

CRONDALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Held Monday 20th May 2025

PRESENT Councillor G Smith - Chairman
Councillors D Argent, K Best, G O'Connor, I Taylor, and S Worthington

APOLOGIES: Councillor S Gregory – CPC
Councillors J Kennett and J Hale - Hart DC

IN ATTENDANCE Councillor J Glen – Hampshire County Council
Councillor C Dorn – Hart DC
A Angove - Parish Clerk
25 members of the public joined the meeting.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and welcomed councillors, members of the public and outlined the plan for the evening introducing councillors individually.

PM 1/25 Minutes of 29th April 2024 Annual Parish Meeting

The Minutes of the APM were proposed for acceptance as an accurate record by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Taylor and **AGREED** (unanimous). The Chairman signed the Minutes.

PM 2/25 Chairman's Report

Following an introduction of the parish council in its current form, Cllr Smith provided an overview of key initiatives, projects and challenges during the recent financial year including:

- Replacement of Burial Ground gates
- Installation of outdoor gym
- Introduction of security patrols
- Roads & Traffic Calming Public Meeting
- Flood Information Community Meeting
- Support of initiative to test water quality of River Hart within the parish boundary
- Purchase of mobile cctv and introduction of corresponding project to combat fly tipping

PM 3/25 Finance Report

Cllr Argent gave his report for the year 2024/25. Overall Council expenditure was £98.6k with total income being £14.2k a breakdown of which is detailed in the attached presentation.

PM 4/25 Planning Report

Cllr O'Connor, the parish council Planning Lead, provided an overview of the role of the parish council planning, stressing that while the council has a statutory right to be consulted on planning applications within and adjacent to the Parish boundary, they do not have the power to grant or refuse permission. This is the responsibility of HDC. Opinions submitted to HDC must be based on whether a proposal accords with Planning Policy.

The majority of applications are for extensions or alterations. Thirty-two planning applications were considered over the preceding fiscal year, of which 66% received "no objection". Applications of note

during the year include the Old Parsonage Meadow and several battery storage farms, with Oak Park, the potential warehouse development off Junction 5 of the M3 and Farnborough Airport remaining of interest into the current year. Further information, including a breakdown of the number of applications considered are detailed in the attached presentation.

PM 5/25 Highways, Traffic and Footpaths

Cllr Taylor provided a verbal update, confirming that potholes continue to be an issue. The reporting structure that had been introduced in 2023, has ensured that the repair rate for the parish is above average for the area with the worst of Crondall's potholes have either been repaired or are scheduled to be.

At the Road and Traffic Calming public meeting earlier in the year, ideas for extending the 20mph from the centre of the village to the outskirts plus introducing road calming measures such as pinch points on Dippenhall Street and Well Road are being progressed, with further information detailed in the supporting presentation.

PM 6/25 Speedwatch

On behalf of the Community Speedwatch Team, Cllr Taylor provided an overview of the initiative which is manned by volunteers and undertakes speed watch sessions at location approved by Hampshire Constabulary on Croft Lane, Dippenhall Street, Pankridge Street and Well Road, with the data collected published on social media and provided to Hampshire Police. The parish council-funded purchase of two SIDs have now been running for three years and the data collected during this time was presented to the meeting. A lack of volunteers remains a significant issue and threat to the efficacy of the initiative. A request for more volunteers to join the team was made.

PM 7/25 Reports from Other Councils

- Hampshire County Council - Cllr Glen provided a verbal update on devolution, the May 2026 mayoral elections and the Junction 5 warehouse potential planning application.
- Hart District Council – Cllr Dorn provided additional information on devolution, in particular how it affects Hart and work being carried out plus local government reorganisation. Additionally, an update on the ongoing flooding issues following the public meeting earlier in the year was provided (further information included in the attached presentation).

PM 8/25 The Council Year Ahead

Referring to the presentation, Cllr Smith outlined key priorities and issues for the coming year, including progressing road calming measures, toilet facilities for Hook Meadow and the introduction of a Community Awards initiative recognising individuals and groups who have made outstanding contributions to our community. On behalf of the parish council, Cllr Smith thanked all members of the community for their support and input over the year, mentioning in particular Simon and Judith Rawle and Geoff and Gill Reeve for helping to keep the village free of litter; James Longcroft for his upkeep of the village pond and the Village Pump team for their ongoing support of the older people in the community.

Two further topics of note were outlined in more detail:

- New Burial Ground – with an estimated room for up to three years of new burial plots and a maximum of 10 years new cremation plots, the current burial ground is reaching capacity. Whilst a number of possibilities for alternative burial sites have been identified, none are straightforward. The parish council will continue progress the project but input from parishioners is sought including ideas for potential sites.

- Neighbourhood Plan – in line with best practice, the parish council had commenced with an interim review of the existing NP. With recent changes in government policy, however, the HDC Local Plan is being entirely revisited. Changes will include a substantial increase in new housing provision across the district, including Crondall. An indicative idea of numbers has been requested. Moving forward, councillors will be deciding the most appropriate course of action, ie whether a full-scale revisit of the NP is required or just an interim review until the new LP is issued. Should CPC decide to progress with the former, a parishioner led working group will need to be set up to lead and develop the new plan.

PM 9/25 Questions

The following questions were received and responses given:

How does the fly tipping cctv work? To whom are incidents reported?

Cllr Worthington confirmed that being in the very early stages, he is still working through initial teething problems with the cameras, in particular how to position them in such a way as to have a clear view of an identified problem spot. Full details of the policy can be found on the parish council website.

Noted that the cherry tree which was planted in memory of a parishioner has gone. Any reason for this and are there plans to replace it?

Cllr Smith confirmed that the tree, an ornamental cherry, had unfortunately been showing signs of disease and with the erection of the outdoor gym, it became apparent that it was a potential hazard. Two new trees, including a cherry, will be planted on Hook Meadow but not until autumn.

Are there any plans to create new parking facilities?

Cllr Taylor confirmed that parking does not form part of the key objectives for the coming year with the focus being the installation of road calming measures.

PM10/25 Presentation by Guest Speaker

- Yueharo Taylor from the South East Cyber Crime Unit, Hampshire & IOW - cyber crime and how to avoid falling victim to it.

The meeting ended at 9.53 pm.

Signed as a true record 11TH May 2026

Annex A – Crondall Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting Presentation 2025