



## LISS PARISH COUNCIL

### COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7pm on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 in Liss Village Hall

#### Members

\*Mr K. Budden (Chair), \*Ms S. Baldwin, \*Ms R. Crane, Mr I. James, \*Mr D. Jerrard,  
\*Mr C. Olley, Mr C. Mort, \*Mr P. Payne, Mr A. Smith, \*Mr R. Smith,  
\*Mrs S. Stratford-Tuke, Mr D. Turner and \*Ms C. Williams.

\* Present

In addition to S. Smith (Clerk) and District Councillor Roger Mullenger.

#### 155/25 Apologies

Members accepted apologies from Cllrs James, Mort, A. Smith and Turner.

#### 156/25 Declarations of Interests

Councillors were reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest they may have in any item of business, no later than when that item is reached.

#### 157/25 Chair's announcements

The Chair noted that the last day the office would be open prior to closing for the festive period would be Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. The office will re-open on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026; both he and the Clerk would be contactable during this period if required.

The Chair also advised that the MUGA appeal had been successful with costs awarded to the Newman Collard Trust. Unfortunately the SDNPA CIL funding awarded for the project had now been withdrawn due to the timescale; it was hoped that a further application might prove successful to enable the project could be delivered.

#### 158/25 Adjournment for public participation

There were no members of the public present.

#### 159/25 Update from the County Councillor

Cllr Oppenheimer had submitted a written report at **Annex A**.

#### 160/25 Update from District Councillors

The District Cllrs had both submitted a written report as at **Annex B and C**.

Cllr Mullenger advised that the delay in the car park strategy might be positive for Liss as the review might lead to an introduction of charges.

The Chair advised that he had requested for the planning application at The Glebe to be called in by the SDNPA but was advised that District Councillor involvement was necessary. Cllr Mullenger undertook to raise with Angela Glass, EHDC Portfolio Holder for Planning, and Anthony Williams, EHDC Chair.

#### 161/25 Minutes of the meeting of Council of 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Council meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025 be approved as an accurate

record (proposed by Cllr Crane and seconded by Cllr Olley, with all in favour).

**162/25 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**163/25 Payments and receipts for the period 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

**Resolved:** That the receipts and payments set out in **Annex D** for the period 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025, for the Liss Parish Council accounts, be approved (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Olley, with all in favour).

**164/25 Report of the Charities Committee of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

Members noted the report of the Charities Committee of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 which had agreed the budgets for the Charities and the grant request to Liss Parish Council.

**165/25 Report of the Finance Committee of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

Cllr Williams highlighted that the Finance Committee request for LPC CIL to be allocated for the installation of solar at the Pavilion, for the sum of £17,620, was no longer required. The Project Officer had been successful in bidding for the full amount from the EHDC Community Climate Action Fund 2025. Cllr Williams expressed her thanks to the Project Officer and District Cllr Mullenger, noting that there was a lot of competition for the funding.

Members noted the report of the Finance Committee of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 which had agreed the draft Liss Parish Council budget which would be considered under the following item.

**166/25 Liss Parish Council Budget 2026/27**

**Resolved:** That Liss Parish Council approves a budget of £367,745 for the financial year 2026/27 as at **Annex E**, including the sums requested by the three LPC managed charities and community grant funding award recommendations, to be funded by a precept of £280,000 (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by the Chair with all in favour).

In response to a question from District Cllr Mullenger, Cllr Williams confirmed that the precept amounted to an increase of 3.53% which was lower than the rate of inflation. She also clarified that the difference between the budget and precept figure reflected income received, including sums for Charity management.

**167/25 Report of the Planning Committee of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

Members noted the report of the Planning Committee of 8<sup>th</sup> December.

**168/25 First Interim Internal Audit: April 2025 to September 2025**

Cllr Williams highlighted that the report had identified many areas of good practice.

Members noted the outcome of the report of the first interim internal audit.

**169/25 Matters to report**

Cllr Payne advised that the Riverside Rangers volunteer group had received a grant from both district councillors for a long grass cutter and expressed his thanks to them. He advised that two work days had taken place this month and it was hoped that there would be a further day scheduled before the end of the year.

*District Cllr Mullenger left the meeting at this point.*

**170/25 Local Government Reorganisation: Liss Parish Council Response.**

The Chair gave a presentation of the various options under consultation.

Members supported the model proposed by HCC and EHDC which was based on a 4 council model with East Hampshire being part of the Mid North area along with Basingstoke and Deane, Hart, Rushmoor and Winchester. Members agreed a response which the Clerk would submit accordingly.

*The Chair closed the meeting at 20h15.*

Date of next scheduled meeting: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026, 7pm

Signed:.....Dated:.....

DRAFT

# COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT TO ALL PARISH COUNCILS IN PETERSFIELD HANGERS

## 1 DECEMBER 2025

### 1. Government consultation on LGR is now underway

As you may have seen reported in local media, HM Government has commenced its public consultation on the optimal model for reforming local government in Hampshire. The consultation runs until 11 January 2026.

The outcome of this consultation will set the path for the future of local government in Hampshire for several decades. The decision will affect all our communities profoundly. I would strongly encourage Parish Councils to submit a formal response to the consultation. Councillors may also wish to respond individually. I have responded to the consultation this morning and it took me 15 minutes.

As you will recall, Hampshire County Council in partnership with East Hampshire District Council submitted a joint proposal to Government recommending the creation of four new unitary councils, including the Isle of Wight. Details of our submitted proposal are set out in the business case and executive summary available on the County Council's webpages: [www.hants.gov.uk/lgr](http://www.hants.gov.uk/lgr). I believe that our proposal strikes the right balance between locality and scale. The new unitaries will put local government on a sustainable financial footing which will be good for spending on nature recovery, highways, infrastructure and high streets.

Three other proposals are being consulted on put forward by other councils. These models submitted by other local authorities are all based on options for five unitary councils, including the Isle of Wight. I am very pleased that all the proposals being consulted on keep East Hampshire with Winchester which means that the South Downs National Park area will not be split across two different unitaries. Earlier this year I campaigned strongly within HCC to advocate for this outcome.

To find out more about all the proposals set out in the consultation and respond, please visit: [Local government reorganisation in Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-reorganisation-in-hampshire-isle-of-wight-portsmouth-and-southampton)

A hard copy of the Government's consultation document is now available for view at the Petersfield Library.

### 2. Parish Council Bus Shelter Grant Scheme

Hampshire County Council has launched a new grant scheme to help Parish Councils replace or refurbish bus shelters – making them more attractive, visible, and welcoming for passengers. Funded through the Department for Transport's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) 2025/26 Bus Grant, this scheme is all about improving local infrastructure and encouraging more people to use public transport.

This is a great opportunity to improve local facilities and make bus travel more appealing for residents. Here are some key facts:

**Who can apply?** Parish Councils that own and maintain existing bus shelters.

**How much is available?** Up to £15,000 per shelter site – for either refurbishment or installation of a new shelter at an existing site.

**When to apply?** Applications are open now and must be submitted **by 28 February 2026**. Awards will be made on a rolling basis from early 2026.

Parish Councils will need to provide quotes from commercial suppliers as part of their application. For more details, including the application form and guidance, visit this page:

[Parish Council Bus Shelter Grant Scheme | Hampshire County Council](#)

If you have any queries you can contact the Passenger Transport Team at: [passenger.transport.enquiries@hants.gov.uk](mailto:passenger.transport.enquiries@hants.gov.uk)

### 3. Presentation on BOATs

At HCC on 10 November the Universal Services Select Committee received a report on the BOATs review which I initiated two years ago when I was the Executive Member for Countryside and Regulatory Services.

You may be interested to read the presentation which can be accessed at this link:

[\(Public Pack\)Item 7 - Review of management of Byways Open to All Traffic \(BOATs\) Presentation Agenda Supplement for Universal Services Select Committee, 10/11/2025 14:00](#)

There are some positives in the plans for this winter. There will be more closures and more gating, and closer working with communities.

I was especially glad to see a special focus on the BOATs in Hawkley and Colemore. These Parishes have experienced unacceptable disruption and damage for years. I hope the new ways of working will make a difference quickly.

I would certainly have liked to see more action sooner – but at least something is happening!

### 4. Major M27 closure – plan ahead this Christmas & New Year

If you are travelling along the South Coast over the festive period, please take note of the dates for the closure of the motorway between Southampton and Portsmouth. The M27 will be fully closed in both directions between Junctions 9 (Whiteley) and 11 (Fareham) from 8pm on 24 December 2025 until 4am on Sunday 4 January 2026.



This closure is essential to install a brand-new four-lane underpass using an innovative engineering technique that avoids months of disruption later. But it does mean serious delays are expected. Drivers are advised to: travel outside peak hours and use alternative routes.

I know this will cause significant inconvenience, and we thank local communities and road users for their patience while this vital work is carried out. This short closure for the innovative work will save months of additional disruption, lane closures and congestion.

For updates and full details, visit the official Christmas closure webpage:

[Major motorway closure: M27 J9 \(Whiteley\) to J11 \(Fareham\) 24 December to 4 January | Transport and roads | Hampshire County Council](#)

5. Best Christmas wishes from me

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you in 2026.

**RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER**  
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers

**Report to Liss Parish Council - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**Councillor grants**

- There are a possible couple of grants applications in the pipeline. I have £2,050 remaining.

**Surgeries**

- Ian James & I have continued our surgeries on the first Saturday morning, but **not** next month.
- This month we had several varied problems brought to us.

**Casework, Including**

- Blocked road drain in Andlers Ash. HCC has agreed there is an issue with fix being scheduled. I followed this up when it had rained. There is still a blockage and I re-commented.
- Potholes in Station Road & Station Approach.
- Protection of migrating amphibians (frogs / toads)
- Received a request about how to get a speed restriction for Hatch Lane – 30 mph

**Planning**

- Reviewed all the submitted LAA sites, including those rejected and excluded, around Liss
- Submitted comments relating to the three sites provisionally on the draft local plan.
- and am now on the Planning Committee, but applications are for areas outside the SDNP

**Other**

- The works in Station Road appear to be for a non-existent drainage problem.

**EHDC business**

- The council unanimously approved a Liberal Democrat motion to try to gain additional protection for the chalk streams and the biodiversity surrounding them. This includes the Rother as it is partially fed by chalk springs on the Hangers.
- The report on car parking strategy has been delayed again, which may be good news for Liss.
- The budget process has started, but the level of the Government support grant is not yet known.

**Local Government Reorganisation**

- The consultation period has started and ends on 11<sup>th</sup> January. There are four options to comment on, all of which assume that the Isle of Wight will remain as a separate unitary council.

**Devolution**

- The Mayoral election appears to have been deferred until 2028, although that is not in writing.

**Questions?**

- Please email me.

**Roger Mullenger**, 15th December 2025

roger.mullenger@easthants.gov.uk

District councillor report  
Liss Parish Council  
December 2025

Please note the Local Government Reorganisation consultation ends on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Liberal Democrat's motion on adopting the rights of rivers protocol was debated and accepted with Greens support.

I still has £250.00 of councillor approved community action grants left.

Please urge everyone to report to the appropriate council anything that needs to be reported.

I earned myself some brownie points by tidying up a dangerously slippery pavement that was covered by fallen leaves following a report at our regular councillor's surgery. I reported it first thing Monday morning. They were cleared first thing Tuesday morning. A speedy 24 hour turn around. Something that, I hope, would have happened if it had be reported earlier

In fact this month's surgery was relative busy. Indeed the last two weeks the case work has been busy. The development of the new houses of Inmans Road was raised

The issue of speeding through the village is a perennial. I think SIDs go down very well with villagers. And another for the council was the state of the Riverside Railway Walk. Which I know Sarah has in hand.

Good news that the MUGA planning appeal has been successful. I don't know what effect Roger and my councillors' joint submission had but I hope it helped.

**Ian James**

Receipts for Month 8				Nominal Ledger Analysis			
<u>Receipt Ref</u>	<u>Name of Payer</u>	<u>£ Amnt Received</u>	<u>£ Debtors</u>	<u>£ VAT</u>	<u>A/c</u>	<u>Centre</u>	<u>£ Amount</u> <u>Transaction Detail</u>
Balance Brought Fwd :		233,330.67					233,330.67
Banked 04/11/2025		1,701.45					
CCLA		1,701.45			1081	100	1,701.45 October Dividends
Banked 10/11/2025		136.40					
Lloyds Bank		136.40			1080	100	136.40 Bank Interest
Banked 11/11/2025		48.00					
COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP		48.00			1205	210	48.00 Contribution station planting
Total Receipts for Month		1,885.85	0.00	0.00			1,885.85
Cashbook Totals		235,216.52	0.00	0.00			235,216.52

Payments for Month 8				Nominal Ledger			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>£ Total Amnt</u>	<u>£ Creditors</u>	<u>£ VAT</u>	<u>A/c</u> <u>Centre</u>	<u>£ Amount</u> <u>Transaction Detail</u>
13/11/2025	Treasurers Acc. 00110939	Top Up	20,000.00			200	20,000.00 Top Up
Total Payments for Month			20,000.00	0.00	0.00		20,000.00
Balance Carried Fwd			215,216.52				
Cashbook Totals			235,216.52	0.00	0.00		235,216.52

Receipts for Month 8

Nominal Ledger Analysis

<u>Receipt Ref</u>	<u>Name of Payer</u>	<u>£ Amnt Received</u>	<u>£ Debtors</u>	<u>£ VAT</u>	<u>A/c</u>	<u>Centre</u>	<u>£ Amount</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
Balance Brought Fwd :		11,847.49					11,847.49	
Banked 13/11/2025		20,000.00						
Top Up	BUS Instant 07410075	20,000.00			205		20,000.00	Top Up
Total Receipts for Month		20,000.00	0.00	0.00			20,000.00	
Cashbook Totals		31,847.49	0.00	0.00			31,847.49	

Payments for Month 8				Nominal Ledger					
Date	Payee Name	Reference	£ Total Amnt	£ Creditors	£ VAT	A/c	Centre	£ Amount	Transaction Detail
03/11/2025	DVLA License	DD	345.00			4210	200	345.00	Land Rover Road Tax
04/11/2025	Tesco	DEBIT CARD	1.65			4055	150	1.65	Milk for Office
06/11/2025	Cloudy IT	DD	72.00		12.00	4080	150	60.00	Rialtas Cloud License - Nov.
12/11/2025	COUNTY SUPPLIES (HCC)	BACS	39.07			4090	150	39.07	Paper
12/11/2025	Clive Olley	BACS	16.50			4055	150	16.50	Expenses
12/11/2025	SARAH SMITH	BACS	40.50			4055	150	40.50	Expenses
12/11/2025	Hampshire Grounds Limited	BACS	1,452.00		242.00	4235	200	1,210.00	Grass Cutting NC/MR/LF - Oct.
12/11/2025	RCD Hoare Ltd.	BACS	87.36		14.56	4260	200	72.80	Annual Hedge Cutting LF
12/11/2025	Clerks & Councils Direct	BACS	15.50			4120	150	15.50	Subscription Renewal 2026
12/11/2025	U-Do DIY	BACS	9.49		1.58	4225	200	7.91	Nut caps for MR play equipment
12/11/2025	U-Do DIY	BACS	4.28		0.71	4055	150	3.57	Batteries for Office
12/11/2025	Asda	BACS	51.00		8.50	4215	200	42.50	Fuel (reimburse Jed)
12/11/2025	J R Luff	BACS	182.28		30.38	4300	210	151.90	Liss In Bloom Planting
13/11/2025	Tesco	DEBIT CARD	1.20			4055	150	1.20	Milk for Office
13/11/2025	Charities	BACS	31.35		5.22	6150	700	26.13	Reimburse allot. lock
						363	0	-26.13	Reimburse allot. lock
						6000	700	26.13	Reimburse allot. lock
14/11/2025	Landall	DD	47.92		7.99	4100	150	39.93	Printer/Copier Use - Sept.
18/11/2025	Sage	DD	20.40		3.40	4080	150	17.00	Payroll - Nov.
18/11/2025	LLOYDS BANK	BACS	8.50			4009	150	8.50	Bank Charges - Sept.
19/11/2025	Hugh Rosewarne	BACS	1,000.00			6150	700	1,000.00	Water Supply Services
						381	0	-1,000.00	Water Supply Services
						6000	700	1,000.00	Water Supply Services
19/11/2025	Pic-a-lily	BACS	2,385.00			4255	200	2,385.00	Tree Works - RW
19/11/2025	RBS Rialtas	BACS	162.00		27.00	4060	150	135.00	Training
19/11/2025	Winchester Garden Machinery Lt	BACS	313.48		52.24	4205	200	261.24	New Leaf Blower
25/11/2025	Tesco	DEBIT CARD	4.35			4055	150	4.35	Milk & Teabags
26/11/2025	Salaries	BACS	10,927.12			4000	150	10,927.12	November Salaries
26/11/2025	Hampshire Pension	BACS	2,698.13			4005	150	2,698.13	November Pension Cont.
28/11/2025	Veolia ES (UK) Limited	DD	216.07		36.01	4250	200	180.06	Waste Collection NC - Oct.
Total Payments for Month			20,132.15	0.00	441.59			19,690.56	
Balance Carried Fwd			11,715.34						
Cashbook Totals			31,847.49	0.00	441.59			31,405.90	

**LISS PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2026/27****ANNEX E**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Revenue Streams</b>	<b>Projected</b>
	1076/100 Precept	280,000.00
	1077/100 LPC CIL	0.00
	1079/100 Funding Awards	0.00
	1080/100 Bank Interest	800.00
	1081/100 CCLA Dividends	25,000.00
	1999/100 Other Income	0.00
	1205/210 Liss In Bloom Fundraising	0.00
	1210/100 Charity Management Fees	61,945.00

<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>367,745.00</u></b>
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<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>Administration</b>	<b>Projected</b>
	4000/150 Salaries	161,251.72
	4005/150 Pensions	30,412.36
	4009/150 Bank Charges	120.00
	4055/150 Expenses	1,000.00
	4060/150 Training	1,000.00
	4065/150 Chairman's Allowance	500.00
	4070/150 Insurance	8,400.00
	4075/150 Telephone & Internet	320.00
	4080/150 IT Software & Support	2,700.00
	4090/150 Stationery	300.00
	4100/150 Printer & Copier	1,000.00
	4105/150 Office Equipment	200.00
	4106/150 Office IT Equipment	500.00
	4115/150 Audit	2,400.00
	4120/150 Subscriptions	2,100.00
	4135/150 CCTV Maintenance (Village)	300.00
	4136/150 Office Alarm Maintenance	300.00
	4140/150 Communication & Engagement	200.00
	4150/150 LPC Office/VH Rental Fee	4,000.00
	<b>Grounds Maintenance</b>	
	4200/200 Equipment Repairs & Services	300.00
	4205/200 Equipment Replacement	500.00
	4210/200 Vehicle Insurance & Road Tax	500.00
	4215/200 Fuel	600.00

4225/200	Playground Repairs	2,000.00
4230/200	Playground Inspection	1,256.00
4235/200	Grass Cutting	9,250.00
4245/200	Other Grounds Costs	5,000.00
4246/200	Himalayan Balsam Removal	800.00
4250/200	Waste Disposal	2,000.00
4255/200	Tree Surgery	4,000.00
4260/200	Hedge Cutting	400.00
4265/200	Water Supply - Mill Road	300.00

#### **Village Planting**

4300/210	Village Planting	1,500.00
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#### **Grants & Donations**

Allotments Charity	5,533.00
Village Hall Charity	22,937.00
West Liss Recreation	
Ground Charity	24,876.00
Community Groups Grants	8,450.00
In Year Grant Pot	8,060.92

#### **Loan Servicing**

6005/600	Pavilion Loan	27,478.00
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#### **Capital Projects**

Play Equipment & Safety	
Surfacing	5,000.00
Grounds & Buildings	
Projects	10,000.00
Feasibility Studies	10,000.00

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE:** **367,745.00**