctors Hill	Erection of self-build dwelling to replace mobile home	Objection	Permission granted
26/00949/FULLS	Yew Tree Cottage Doctors Hill	Two storey side extension and porch	No comment	Not yet determined
26/00986/FULLS	March End Doctors Hill	To raise one number chimney stack by 700mm (to 1900mm above ridge line) (Retrospective)	No objection	Not yet determined
26/01060/FULLS	Broxmore Drove Cottage Salisbury Road	Demolish garage and erect replacement garage with ancillary annex, gym and home office	The replacement garage should be part of the existing residential property	Not yet determined
26/01098/FULLS	Farthings Salisbury Road	Erection of 4-bed detached self-build dwelling, car port and bin/cycle store, within the land associated to the residential property known as The Farthings	Support	Not yet determined
26/01108/FULLS	Domus, Tote Hill Lockerley	Detached timber gable roof carport	No comment	Permission granted
26/01152/FULLS	Gambledown View Gambledown Lane	Proposed alterations and extentions to existing 2-bedroom dwelling to include a new upper floor level and new roof design to provide additional bedrooms, family living/dining space and integral garage	The design is not in keeping with the village design statement	Not yet determined
26/01239/ADVS	The Hatchet Inn Salisbury Road	Display of externally illuminated hanging sign, 2 non-illuminated hoarding panels, 2 externally illuminated fascia signs, 2 internally illuminated poster boxes and externally illuminated panel sign	Support	Not yet determined
26/01240/LBWS	The Hatchet Inn Salisbury Road	Installation of signage, floodlights and lanterns	Support	Not yet determined
26/01390/FULLS	Chericot Doctors Hill	Provision of photovoltaic panels on roof and erection of detached garage/store	No comment	Permission granted

c) 26/00306/FULLS – Pemberton Lodge

As agreed at the last meeting, concerns raised by a local resident regarding information provided to the Test Valley Borough Council Southern Area Planning Committee on 30 June 2026, relating to planning application 26/00306/FULLS Pemberton Lodge, were relayed to the Director of Planning & Development, and a response received, summarised as follows; the [TVB] Council did not assess the proposal under COM12 because the application involved replacing a caravan, which was considered a use of land rather than a building in planning terms. As such, it did not fall within the scope of the replacement-dwelling policy. It was further stated that the Gravesham case referenced by the Parish Council would not have altered the Council's approach.

Chairman signature:

Date:

1 Member of public left the meeting

26/322

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Hoffman advised that some documents were complete and had been submitted to Test Valley Borough Council for approval. Currently the land supply in the draft Plan was too low and more land needed to be identified for housing. Green spaces were currently being re-assessed for designation as green space within the draft Plan.

26/323

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr Griffiths advised that 70 copies of a 'preparing for an emergency' booklet were available and Cllrs were encouraged to identify vulnerable residents who may find a copy useful.

26/324

LENGTHSMAN SCHEME – including footpaths and village maintenance

Cllr Dovey reported that the Lengthsman had only received the August work schedule late in the month and hence none of the tasks had yet been actioned but would be addressed. Footpath clearance between the Hatchet Inn and the garage was complete.

The Lengthsman would be assessing removal of foliage opposite the Newtown Road bus shelter.

It was noted that Hampshire Highways had removed recent fly-tipping.

It was agreed at the last meeting to obtain costs to hire a digger, due to the significance of the task of cutting back vegetation to the path edges on the A27. A quote of £210 had been obtained for one week's hire plus delivery/collection at £25 each way.

RESOLVED

to approve expenditure of £210 plus delivery/collection to hire a digger to complete the footpath works.

26/325

HIGHWAYS

a) The Parish Clerk provided an update on the process for applying for permission to install Speed Indicator Device/s on the A27 and it was agreed to request that the following locations on the A27 be submitted for assessment; Branches Lane (westbound), St Leonard's Church (eastbound), Frenches Lane (westbound) and the Hatchet Inn (eastbound).

RESOLVED

to approve expenditure of £450 for assessment of the four locations stated above.

b) Following the DfT's Bus Service Improvement Plan grant, Cllr Lewis advised that the replacement bus shelter on Mill Lane and refurbishment works to shelters at Graemar Lane and Newtown Road were complete. Council wished to record thanks to Cllr Lewis for their hard work and congratulations on the successful outcome.

c) It was noted that Hampshire Highways had cleared layby drains.

26/326

THE HATCHET INN

The Parish Clerk reported that the application to register the Hatchet Inn as an Asset of Community Value was successful and Test Valley Borough Council had recorded the listing. It was acknowledged that whilst the protection offered by the ACV listing was limited, there were still some levels of protection. Cllr Griffiths reported that Star Inns had advised that refurbishment would only proceed once a tenant had been established.

Chairman signature:

Date:

Action: Parish Council to commence preparation of a plan to be ready to respond should the Hatchet Inn be listed for sale.

26/327

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

St Leonard's Church

A member of the Church team was present and reported that a Remembrance service would be held on Sunday 08 November and invited the Chairman to attend.

SERP2000

Cllr Hoffman reported on the success of SherFest held on 15 August 2026 and thanked everyone who had helped with the organisation of what had been the most popular event to date.

It was acknowledged that the Pop-Up pubs were providing mutual benefit to both SERP2000 and the community. The next Pop-Up pub was on 11 September 2026. Operationally, agreements were being put in place with site users and funding was being sought, with thanks to the club fundraiser for their hard work identifying and applying for grants. Approval in principle had been received for significant funding from Test Valley Borough Council.

Defibrillators

Cllr Griffiths confirmed defibrillators had been checked and were functioning correctly.

26/328

FINANCE

a) Financial Report

A financial report for the period 01 April 2026 to 31 July 2026 was noted.

b) Sherfield English & District Community Association (SEDCA)

Council considered a request from SEDCA, made at the last Parish Council meeting, for financial support of £1,000 towards the cost of printing the monthly newsletter.

RESOLVED to approve funding of £500 allocated in the 2026/27 budget for newsletter printing and to consider potential additional funding for this purpose later in the financial year.

c) SERP2000

i. Council considered a request from SERP2000 for a 5-year funding commitment at £1,000 per year towards annual maintenance costs at Sherfield English Sports Field.

RESOLVED to approve grant funding of £1,000 per year for 5-years (2026/27 – 2030/31 inc) with the 2026/27 grant funded from the 'Grants – Community Support' budget which had an available balance of £3,000.

ii. Since the last meeting, SERP2000 had reached out to the Parish Council seeking a letter of support to complement a grant application to Test Valley Borough Council. Support was unanimously agreed by Councillors and a letter of support was provided by the Chairman.

RESOLVED to ratify this action and confirm the Parish Council's support of SERP2000's funding application.

Chairman signature:

Date:

d) Payments**RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

Payee	Details	Invoice number & date	Amount	Due date
Awbridge Arborists Ltd	Tree works at the bus stop near The Hatchet Inn	3617 14.08.2026	£870.00 (£725+VAT)	21.08.2026
GW Shelter Solutions Ltd	Supply and installation of replacement bus shelter	SI-2360 10.08.2026	£17,971.20 (£14,976+VAT)	09.09.2026

RESOLVED to agree that the Parish Council's new Unity Trust bank account shall operate with one administrator and one authorisation required for all transaction payments.**26/329****DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, 14 October 2026, 7.30pm at the Pavilion, Sherfield English Sports Field Ground.

Followed by Wednesdays: 25 November 2026, 06 January 2027, 17 February 2027, 17 March 2027 (Planning Committee, if needed), 21 April 2027 and 19 May 2027.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm.

*Chairman signature:**Date:*