



LISS PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7pm on 15th June 2026 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,
*Dr D. Turner and *Ms C. Williams

* Present

In addition to S. Smith (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer) and County Councillor Nick Drew.

80/26 Apologies

Members accepted apologies from Cllr Baldwin. Members also noted that District Councillor Roger Mullenger had sent apologies.

Not present (no apologies): Cllr R. Smith.

81/26 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.

82/26 Chair's announcements

The Chair advised the following:

- a) That the 'Down by the Rother' event at the Riverside Walk the previous Saturday had gone well and thanked those involved;
- b) That the EHAPTC Annual General Meeting would take place on 24 June at 7.30pm in Grayshott Village Hall with a focus on local government reorganisation - all councillors were welcome to attend;
- c) That the 'Brass on the Grass' Liss Band open air concert would take place on Wednesday 8th July at 7pm in the Memorial Gardens.

83/26 Adjournment for public participation

There were no members of the public present.

84/26 Update from the County Councillor

Cllr Drew had provided a written monthly update (see **Annex A**).

He added that:

- a) there would be a judicial review by HCC over Local Government Reorganisation; and
- b) he had been dealing with some local issues relating to Andlers Ash Road, including a possible streetlight too many, drainage around the crossing, a raised manhole cover following recent gas works and a possible engine off sign to try to address noise and pollution from cars spending longer at the crossing.

85/26 Update from District Councillors

Cllr Mullenger had provided a written report as at **Annex B**.

Cllr James added that he felt that under the unitaries there might be better representation for the voters, although Cllr Drew noted the number of councillors had not yet been agreed and also that the proposals could make it more difficult to make representation in planning applications. It was also noted that the councillor term for current District Councillors would be extended to April 2028.

The Chair noted that parish council elections would take place in May 2027 and councillors elected at those elections would serve for a five-year term.

86/26 Minutes of the meeting of Council of 18th May 2026

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting of 18th May 2026 be approved as an accurate record (proposed by Cllr Mort and seconded by Cllr Stratford-Tuke with all in favour).

87/26 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

88/26 Payments and receipts for the period 1st to 31st May 2026

Cllr Williams noted her position as a trustee of the Triangle Community centre as the payments included a payment for LED lights for the Triangle as per the previously approved grant.

Resolved: That the receipts and payments set out in **Annex C** for the period 1st to 31st May 2026, for the Liss Parish Council accounts, be approved (proposed by Cllr Olley and seconded by Cllr A. Smith with all in favour).

89/26 Report of the Finance Committee of 1st June 2026

Members noted the report of the Finance Committee of 1st June 2026.

90/26 Approval of EMR Movements as recommended by Finance Committee

Resolved: That the following EMR movements be approved:

- a) That the sum of £2,748 net income over expenditure for 'Village Planting' be transferred to earmarked reserves.
- b) That the unspent sum of £5,000 for 'Play Equipment and Safety Surfacing' be transferred to earmarked reserves.
- c) That the unspent sum of £5,000 for 'Grounds Equipment Replacement' be transferred to earmarked reserves.
- d) That the unspent sum of £7,000 for 'Feasibility Studies' be transferred to earmarked reserves.
- e) That the underspend of £4,066 in 'Community Grants' be transferred to earmarked reserves.

The motion was proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr A. Smith with all in favour.

91/26 Report of the Planning Committee of 8th June 2026

The Chair highlighted that an extraordinary meeting of the Planning Committee had just been held earlier in the evening to finalise the LPC response to the Regulation 19 consultation.

Members noted the report of the Planning Committee of 8th June 2026.

92/26 End of year financial arrangements

It was resolved as follows:

- a) That Liss Parish Council approved the audited Liss Parish Council accounts for the FY 2025/26.
- b) That Liss Parish Council note the Internal Audit Report from Lightatouch covering March 2026 and Year End procedures.
- c) That Liss Parish Council approve the Annual Governance Statement for the FY 2025/26, having considered the responses to the statements to ensure there is a sound system of internal control, and authorise the Chair and Clerk to sign the document accordingly (page 4 refers).

- d) That Liss Parish Council approve the Accounting Statement for the FY 2025/26 and authorise the Chair to sign the document accordingly (page 5 refers).
- e) That Liss Parish Council approve the dates for the exercise of public rights (18th June to 29th July 2026).
- f) That Liss Parish Council confirm that it has no conflict of interest with external auditors BDO LLP.
- g) That Liss Parish Council is satisfied with the effectiveness of the Internal Audit 2025/26.

The motions were proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Mort with all in favour.

The Clerk noted that a new internal auditor (Mulberry) had already been appointed by Council as the current internal auditor was due to retire.

93/26 Internal Control Statement 2026

Resolved: That the Internal Control Statement 2026 as drafted be approved (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Mort with all in favour).

94/26 Matters to report

Cllr Payne raised the issue of the speed of bikes cycling along the Riverside Walk, it was felt that this occurred as the walk formed part of cycle routes such as the Shipwrights Way and Route 22 and requested that appropriate signage be considered.

The Clerk noted that it would be wise to join up with EHDC on any signage initiative as EHDC owned the majority of the Riverside Walk and proposed that the matter be considered with a view to a proposal being put to the Facilities Committee on 13th July.

The Chair noted that he had attended a parish council forum on local government reorganisation. He highlighted the issue of community asset transfers where he had highlighted that LPC would consider any requests for asset transfers should the accompanying budget be provided.

The Chair highlighted that there were varying positions across the county where in some cases the body taking on the asset was required to cover legal costs and in other cases a dowry was being paid. The Chair proposed LPC consider the two EHDC car parks in Liss as this could help secure the continued provision of free parking in Liss.

Cllr Drew invited LPC to submit any expressions of interest for possible community asset transfers.

Cllr Payne enquired about the future standard of maintenance for community assets such as the Liss Riverside Walk; the Chair responded that such information was not yet known.

Cllr Drew concluded that by the end of the summer there should be more clarity on the way forward.

The Chair closed the meeting at 19hrs 43.

Date of next scheduled meeting: Monday 20th July 2026, 7pm

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

DRAFT

Report to Liss Parish Council - Monday 15th June 2026

Apologies: I am away on holiday.

Councillor grants

- Allowing for grants given and after discussions with potential applicants I have about £1,000 remaining.

Casework, Including

- A resident in Abri flats in Inwood Road asked about cycle storage. I did discuss this with Abri more than one year ago, but will have another go.

Planning

- I have met with Paddy Payne, Sue Halstead, Roger Hargreaves, Keith Budden and Margaret Paren to discuss the SDNP plan, and have submitted my own comments.

Other

- -

EHDC business

- The draft report on the procurement of software (or anything else really) in response to the very problematic implementation of the new planning system for the non-SDNP area has not yet been released. Hopefully it will be published this month.
- The audit committee, which I am on, had the year end report from the internal auditors presented which although did not quite finish everything, found no significant problems except in the area of parking controls. EY, the external auditor, presented their plan for auditing last year's accounts. I am pleased that the council has taken on some extra accounting resource so that the problems with the last two year's audits can be resolved.

Local Government Reorganisation

- The final parliamentary bill is yet to be published but work is going ahead at all levels assuming that it will proceed. Appointments have been made to different working groups to achieve good coordination, which is especially important in East Hants because of being split into two parts.

Questions?

- By email please

Roger Mullenger, 15th June 2026
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