MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHOSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH JULY 2026

Present: Fiona Crockett, Tim Marchant, Ian Cannock (Chair), John Whittock, Tricia Wastvedt and Jean Fosaceco (Clerk)

1. **Apologies**: Joe Williams and Lisa Coles
2. **Declaration of Interests for this meeting:** It was noted JWhi has joined the Governing Body of Shoscombe School.
3. **10 Minutes public participation:** None requested.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting:** All in order

5. Clerk's Report	**ACTION**	**TIMELINE**
As distributed		
6. Ward Councillor Report		
Not in attendance		
7. Financial Matters		
ALCA £35.00 JWi training and £14.00 Freedom of Information Training **Clerk's Salary and expenses -** £1083.50, HMRC - £270.00 and Expenses £68.33 (including £9.00 for a new notice board key) **ICO** - £52.00 (paid) **Natalie Owsley** website email - £17.96 (paid) – The Clerk will remove Councillors' personal email addresses from the Everything Shoscombe site and replace with .gov.uk ones.. **Clear Councils additional premium for V/Hall** - £1,091.23 (paid) **Shoscombe Community Benefits Society** - £300 (paid) These were all unanimously passed for payment – Proposed – IC and seconded - JWhi **Additional CIL Payment** - £1109.55	All noted JF	 ASAP
8. Planning		
Draft Planning Format/Neighbourhood Plan – newly complied short report was distributed by JWhi. Following research, JWhi has compiled a Strategic Framework which lists responsibilities and long term plans for the Council towards which the Council could aim. It was acknowledged the compilation and adoption of a Neighbourhood Plan would give the PC more autonomy and CIL payments would increase from 15% to 25% on certain issues however, it was recognised this would be unrealistically time consuming. The Council's Parish Plan covers many of the items on the draft Strategic Framework including the understanding that local landowners can be 'encouraged' to put forward potential land development sites. However, there is no obligation for them to do this or to sell; land cannot be compulsorily purchased. This Framework will be discussed at the September meeting. ****Agenda Item **Industrial Quarter, Foxcote Avenue - 26/02466/FUL –** Following discussions, it was agreed the clerk would submit a response of 'No objections'. It was noted the new buildings on the land to the west of St Julian's Farm are very visible from Shoscombe; the Clerk will check all is in order with Planning and Building Control.	JF JF JF	***Agenda Item By response date ASAP
9. Climate, Nature and Sustainability Working Group After attending a number of meetings, TW distributed her report and details on a consultation exercise initiated by the Community Energy Network		

regarding, amongst others, solar and wind power. This has been printed and distributed with the newsletter to allow all members of the community an opportunity to respond. It was stressed these potential energy saving initiatives are in the very early stages and they wish to assess people's interest – supportive or otherwise - before they move on. Queries include – is the community interested in principle, how would communities benefit from this? TW will be looking into approaching other members of the village with a view to them becoming part of the Working Group.	TW	Ongoing
10. Village Hall and Recreation Field – Report distributed		
• **Air Heat Source Pump/Accessible/Disabled toilet** – the pump positioned on the roof will remain, however, the Village Hall Management Committee will investigate costs for a security cage around the ground level one. Following discussions at the VHMC meeting, it was agreed a policy statement is required regarding the potential installation of an accessible disabled toilet. Considerations will be given to what is considered 'reasonable' together with costs, affordability, feasibility and what is the minimum that could be achieved to fulfil requirements. A non-commercial company could be consulted/commissioned to investigate this. TM will compile a policy statement including a tick box. It was agreed the Council needs to, at least, consider this initiative. • **Drainage –** quotes are being sought from three builders for improvements to the tarmac/ground surface and raising the retaining wall to improve drainage. • **Risk Management Policy including Fire Risk Assessment –** it was confirmed by the insurance providers that a fire alarm would not reduce our policy costs but quotes for a Fire Risk Assessment will be sought. PAT Testing has been completed and the electrical cable has been removed. The higher of the surrounding wall around the Boules Pitch has been painted to draw people's attention to it. • **Recreation Field -** Work on the mole hills is being undertaken, some trees may need to be removed with a view to planting cherry trees and/or crabapple or hawthorn ones to replace those. The cost of these could be funded from the CIL money. The issue with regular watering could be addressed by the availability of a pallet with a water butt in the vicinity of the newly planted trees. This was agreed in principle. • **Play Area Inspection Report –** quotes will be sought for fence repairs or a replacement fence. The Clerk will ask DC about this. TM reported that the VHMC will compile of a list of what needs to be done.	TM VHMC TM JF VHMC	By the next meeting By the next meeting ASAP ASAP Ongoing
11. Walk/Ride/Cycle - Sustrans's Update– FCr – Report distributed		
A meeting with Alban Luffman, the Head Teacher, the Chair of Governors and Matt McCabe will take place at the school on 22nd July. FCr and JWil will attend. It was agreed the new draft proposals are more feasible. Discussions	FCr and JWil	22/7/26

also took place regarding a footpath in the field to run parallel with Single Hill down to St Julian's Road.		
12 .Councillor Reports		
A) HELAA/Local Plan – no updates as consultation has been delayed until September. **B) PROW** – the Council received a letter from a parishioner with some concerns over safer routes for walking. These have been noted with any updates on a path between the Village Hall and the Cinder Path being awaited. Many thanks to the parishioner for taking the trouble to contact the PC. **C) School** – report distributed. **D) Highways** – a member of the public has requested a mirror be installed opposite the drive of their house on the side of the road of the school. B&NES do not install this as they feel they give a distorted view. The Clerk will inform the resident. JWhi has been in contact with our Ward Councillor, Matt McCabe, regarding issues at Double Hill and a communication to our Highways Inspector has been written which the Clerk will send. Wellow PC will also be informed by the Clerk of this. **E) Burial Board/Church** – nothing to report.	JF JF	ASAP ASAP
13. Shoscombe Benefits Society		
No further updates received. The Clerk will request these. A query was raised as to what the financial procedure would be should the sale not go ahead.	JF	By September
14. Parish Council Action Plan for 2026		
Already discussed		
15. Set Parish Council Meeting Dates		
Three meetings were confirmed – 12th November, 14th January 2027 and 11th March 2027 – Draft dates		
16. Closed Item		
Dates of Next Meetings: **10th September - Parish Council** **12th November – Parish Council** **14th January 2027 – Parish Council** **11th March 2027 – Parish Council**		