

COCKING PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
MONDAY 6 JULY 2026, 6.30PM

PRESENT: Cllrs T Carter (Chair), D Imlach, W Renney and Miss F Russell.

IN ATTENDANCE:

G Burt, Clerk to the Council

Dis Cllr Hannah Burton

2 Members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A Cornwell and D Summerfield due to prior engagements. The apologies and reasons given were approved.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members and officers were invited to make any declarations of pecuniary and/or non-pecuniary interests that they may have in relation to items on the agenda and were reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the meeting if it then became apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue was to be considered.
None

3. Questions from Visitors

Robin Wills and George Marchand spoke regarding the SDNP Local Plan. All those present lamented the lack of infrastructure to support any new development, most notably, sewers, water, doctors etc.

There was a brief discussion on whether or not a recent power cut following a fire had been responsible for a mobile phone outage.

4. To receive reports from County & District Cllrs.

Dis Cllr Dominic Merritt had submitted a written report, in tending apologies. Dis Cllr Hannah Burton commented on the albeit difficult need to build new houses in the SDNP esp. affordable housing for young people.

She would investigate why, according to Cllr Miss Francis Russell, CDC had not appointed a Community Worker in the north of the district.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the 1 June 2026, previously circulated were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. Clerk's Report

None

7. Planning

Comments on any planning applications were **RESOLVED** as follows:

Ref. No	Address	Details	Comment
SDNP/26/02351/TCA	185 Church Path, Church Lane, Cocking. GU29 0HL	Notification of intention to crown reduce by 30% (overall) and crown thin by 10% on 1 no. Cherry Tree	NO OBJECTION

8. SDNP Local Plan Review - to receive any updates or new information, incl. Easebourne circular objecting to proposed developments in their village as part of their response to the SDNPA Regulation 19 Review.

It was confirmed that our submission to the Reg 19 Local Plan consultation had been submitted. Members noted a last-minute campaign in Easbourne against new housing.

9. Local Government Reorganisation - to receive any updates or new information.

Nothing new to report. It was hoped that Government would announce a decision on the Sussex unitaries before the summer recess.

10. To consider hosting a showing of the film: National Emergency Briefing. For details see <https://www.nebriefing.org/the-film>

Defer pending further information.

11. Highways Updates

- a. Footpaths & Footways –Moonlight Cottage to Church Lane FP had been trimmed.
- b. Traffic Calming. The latest Speedwatch report had been circulated. Midhurst Speedwatch volunteers had recently joined a session of our own Speedwatch. (Not allowed to do speedwatch on roads >40mph.)
- c. To receive any update on bid to extend speed limit in village southwards. The Chairman had sent a detailed appeal to WSCC following their refusal to lower the speed limit. Supported by Dis Cllr Merritt
- d. SID update. Clerk and Chairman were meeting Wilbar the following day to review the SID infrastructure requirement.

12. Updates on Parish Matters

- a. Playground – The annual inspection was still awaited.
- b. Village Hall – None
- c. Policing – A police meeting was due to be held soon.
- d. Other Village Maint. Issues – Concern was raised about the state of the carved wooden seat at Bumblekite.
- e. Reports on other meetings attended – Cllr Imlach reported that the Church Fete would be reverting to using the adjoining field this year for car parking.

13. Finance

- a. Payments since the last meeting were **RESOLVED** and a list thereof was subsequently initialled by the Chairman – Appendix **A**, and any receipts NOTED
- b. Bank Reconciliation to 8 June May 2026 was **RESOLVED** – Appendix **B** and the corresponding bank statement was subsequently initialled by the Chairman.
- c. A surveyor had recommended uplifting the replacement value of Village Hall for insurance purposes. Insurers had been notified accordingly and there had been no additional premium.

d. Grant Application

RESOLVED that an application for a grant from Tyler's Trust be declined.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 7 September 2026 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 7.12pm.

Chairman:

Date:

APPENDIX A

INCOME & EXPENDITURE SINCE LAST MEETING TO 6 JULY 2026

EXPENDITURE

Date	Payee	Cheque no.	Details	Gross	VAT	Net
06/07/2026	Mrs Pauline James	1201	Recreation Field grass cutting - May	£310.00		£310.00
			Play Area grass cutting - May	£310.00		£310.00
			Recreation Field grass cutting - June	£310.00		£310.00
			Play Area grass cutting - June	£310.00		£310.00
06/07/2026	Tony Fulwood Associates	1202	Local Plan advice	£2,378.75		£2,378.75
06/07/2026	G Burt	1203	Clerk salary - June	£209.76		£209.76
06/07/2026	HMRC	1204	Clerk Tax - June	£140.00		£140.00
				£3,968.51		£3,968.51

P.C.

APPENDIX B

BANK RECONCILIATION

CASHBOOK

Balance brought forward as at 01/04/2026		13,312.37
Add Total Receipts		10,149.50
Less Total Payments		-4,222.92
TOTAL		19,238.95

BANK

Lloyds Treasurers A/C (08/06/2026)*1		21,059.79
Less unrepresented cheques		
1200		-£1,820.84
Plus unrepresented deposits		0.00
TOTAL		19,238.95

P.C.

TALLY

*1 Includes £7,461.70 CIL