MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF CRONDALL PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE CRONDALL CHURCH ROOMS ON MONDAY, 26th OCTOBER 2026 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT Councillor G Smith – Chairman
Councillors D Argent, S Gregory, G O'Connor, I Taylor and S Worthington

IN ATTENDANCE Cllr C Dorn – Hampshire County Council (HCC) and Hart District Council (HDC)
A Angove (Parish Clerk) plus two members of the public and five representatives from DGCSio

75/27 Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllrs Baldry and Howlett-Molloy plus Cllrs Hale and Highley (HDC).

76/27 Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensation relating to any item on the agenda.
No declarations of interest were received.

77/27 Announcements from the Chairman, Clerk and Members questions received in advance
None.

78/27 Approval of Minutes
RESOLVED: The minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 21st September 2026 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the meeting Chair. Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Taylor and AGREED (unanimous).

79/27 Meeting Action Points
Noted, as presented with the agenda.

80/27 Public Session
Councillors received an update from DGCSio, which provides regular security patrols around the parish. They reported that anti-social behaviour, particularly involving young people, had reduced following joint work with the local police, with fly-tipping now the main concern. The unpredictable nature of the incidents, often involving rubbish being dumped on rural roads, makes it difficult to identify those responsible. However, it was hoped that regular patrols, Parish Council CCTV and parishioner vigilance would help address the problem.

DGCSio confirmed that its vehicles and staff are clearly identifiable and that a defibrillator is carried in each patrol vehicle.

Councillors discussed the impact of the Police and Crime Act, community concerns, the effectiveness and limitations of the service, and how the Parish Council could provide further support.

It was agreed that additional signage displaying DGCSio's helpline number would be erected at key locations around the village, and the Clerk would promote awareness of the service through the usual communication channels. Councillors thanked the DGCSio representatives for their update, and they subsequently left the meeting.

81/27 Representations by the Public
The Clerk updated the meeting on correspondence from a member of the public expressing concern that the planned closure of Church Road during the week commencing 2nd November could cause parking difficulties around the Village Hall during the Phyllis Tuckwell Christmas Fair on 2nd and 3rd November. A request had been made to open Hook Meadow for overflow parking if required.

Councillors agreed that, given the condition of the ground and recent wet weather, this would not be advisable. The Clerk would liaise with the event organisers nearer the time to review the situation.

82/27 Reports from other councils

A written update having been distributed prior to the meeting (Appendix A) Cllr Dorn further reported on behalf of HCC and HDC:

- Congratulated Hook Parish Council on receiving the HALC Best Recreational Facilities Award 2026 and being runner-up in the Village of the Year awards.
- The first draft of the HDC Local Plan is now out for public consultation. Key points include proposals for a new village at Rye Common as well as Shapley Heath, and a notable lack of significant development proposed for Fleet, including the Harlington Centre. From a Crondall perspective, several additional sites have been included for consultation, although both Four Acre Field and Old Parsonage Meadow have been rejected.
- Reported that HCC had passed a motion to seek reimbursement of costs already incurred in relation to Local Government Reorganisation, following the Government's decision to pause the process.
- HDC intends to introduce mixed-plastics recycling banks at local car park bring sites, allowing residents to recycle plastics not currently accepted in household recycling bins.
- Noted the later agenda item regarding a potential Tree Preservation Order (TPO) project, suggesting this could be worth pursuing as an additional means of protecting trees and potentially restricting future development.

Councillors sought clarification on the costs incurred by HCC and HDC in relation to Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), the potential consequences if the Local Plan failed to meet Government requirements, and the Wilson Plant site.

Cllr Dorn advised that exact figures were not available but estimated the combined LGR costs at approximately £1.3m.

He explained that if the Local Plan failed to meet Government requirements, it would be deemed unsound and HDC would need to reconsider and substantially revise the Plan. Regarding Wilson Plant, Cllr Dorn confirmed that both HCC and HDC were investigating activities at the site. With no further questions raised, the Chairman thanked Cllr Dorn for his update and Cllr Dorn left the meeting.

83/27 Planning

a. **Planning Applications** were considered in line with the previously circulated Planning Report and presented by the Cllr O'Connor.

26/01548/FUL	Land North of Lefroy's Field Crondall	Construction of 43 houses (including affordable housing), formation of new accesses, associated works and infrastructure.
Recommendation: **Objection** Cllr O'Connor proposed that a letter be submitted setting out the key objections to the planning application and outlining the Parish Council's expectations regarding Section 106 contributions should HDC be minded to grant permission. Seconded by Cllr Taylor and AGREED (unanimous).		
26/01613/HOU	2 Orchard Court Church Street Crondall GU10 5QP	Erection of a single-storey rear extension following partial demolition of existing conservatory.
Recommendation: No Objection Cllr O'Connor proposed as listed. Seconded by Cllr Gregory and AGREED (unanimous).		

b. Phantom Motors, Pankridge Street (26/01124/FUL)

Councillors formally ratified the decision reached by email vote (Appendix B).

c. Overall Planning

Councillors NOTED an update by Cllr O'Connor on the general planning landscape, noting the increase in activity around potential sites.

84/27 REPORTS

84/27a Project Updates:

i. Roads & Traffic

i.i Traffic Calming Measures – Councillors received an update from Cllr Taylor on the proposed traffic calming scheme, which includes a pinch point on Dippenhall Street and an extension to the existing 20mph zone. Subject to a favourable outcome from HCC's initial report, Cllr Taylor sought approval in principle to proceed to the next stage of the process, at a cost of up to £5,000. This was seconded by Cllr Worthington and AGREED unanimously.

i.ii HCC Review of 20mph Process – Councillors NOTED an update on the review of the overall internal process at HCC.

i.iii Road Safety Report – It was AGREED that the Clerk would complete the survey, sponsored by Alex Brewer MP, on behalf of the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr O'Connor, seconded by Cllr Taylor and AGREED (unanimous).

ii Youth Facilities

ii.i Youth Facilities Survey – in the absence of the sponsoring councillor, Cllr Howlett-Molloy, the item was carried forward.

ii.ii Summer Activity Days – The Clerk outlined a proposal for the Parish Council to fund summer activity days on Hook Meadow during the 2027 summer holidays, supported by Fleet Phoenix. Councillors welcomed the initiative and AGREED in principle to provide funding, subject to further discussions with Fleet Phoenix. Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Argent and AGREED unanimously. The Clerk would report back with the final arrangements for formal approval.

iii Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr O'Connor's written update was NOTED. It was agreed that Cllr O'Connor would continue to update the factual data in the existing plan and following review of the LP consultation documentation, a parish wide meeting would be organised to discuss forming a NP working group.

iv Tree Condition Survey

Councillors NOTED the written report on the tender process for a tree condition survey of the Parish Council's trees. Of the seven arboriculturists approached, four had submitted quotations. Based on the quotations received, the Clerk recommended accepting the quote from Maydencroft. Proposed by Cllr Worthington. Seconded by Cllr Argent and AGREED (unanimous).

v Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report having been circulated prior to the meeting was NOTED. Councillors were asked to consider three matters:

- Tractor Shed door strengthening repairs – Cllr Smith proposed accepting the quotation from Doorgear for additional strengthening of the main door following an attempted break-in. Seconded by Cllr Taylor and AGREED unanimously.
- Hook Meadow gates – Following vandalism to the Well Road entrance gate and safety concerns regarding the existing play area gates, the Clerk had obtained quotations from the supplier for the necessary repairs and remedial works. Councillors AGREED unanimously to proceed. Proposed by Cllr Argent, seconded by Cllr Smith.

- Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) – It was AGREED unanimously in principle to undertake a project to review trees across the parish and identify those which may warrant TPO protection. Proposed by Cllr Argent, seconded by Cllr Worthington. The Clerk would investigate the requirements and process involved and report back to the Parish Council.

84/27b Meeting Reports

None

85/27c Councillor Verbal Updates

None

86/27 Appointment of new parish council representative on the Village Hall Committee

Cllr Smith confirmed his availability to attend the January meeting. In the meantime, the Clerk would liaise with Cllr Baldry to establish whether he would be willing to take over as the new representative, with an update to be provided at the November meeting.

87/27 FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

87/27a Charitable donation

Two requests for charitable donations under s137 were discussed:

- Hart Citizen's Advice – Councillors AGREED unanimously to support the requested donation of £500.00. Proposed by Cllr Argent and seconded by Cllr Smith.
- Croft Café – Councillors AGREED unanimously to donate the requested £2,500 for the refurbishment of the Church Rooms kitchen subject to sight of the supporting quote for the works to be carried out. Proposed by Cllr Gregory and seconded by Cllr Worthington.

87/27b Ratification of payments (Appendix C)

The circulated list of 16 items including Payroll, valued at £6,917.65, was proposed by Cllr Argent, seconded by Cllr Taylor and AGREED (unanimous).

87/27c Items for Spending (Appendix C)

Proposed by Cllr Argent. Seconded by Cllr Taylor and AGREED unanimously.

87/27d Late Payments

Councillors NOTED the Clerk's report on late payments and AGREED unanimously to write off the outstanding £30.00 relating to invoice 25/13. Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Argent.

87/27e Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet to 30th September 2026

The Council NOTED the report.

87/27f Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk confirmed that an independent examination of the Bank Reconciliation for the month of September 2026 had been undertaken, with no discrepancies identified. No questions were raised. Council NOTED the Clerk's report.

88/27 Correspondence

It was confirmed that all correspondence had been circulated to councillors.

89/27 Any other Business

None. There being no further public business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm

Signed as a true record …… dated 16th November 2026

Appendix A

Defence ● Highways ● Schools

A brief summary of Hampshire County Council and related issues
Cllr Chris Dorn, Hampshire County Cllr



Hook Parish Council

I must start by congratulating Hook Parish Council for the Hampshire Association of Local Councils: "Best Recreational Facilities 2026" and "Village of the Year 2026" (runner up, but it sounds like there was nothing in it!). Fantastic work by the whole parish council team and councillors, these things don't happen by themselves, they need dedication and effort.

Focus on Defence

By the time you read this, National Cadet Week will have finished, but I took time to make sure it was properly recognised in our area. Hart raised a special flag to mark the week and I've visited a range of cadet units in the area. It was so impressive to see the range of activities on offer and huge personal and team achievements. And they were all so polite and enthusiastic. A real pleasure to meet them all and they do give me so much hope that they will make great citizens, a change from so much negative press.

Early October saw the first meeting of the pan-Hampshire Civil Military Partnership Board, co-Chaired by myself and Cllr Miller. This was a soft re-start of a body that hasn't been as active as we'd like over past years. It brings together civil organisations (councils, police, NHS etc) with local military to deal with strategic issues to support local serving personnel, their families and veterans. We'll be developing a work plan and looking at how we can best work with the Hampshire and Solent Combined County Authority (mayoral area).

I was also pleased to attend the Army Air Museum at Middle Wallop, to receive the Gold award for the Militar Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme, on behalf of Hart District Council (very much for our hard working officers).

Making the case for fairer highways funding

Hampshire has around 5,500 miles of roads to maintain, one of the largest local highway networks in the country. It the equivalent of London to Edinburgh 17 times! But we do not receive enough stable, long-term funding to keep that network in the condition we all want to see. The estimated maintenance backlog is now between £550 million and £600 million.

The County Council's Cabinet has agreed to strengthen our case to Government for a fairer share of Vehicle Excise Duty to be invested back into local roads, together with greater freedom to target highways funding where it will make the biggest difference.

We are not waiting for Government action. Since April, highways teams have

• Delivered 42 resurfacing schemes, with 101 planned during 2026/27
• Completed 122 preventative surface treatments
• 154 planned patching schemes covering more than 32,000 square metres.

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• 17,590 reactive defects, including potholes repaired by teams between April and July.

The long-term answer is to move increasingly from reacting to potholes to planned, preventative maintenance. Hampshire's highway assets are valued at around £17 billion, and looking after them

properly is basic asset management as well as being important to residents and businesses.

Hampshire County Council's Finances – Challenging Times

During September, the Government confirmed more than £90 million of in-year Exceptional Financial Support for councils facing serious financial pressures, including £6 million for the Isle of Wight and £5 million for West Berkshire. But not Hampshire.

Hampshire has not had to make a similar request because the County Council acted early. Over the past year, we delivered £95 million in savings, with a further £40 million of efficiencies built into this year's budget. That work enabled us to set a lawful, balanced £3.3 billion budget and manage this year's pressures without seeking exceptional permission to borrow or use capital resources for dayto-day costs.

That does not mean everything is fine. This year's budget relies on £108.5 million from reserves (almost twice the amount used last year) and those reserves can only be spent once. School transport costs, particularly for children with special educational needs and disabilities, have risen from £43 million to £83 million in four years, while demand for adult social care continues to increase.

In 2025/26 Hampshire received £91 per resident in general Government funding, compared with an English average of £205! The new funding formula reduces support by £10.9 million this year and by £42.9 million annually by 2028/29. Hampshire will continue pressing for a fair, long-term settlement that protects essential services without exhausting reserves or placing an ever-greater burden on local taxpayers.

Back-to-School Support

Hampshire's back-to-school resources bring together advice on preparing for the first day, walking, wheeling, cycling and school transport, before- and after-school childcare, SEND support, vaccination, mental wellbeing, attendance and free school meals.

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school lunch. Families receiving certain benefits may also qualify for income-based free school meals beyond those years. A successful application can unlock extra support for a child and additional funding for their school.

Family information and support: https://www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk/familyinformation-and-services-hub-fish/best-start-in-life/toddler-to-pre-school/getting-ready-for-school/

No tricks, just three choices: apply for a secondary school place by Halloween

Parents and carers in Hampshire are being reminded not to let the secondary school application deadline give them a fright this Halloween

https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20260904secadmissions

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Hampshire Cllr Grants

Hampshire County Cllrs receive a modest £5,000 grant to be distributed through the year there's a little bit left. The details are here:-

https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/county-councillor

Contact

I'm always happy to talk to people, but the best way to contact me is to email: chris.dorn@nehc.org.uk and follow my Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Cllr.Dorn

Cllr Chris Dorn

Hampshire County Council for Odiham & Hook Division and District Cllr for Odiham Ward and Western Parishes on behalf of the Conservative Party

Just to caveat: Cllrs can't provide definitive planning or legal advice, but I'm usually able to share my personal thoughts on matters while asserting my open mindedness to any related future planning applications or formal council decisions.

Appendix B - **26/01224/FUL Phantom Motors Outcome of email consultation**

Further to the September meeting, it was agreed that, given the timescales involved, the attached planning application would be decided by email vote and formally ratified at the October meeting to ensure transparency and maintain a clear record.

Cllr O'Connor, in her capacity as Planning Lead, prepared her recommendation. It was distributed to all parish councillors on 29th September, with responses requested by Friday 9th October at the latest. It was expected that Cllr Worthington would abstain for the reasons noted.

Based on the responses received, the recommendation was supported by six votes in favour, with none against and two abstentions. The following response was submitted to HDC:

The Parish Council has considered the planning application and, whilst raising no objection, wishes to highlight the following concern:

The Parish Council acknowledges that the application technically meets the minimum parking standards. However, it considers that the proposed level of parking provision is inadequate in the context of this particular site and its location at the centre of the village.

The proposed properties are located at a recognised traffic 'hot spot', in close proximity to the junction with Dippenhall Street and the village shop, where parking and vehicle movements already present concerns. The absence of any dedicated provision for visitor parking is particularly concerning, as it is highly likely that visitors to the two properties will rely on on-street parking in an area where available space is already limited.

The Parish Council therefore considers that the development has the potential to exacerbate existing parking pressures, obstruction and congestion in this sensitive location, with a consequent adverse impact on highway conditions and the safe and convenient movement of vehicles and pedestrians through the village.

The fact that the proposal meets the minimum parking requirement should not, in itself, be regarded as sufficient justification where the specific characteristics and constraints of the site indicate that additional parking demand is likely to arise. The Parish Council therefore has significant concerns regarding the adequacy of the proposed parking provision and the resulting impact on the surrounding highway network and whilst voting unanimously to approve the application, would ask that HDC consider these concerns with a view to adding conditions to overcome them.

Crondall Parish Council

21st September 2026

Payment Ratifications

Appendix C

	Supplier/Payee		*Payee*	*Inv/Account. Ref.*	*Inv/DD. Date*	*Description*	*£ **Gross***	*NB*
	Lloyds Bank		Supplier	496913264	10/09/26	Bank Charges: 10/08/26 – 09/09/26	4.25	*1*
	Mid-Hants Mowers		Supplier	32055	28/09/26	Kubota GR2020R service	717.91	
	Chambers		Supplier	P869197	30/09/26	Dumpy Bin Hire: September 2026	82.00	
	Larkstel		Supplier	2395	30/09/26	Bin Collection: September 2026	314.20	
	Octopus Business Energy		Supplier	2B9A-0024	01/10/26	Electricity: Tractor Shed: September '26	21.25	*1*
	Octopus Business Energy		Supplier	KI..ED7&3B8-0024	01/10/26	Electricity: Pavilion: September '26	39.19	*1*
	DGCS		Supplier	DS25828	01/10/26	Security services: September 2026	558.00	
	Sage		Supplier	02618386	04/10/26	Payroll: 04/10/26 – 03/11/26	16.80	*1*
	Castle Water		Supplier	10011559459	09/10/26	Churchyard Water: 01/09/26 – 30/10/26	7.06	*1*
	Royal Mail		Supplier	1802990857	13/10/26	PO Box annual renewal	499.80	
	Nimrod Fire		Supplier	293305	30/09/26	Annual inspection and service	66.21	
	Guardwell Securities		Supplier	456113-H6P8M2	30/09/26	Annual maintenance of tractor shed alarm	307.20	
	Roots Plants		*Clerk*	517261	20/10/26	Four fruit trees for Hook Meadow	117.00	*2*
	Timpsons		*Clerk*	-	25/09/26 24/10/26	Keys for Sports Pavilion Changing Rooms x 2	40.00	
	Gallagher Insurance		*Clerk*	561127637	29/09/20	Administration Fees	50.00	*3*
	Payroll: October 2026		Staff salaries, PAYE, NICs				**4,076.78**	
	TOTAL						**6,917.65**	

NB1: D/D
NB2: Purchase agreed 160/26c – £30.00 reimbursed by parishioner (memorial tree)
NB3: Insurance paid and approved in September (72/27a) - £50.00 admin fee missed off payment

Purchase/Expenditure Authorisation Requests

	Item	*Proposed **maximum** ££ (excl. VAT)*	*NB*
	DoorGear (repairs and further security measures to tractor shed)	1,130.00	
	EPF (Fencing) Ltd – HM playground gates and security gate to Well Road	772.26	
	Maydencroft Arboriculturist (tree safety and inspection report)	1,200.00	
	TOTAL		