

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday 7th April 2026 at 7.00 pm
at Thursley Village Hall

Attendees: Cllr J. Mendelssohn (Chair) Cllr M. de Vries Cllr. H. Flavell
Cllr C. McClements Cllr S. O'Brien Cllr P. Sullivan
Cllr. Taylor-Mathews Mrs E. Felton (Clerk)

Also present: Cllr D. Harmer (from 7.20 pm) Mr K. Buchanan Ms S. Scheffers (from 7.04 pm)

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Munro. These apologies were accepted.

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No members disclosed any (a) Personal, (b) Prejudicial interests which they are required to disclose by section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Parish Council (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

3.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 3rd March 2026 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(4.1) It was noted that it had not yet been possible to meet with Jeremy Hunt MP to discuss tunnel closures. Cllr Sullivan advised that she was arranging a date to meet.

(4.2) Cllr Mc Clements confirmed that posts for the Clump had arrived and they would be installed soon.

(4.3) Cllr Mendelssohn advised that he had written to CIO to confirm the appointment of the architect for the pavilion.

5.0 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

There were no county or borough councillors in attendance so no reports were given at this time. Cllr Harmer arrived at 7.20 pm and provided the following update:

Cllr Harmer advised arrangements for the new structure are progressing well.

6.0 PLANNING ISSUES AND COMMUNICATIONS

(6.1) WA/2026/00510 – Hurt Hill, Halcyon House, Haslemere, GU27 1AL
Application under S73 to vary condition 1 (approved plans) of WA/2022/03037 to allow for changes to design and layout

Following review of the plans it was resolved that the Parish Council had NO COMMENT regarding the application.

It was agreed that public question time would take place early.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Ms Scheffers advised that she has had to rescue several vehicles, mainly vans, when they get stuck in the Valley of the Rocks. She explained that there is no signage on the Ridgeway Farm side to inform drivers that it is unsuitable for vehicles. It was noted that it is a BOAT and open to traffic.

Discussion took place regarding how best to resolve this matter. Suggestions included signage to warn motorists that it is unsuitable for vehicles. Cllr Sullivan advised that SCC do have a fund to deal with emergency situations but to access this funding, there would need to be photographic evidence..

It was concluded that the issue be included as a priority in the survey report to SCC which was due to be discussed as an agenda item later in the meeting.

7.0 FINANCE

(7.1) The list of payments for March/April had been presented to Councillors in advance of the meeting. These had been authorised and approved for payment as follows:

| | | | |
|------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 0053 | Ecological Surveys Ltd | Bat survey | £2,694.00 |
| 0054 | J. Mendelssohn | Skip hire | £800.40 |
| 0055 | John Swift | Printing costs | £4.60 |
| | TOTAL | | £3,499.00 |
| 0001 | P.J. Goble | Repairs to Clump | £264.00 |
| 0002 | E. Felton | April payment | £371.82 |
| 0003 | HMRC | April payment | £260.91 |
| | TOTAL | | £896.73 |

8.0 HIGHWAYS/VAS

(8.1) Cllr Mc Clements advised that some orange markers had appeared on the roads and he would monitor progress of the repairs.

(8.2) Cllr Mc Clements advised that he would clean the road signs in the village that need it. He advised that he would also follow up on discussions with National Highways regarding cleaning the signs on the A3, just before the Thursley junction.

(8.3) It was confirmed that Cllr O'Brien should report the footpath sign at Hedge Farm on the 'Fix my street' site.

(8.4) Cllr de Vries advised that the surface dressing at Bowlhead Green had taken place. It was noted that the works were to a good standard.

(8.5) It was noted that Cllr Mendelsohn had replaced the dislodged brick on the speed table outside The Old Post Office and it appeared to be holding.

(8.6) Cllr Sullivan advised that the number of potholes reported to the pothole patrol had increased significantly recently. Discussion took place regarding the poor quality repairs that were happening. It was noted that contractors are no longer able to fill adjacent potholes to the one that had been reported.

9.0 CRICKET PAVILION

(9.1) Cllr Mendelsohn provided the following update:

- The three blue bins had been removed from the side of the pavilion earlier in the day
- The previous tenants had been given a deadline to remove a compressor of 31st March but the item remains on site. He has been assured that it will be removed over the coming days. If it isn't, it was agreed that a letter be sent to advise that if the item is not removed within ten days, the Parish Council would take steps to dispose of it.
- Ecological surveys had been undertaken with a bat survey arranged to take place shortly. It was noted that the bat survey may slightly delay obtaining planning permission as it would form part of the application.
- An informal consultation with stakeholders was in progress with positive feedback to date.
- Following the public consultation, taking into account feedback, there would be minor changes to the size of the main area and internal layout of the building.
- The building would be moved slightly on the site, without impacting the pitch area, to outside of the special protection area (SPA).
- A S38 application is currently being prepared. There is a requirement to publish notices at the appropriate time.
- A local person has improved the cricket square and reported that it will be an acceptable condition this year and improved for next year's season.
- The financial pledges to date will cover the cost of the building works with any additional funds used for internal fittings etc.
- There had been a comment made on social media regarding the increased Precept. It was confirmed that the capital works are not being funded by the council tax. It was agreed that, due to the scale of the project, the timing of the setting of the Precept, and the need to hand over the current facility in an acceptable state, an amount of contingency funding is prudent. It was noted that the increase per household is minimal and being used to improve a village asset with overwhelming parishioner support.

10.0 HANKLEY COMMON

Cllr de Vries advised that she had not yet been able to arrange to speak to the Elstead parishioner who had raised concerns regarding closures of the car parks/common but she would make further attempts to do so.

It was suggested that in place of HUG, a compromise arrangement be put in place to improve communications with the MOD. The Clerk was asked to provide the MOD with Cllr de Vries contact details so that the matter could be discussed further.

11.0 FOOTPATH AND BRIDLEWAY SURVEY

Cllr Flavell referred to a communication she had sent to Councillors earlier in the day regarding proposed arrangements for the survey. Cllr Taylor-Mathews advised that he had prepared a map and Google sheet to collate feedback regarding the condition and other issues associated with footpaths and bridleways in the village – e.g. electric fences, broken gates etc.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Taylor-Mathews would provide Councillors with the survey form so that it could be trialled and used to support the report to be provided to SCC to allow them to take appropriate action. It was agreed that a verification process would be required to ensure a consistent approach. Cllr Harmer suggested that it would be appropriate to take to a Western Villages meeting.

It was agreed that each Councillor would attempt to report on 2-3 footpaths/bridleways before the next meeting.

12.0 PARKING

Discussion took place regarding the parking issues in the village which appear to have increased recently. It was concluded that it is an issue, although unlikely to be resolved easily as many households have multiple vehicles. Following discussion, it was agreed that, although the Parish Council are sympathetic to the problem, the only proposal at this time to improve the situation be to request that parishioners be sensitive to the issue and considerate of others.

13.0 GRASS CUTTING

It was noted that volunteers in the village are currently maintaining areas of manorial waste close to their property with the Clump the only area not currently being managed. Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Flavell approach someone to see if they would be interested in cutting the grass area once per month.

It was confirmed that the 'No mow May' arrangement would happen again so a cut before the end of April would be required in all areas.

14.0 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Cllr de Vries confirmed that she has arrangements for the refreshments in hand. Cllr Mendelssohn advised that the meeting would follow a similar format to previous years. The Clerk was asked to provide him with details of which village organisations wish to speak.

Councillors were asked to arrive at approx. 6.00 pm to help with set up if possible.

15.0 NEW PARISHIONERS

ClIr de Vries advised that she would look at updating the welcome pack.

16.0 CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted that communications had been provided at the time of receipt.

17.0 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING

- Items carried forward from above
- Annual meeting with appointment of Chair and roles and responsibilities

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

The date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 5th May 2026 at 7.00 pm.**

Signed **5th May 2026**