

**Minutes of the Amport Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 17th February 2025, 7.30pm at  
Monxton & Amport Village Hall**

Present: Cllr C Harris – Chairman, Cllr S Coke-Vice Chairman & Cllr Mrs S Baker.

Also present

Heather Bourner – Parish Clerk

TVBC M Flood

2 Members of the public

**1) Apologies**

Apologies for absence had been received from HCC Chris Donnelly, TVBC S Hasselmann, Cllr H Dix, Cllr A Montagu, Cllr P Harvey, Cllr P Waller, Cllr Mrs D Stephenson, Cllr C Hemmings & Cllr Mrs T Hawkings-Byass.

**2) Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in matters on the agenda. All Councillors confirmed that no changes to Register of Interest forms were required.

**3) Public Participation**

The members of public present had no issues to raise.

**4) Minutes of previous meetings & matters arising**

**Resolved:** Given the meeting was not quorate the minutes of the meetings held on 20th January will be reviewed at the March meeting.

**5) Update on Monxton & Amport Village Hall & presentation re booking system**

Cllr Harris confirmed the current plan is to open the hall officially in March although it will soon be open for public use. He said community funds are still required in order to complete and pay for the hall. The trustees will also need some funds to pay all the retention monies to the builders once any defects have been addressed, and to equip the hall properly.

There is further room for volunteers to help with the hall, as part of the committee or otherwise. In particular, there remains a vacancy for a treasurer (preferably from Amport) to keep the books.

Judy Bench, a parishioner has taken on the role of booking clerk for the new hall and will give a presentation of the new system to the Parish Council at their March meeting.

**6) Neighbourhood Plan- final version to agree**

Cllr Stephenson had sent apologies. The final version of the plan has yet to be circulated to all councillors. It is possible that an extraordinary meeting will be required to agree the plan before 12<sup>th</sup> March. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr Stephenson and correspond with councillors by email.

**7) Specific reports**

**Principle & Process-**Cllr Coke had nothing to report.

**Devolution-**Cllr Harris highlighted a recent presentation by TVBC officers, details had been shared with all Councillors. It is possible Parish Councils will be asked to take on more and this will require an increase to the precept. This will be considered when budget planning later in the year.

**The Fen & Green-** Cllr Harris reported spring bulbs are now starting to appear and that the latest mole attack is being dealt with. Grass will continue to be cut in 2025 by Ray Welch.  
The Clerk was asked to establish when the lengthsman will visit to clear ditches.

**Play Area -**Cllr Harvey was absent but had sent an email confirming all the play equipment is in a good state of repair.

The Clerk said she had received a quote for the work required to install goal post fixing points, repair the ground damage and to move the goal posts regularly to avoid ground damage in the future. Each element of the quote was discussed and the post fixing and ground repairs were agreed. Cllr Baker reported the school

have agreed to help with moving goalposts. She will discuss a timetable with them and this can be revisited at the March meeting. The Clerk will contact the contractor to accept the quote

**Weyhill-** Cllr Hemmings had sent apologies.

**Footpaths-** Cllr Hawkings-Byas was absent but the Clerk reported she had received a quote to cut footpaths in 2025 at £950.00 per cut. This was agreed and the Clerk will contact the contractor to confirm.

**Communications –** Cllr Hawkings-Byass had sent apologies.

**Projects-** Cllr Harvey had sent his apologies.

**Neighbourhood Plan–** see paragraph 6 above

**Highways-** Cllr Harris reported no further work has been carried out in the parish in relation to the highways issues that have been reported to HCC. He gave details of some proposed road closures which may affect traffic in the village although confirmation of dates of closures is required. It was noted there was a rubbish issue in the parish and all were asked to pick up in their area.

**Southern Water -**Cllr Harris reported groundwater levels remain high, but the sewers along the catchment are still generally coping well. No tankers for the management of the sewer network have been deployed recently in the Parish. The Pillhill Pan Parish Forum continue to meet regularly and full minutes of the meetings can be viewed on their website. He further highlighted an issue arising in the catchment regarding a proposal that builders should use more robust blue plastic piping in all sewer work in groundwater affected areas. The suggestion is that all affected parishes lobby TVBC to put the initiative in place. All present agreed that Amport should be part of the lobbying.

**Resilience Plan-** Cllr Waller had sent his apologies.

**School Liaison-**Cllr Baker is liaising with the school regarding moving goal posts on the village green.

#### **8) VE/VJ day grant availability for celebrations**

Cllr Harris confirmed that TVBC has provided details of grants available up to £500.00 to help with the costs of any celebrations. There is a proposal from Monxton to hold a local event and Cllr Hemmings is hoping to have an event at Weyhill.

#### **Soldier Silhouettes**

9) Following an approach from a village resident asking the Parish Council to consider installing some soldier silhouettes in the village, Cllr Baker said some research into those who lived in the parish and lost their lives during WW2 had taken place. Possible sites for the silhouettes were the churchyard and Village Green. Some costings have been obtained and these will be presented to the Parish Council at the March meeting.

#### **Clerks report**

10) The Clerk reported as follows-

A request to use the 30mph repeater sign post for a speed awareness camera near the Hawk has been sent to HCC and a response is awaited.

The owner of land adjacent the water pumping station has confirmed he has visited to review trees on the land which require work. He intends to return to carry out work and has asked if anyone in Amport has a long ladder he can borrow. The Parish Council does not have any equipment however a private householder is prepared to loan a ladder.

Finally, she confirmed the electricity contract will expire on 14<sup>th</sup> March and she has obtained some prices for renewal. Details were discussed and it was agreed the offer of 91p per day standing charge and 25p per unit be accepted. This was the best deal available but will see prices rise.

## Finance

11) To note the bank balances as at 10/02/2025

Lloyds current £1991.31

Lloyds savings £ 22115.38

2)As the meeting was not quorate the following payments and online transactions will be authorised at the March meeting

H Bourner salary	£491.60
HMRC	£122.80
H Bourner exp.	£17.20
Clear electricity (DD)	£9.77
Hugo Fox website	£11.99
Monxton & Amport V Hall	£40.00

## Retrospective

Eclipse mole services 105.00

Greenflints goalpost fitting £420.00

## Grant Received

Noted a grant £1216.56 received from Hampshire & IOW Wildlife on behalf of the Pilhill Brook Association.

## Borough & County Councillor Reports.

12) HCC Chris Donnelly had sent apologies.

TVBC M Flood confirmed weekly food waste collections will start in October 2025, the next TVBC resilience event is planned for March 8<sup>th</sup> and VE day grants available for up to £500. Finally, she said she still has some grant funding available and will send details to the Clerk for circulation.

## 13) Planning

The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

24/02940/FULLN new external door Bryning Lodge, Andover Road- permission

24/02512/FULLN-change of use to equestrian, Middlecot manor-permission

24/02821/TREEN- fell 2 Ash trees, Robins, Monxton Road-permission

## Reviewed between meetings:

None

**Resolved:** that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed:

None

**Solar Farm application-** Cllr Montagu was absent but had confirmed by email that there was nothing further to report at present.

## Correspondence

14) The Clerk highlighted

A letter from Lloyds Bank to confirm the interest rate on the savings account will reduce from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025

A letter from TVBC confirming dog waste bin emptying charges, an invoice will follow

## New Items for next agenda

15) None

## Community News

16) Cllr Harris reported news from Another Place regarding Amport House is optimistic in that contracts on the sale will be completed soon, potentially by month end.

Cllr Baker said visiting food vans will resume on the Village Green from the end of March.

## Date of next meeting

17) The next meeting will be on Monday 17th March 2025, 7.30pm at **Monxton & Amport Village Hall**