MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF BISHOP'S SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 12th MAY 2026.

PRESENT

Cllr. Nankivell (PN) – Chairman
Cllr. Allen (MA) – Vice Chairman
Cllr. Parker (AP), Cllr. Macintyre **(NM) & Cllr. Hutton (EH).**
Cllr. Margot Power & Cllr. Clare Pinniger.
Cllr. Jonathan Williams – HCC
Mr Tom Gregory
20 Residents
Mr K. Fell – Clerk

1. WELCOME
The Clerk welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.
There were apologies from Cllr. Russell Gordon-Smith.

3. TOM GREGORY – ALRESIDE MEADOW.
Tom explained that him and his father had purchased the land behind the sub-station and worked on it for around 5 years. His father had a scientific background.
There was 10 acres, namely 3acres grazing, 6 acres wetlands and 1 acre of water.
The River Arle flows through the site. They were interested in the plants and education with students from Sparsholt. There were otters, marsh harriers and owls. There will be sheep grazing, and a hedge will be re-instated. They were working on more educational visits with paths and a shed provided. They will be enlarging the chalk stream with the Env. Agency. Funding for the project will be by music concerts as Tom and his friends are well known musicians.
Cllr. Hutton asked why the River Arle is so deep at this point. Some dredging had taken place and normally the weed is left to flow downstream, but Tom had taken some out.
A resident asked about water quality and Cllr. Power stated that this information was in the public domain.
A resident asked about working groups and Tom replied that possibly later.
The Chairman thanked Tom for his presentation.

4. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.
The Clerk asked for nominations. Cllr. Peter Nankivell was willing to continue, and MA proposed, and EH seconded. Cllr. Peter Nankivell was duly elected.

5. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.
Nominations were invited and Cllr. Mark Allen was willing to continue. Proposed by AP and seconded by PN. Cllr. Mark Allen was elected.

6. AGREE COUNCILLOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES.
The current roles were agreed.

7. MINUTES OF ANNUAL ASSEMBLY 14th APRIL 2026.
The minutes were agreed, and the Chairman signed the Minute Book.

8. MATTERS ARISING.

Cllr. Parker stated that the Sun Lane development was discussed but missed off the minutes.

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.
Nil**.**

10. COUNTY COUNCILLOR – JONATHAN WILLIAMS.
Cllr. Williams gave Members an update on the Devolution project.

11. CITY COUNCILLOR'S – Cllr. MARGOT POWER.
Cllr. Power had sent a report. Cllr. Power stated that WCC had not fully decided on all its committees yet.
With regard to the Solar Farm planning application Cllr. Gordon-Smith cannot be involved as he is on the Planning Committee.
Included in the report is an article on the Alton Stroke Support Group which runs a free bus service to Alton for patients, their carers and loved ones.

12. RESIDENTIAL PLANNING - Cllr. PARKER.
There had been no new applications.
Pl. Application No. 26/00707/FUL Western Court Farm
Solar Farm
Cllr. Parker had submitted an objection to the planners after contacting the relevant Planning Officer on one or two matters relating to the application. He believed it was the wrong site, a number of views and sections were missing with the application, in particular the site did not show any views from the railway or the nearby path. He had asked that the application be discussed by the Planning Committee and asked for a site visit to fully appreciate the devastating impact it will have on the area. The objection had been distributed to Members.
A lady in the audience had spoken to a Barrister regarding the application and this was discussed.
It was agreed that Cllr. Parker would represent the Parish Council at the planning meeting.
Graham Sumpter suggested that the Electricity Network be contacted, however Cllr. Parker believed that the developer had already spoken to them.

13. COMMUNITY MATTERS - Cllr. MACINTYRE
Cllr. Macintyre mentioned that a new felt roof was required for the bus shelter at the eastern end of the village.

14. HIGHWAY MATTERS - Cllr. HUTTON.
Cllr. Hutton referred to a small drain in Bighton Lane/North Street which had been reported but the work had not been done.
Also the QR code at the bus stop for Alton was faulty and had been reported.
A 30mph sign in Mill Lane had been knocked down.

15. LENGTHSMEN/SID - Cllr. NANKIVELL.
Cllr. Nankivell said that cutting back of the Alresford footpath and the footpath to Northside Lane was planned for May and October.

16. INDUSTRIAL PLANNING & SUN LANE DEVELOPMENT - Cllr. PARKER.
Cllr. Parker stated that a date of the end of June had been given for the Wimpey houses as they cannot complete until the roundabout is finished. The build has been slowing down due to this.

17. FOOTPATHS & ROW - Cllr. HUTTON.
Cllr. Hutton stated that the path to Cobbs Farm was now wider.

18. WEBSITE/SID/DEFIBRILLATOR - Cllr. ALLEN.
Nil.

Cllr. Allen stated that he had spoken to Chris Yates re the Alresford footpath.

19. CORRESPONDENCE - CLERK.
Reports from HCC & WCC Cllrs.
Chris Yates re Alresford footpath.
Johanna Thomas re Ford Water Lane footpath.
Western Court Farm
Liquid 11 re landline switch off.
WCC Update Election Register
Tree planting – Hants Forest Partnership
Tom Gregory correspondence NM/KF
Chairman thank you to Rachel Jones for presentation.
Cllr. Williams re drains
Groundwater flooding
WDALC – Minutes of meeting 13th April '26
Clerk & Councils Direct May '26
WCC Mayor's Sunday Service - 24th May '26

20. FINANCE – CLERK.
The Clerk gave the Chairman an update on the financial position.
The Clerk stated that he was preparing the accounts for the internal audit.

RECEIVED
Nil

TO PAY

Clerk's exps.	£112.00
Info Commission	£52.00
Software sub. 50%	£53.00
HCC Paper	£22.56

Agreed

20. OTHER MEETINGS.
Nil.

21. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR.
Nil.

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 9th JUNE 2026 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone for taking part and closed the meeting at 8.40 p.m.