



DRAFT MINUTES

Hambledon Parish Council
02 Feb 2026; 7.30pm; Hambledon Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Encke (Chair); Cllr Clarke; Cllr Lamb; Cllr Mills-Goodlet; & Cllr Piper

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Wallace (HCC & WCC; arrived 8.11pm, left 8.46pm); Cllr Lee (WCC; left 8pm); Cllr White (WCC; left 8pm); and two members of the public.

Meeting started at 7.35pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
2893	Co-option of Parish Councillor	Resolved: that councillors have approved the co-option of Jane Piper as a PC member.	
2894	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of all villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
2895	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Hand.	
2896	Disclosable pecuniary interests	None.	
2897	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
2898	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. No comments from members of the public.	
2899	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	
2900	District councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (see Appendix A). Additional points discussed as follows: • District councillors conducted a meeting with SDNPA Planners last week re Corhampton Golf Course application. Highlighted more needs to be done, especially regarding transport & EA statements. • Mayoral elections have been postponed until May 2028. • Community Resilience event - LGR processes elsewhere have created risks to community resilience. Worth looking at the recent NALC publication & contacting Wickham PC as it is currently in the process of liaising with HCC re its Community Resilience Plan. • Healthy & Thriving Communities fund - up to £5k. Webinar tomorrow & Wed 11th Feb 2026.	

2901	County councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (see Appendix B). Additional points discussed as follows: • Mayoral Strategic Authority - still a lot of confusion as to how it will work. • LGR - expecting to be told in March how area will be rearranged into unitaries. • Local elections going ahead. • M27 works over Christmas went well. • Highways team working hard to repair damaged roads. • Flooding - Cllr Encke gave a brief update on groundwater levels.	
2902	Mins of previous meeting (05/01/26)	Agreed as a true record.	
2903	Clerk's progress report	Parish Lengthsman Agreement - schedule for 2025/26: 05/02/25. Clerk contacted Lengthsman re debris not being cleared from the Back Lane/East St junction during the last one or two visits. Asked for photographs but none available so difficult to prove. However, worksheet for 05/02/26 even more clearly states the need for this work to be done. Flooding @ bottom of Bury Lodge Lane - no update. Flooding on road near Kings Rest - reported to HH 13/10/23. Response 'could not locate defect'. Likely that they visited when there was no road flooding but didn't look into the cause of previous flooding. Suggest wait for next flooding, take photos & re-submit. Useful/Emergency Info Leaflets - WCC Small Grant fund awarded £150. On-going. Drain clearance - E-mail sent 05/02/25 to Gina Chandler (HH) re blocked drains throughout Village. Response received from HH via Cllr Wallace 23/05/25 - 'We have made several attempts to identify and clear the various drainage features on Green Lane, with limited success. The site is currently with our colleagues in the Planned Maintenance team to develop and design a scheme to permanently resolve the issue.' No update. Footpath between footpaths 13 and 15b, Hambledon Vineyard - HCC (Countryside Access Team; Harry Goodchild) has confirmed that they will continue to process the application for two reasons: 1. there were a significant number of users who put their names to forms; and 2. there is a lack of any mechanism in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to withdraw a duly made application. BASS Projects - 06/01/26 Clerk sent Cllr Wallace brief details of issues progressing BASS projects. Info has been escalated within HCC. 21/01/26 - Clerk e-mailed Cllr Wallace chasing an update. No response received from HCC Safer Roads & Parking Team re SID installation. Central Meon Valley Parish shared part-time Ecologist/Nature Recovery Officer - e-mail re queries identified at 05/01/26 meeting sent to Cllr Lee 20/01/26. Awaiting response.	Clerk

2904	Bank account	Bank balance - £67,056.99 @ 31 Jan 2026; bank statement 194 (01 Jan to 31 Jan 2026) will be forwarded to cllrs as soon as it becomes available.	
2905	Payment of accounts	Mrs J C Tester Clerk salary Jan 2026 £993.14 Mrs J C Tester Clerk O/T Jan 2026 £233.40 NEST Clerk pension Jan 2026 £81.13 Mrs J C Tester Clerk's expenses Jan 2026 £37.08 Hambleton Village Hall Hall hire Jan 2026 £32.50 Biffa Recycling bin collection Jan 2026 £100.27 JH Tree Services Ltd Village maintenance Jan 2026 £375.00 Hambleton History Group Grant - time capsule project £300.00 Nigel Foster Reimbursement for HG website annual plan (Wix) £129.60 Alasdair MacKenzie Reimbursement for HG printing costs £19.20 HMRC Tax/NI Q3 2025/26 £319.62 Moritz Flohr Tennis coaching Jan 2026 £40.00 Alfie Goodwin-Hudson Tennis coaching Jan 2026 £120.00	Clerk
2906	Planning applications	• SDNP/25/04920/FUL - Corhampton Golf Club, Shepherds Farm Lane, Corhampton, Hampshire, SO32 3GZ. Change of use from agricultural field to golf course including creation of 4 holes, associated fairways and tees, with an irrigation pond in the south west corner of the field and works associated with the existing golf course including; reshaping of existing fairways and tees, translocating trees, with new chalk grassland and chalk scrapes over the whole site. [Cllrs voted unanimously to OBJECT to this application. Writing and submission of objection comments was delegated to the Clerk. Main points as follows: The PC... • endorses Droxford PC's comprehensive objection response; • acknowledges the many SDNP Local Plan (and other) policies with which the proposal conflicts; and • highlights specifically for Hambleton parish concerns around potential impact of construction traffic.] • SDNP/26/00103/HOUS - Cams Hill Wood, Cams Hill Lane, Hambleton, Hampshire, PO7 4SP. Proposed single storey side extension, alterations to existing conservatory to create new snug, and insertion of roof lights to main pitch roof. [NO OBJECTION.] • SDNP/25/05051/TCA - already decided (see item 2908).	Clerk
2907	Planning apps received after 27/01/26	None received.	
2908	Planning decisions	Noted, with the addition of the following: • SDNP/25/05051/TCA - T1 Ash - Oldfield House, Speltham Hill, Hambleton, Hampshire, PO7 4SE. Reduce ash tree back to old pollard / pruning points. Reason for works: tree has grown up to 4m from last time it was pruned, general maintenance of the tree due to location. RAISE NO OBJECTION.	

2909	Flood Action Group	Report received (see Appendix C). Additional points discussed as follows: Issues re awareness/preparation by The Vine. Cllr Encke dealing (to refer new landlords to Marsdons for advice etc).	Cllr Encke
2910	BASS WG	Report received (see Appendix D).	
2911	Speed Indicator Device	Resolved: that, due to no response being received from HH (request for information on selecting locations and costs to install post holes and posts), this item should be delayed until the Mar 2026 PC meeting.	Clerk/Cllr Clarke
2912	Village Entrance Gates	Resolved: that the PC has agreed to proceed as follows with regards to the installation of village entrance gates: Clerk to submit the application to HCC's Highways Licensing department for three gates, with the Green Lane location at [https://w3w.co/fillings.iteration.multiple]. This has not been fully endorsed by the Safer Roads & Parking Team at HCC but, subsequent to Tracey Webb's comments (as per BASS Report for this month), the Clerk has received e-mail confirmation from HCC's Highways Licensing department that if one location is found to be unacceptable they can amend the application at their end, rather than a whole new application (with fee) being required. Councillors felt that there was no other suitable location at this end of the village and it would be worth attempting to gain agreement for the one suggested.	Clerk
2913	Tennis WG	No report received.	
2914	Hambledon Greening	No report received. No additional points discussed.	
2915	Reports & Issues	- MHCLG has confirmed that appropriate sum for the purposes of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for parish and town councils in England for the financial year 2026/27 will be £11.60 per elector. - Collapsed curb-stone outside of the Peoples Market has been reported to HCC (enquiry ref 21849987). Latest update (15/01/26) - 'works to be scheduled'. - Water leakage from pothole repairs, Speltham Hill, 15/01/26 - reported to HCC; passed to Portsmouth Water (which confirmed that it was not a burst mains pipe & appeared to be ground water); passed to CityFibre (?). - WCC Proposed Main Modifications to the Local Plan consultation - Cllr Encke reviewed this on behalf of the PC and concluded that no response was required. - Central Government consultation on LGR response submitted (see Appendix E).	
2916	Date/time of next meeting	• Mon 2nd Mar 2026 at Hambledon VH; 7.30pm.	
2917	Confidential matters	No confidential matters were discussed.	

The meeting closed at 8.56pm

Signed:

Cllr Encke (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

APPENDIX A

Winchester City Councillor Report Feb 2026
Cllr Malcolm Wallace (mwallace@winchester.gov.uk)
Cllr Danny Lee (dlee@winchester.gov.uk)
Cllr Suzanne White (SWhite3@winchester.gov.uk)

Devolution & Hampshire and Solent Mayor

Hampshire and Solent mayoral elections for the new Mayoral Strategic Authority (MSA) have been deferred to 2028. A foundational MSA will now be created, bringing together Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight, with limited initial funding to begin preparatory work—such as early collaboration with Homes England to expand social and affordable housing and support local growth. The role and involvement of Winchester City Council and other districts before 2028 is currently unclear, as the MSA's legal status depends on the forthcoming Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill.

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

Consultation on Hampshire's Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) has closed, and the Government will decide between the options by March 2026. This decision will guide a Structural Change Order laid in Parliament in summer 2026, enabling any new unitary council to be established. Unitary elections are expected on 6 May 2027, after which the shadow authority will lead the transition. In the meantime, Winchester City Council will form an LGR Programme Board on 5 February 2026, including opposition members, to provide oversight and political direction for WCC's preparations. The LGR risk register will be updated following the minister's decision and reviewed regularly thereafter. For those who want more information on previous LGRs and the challenges - see the links below.

- [Reorganising district councils and local public services: options and challenges | Institute for Government](#)
- [Devolution and local government reorganisation resources | Local Government Association](#)

Summary of timelines for Local Government Reorganisation

Milestone	Description	Date
Decision to Implement	Secretary of State announces which proposals will proceed having judged the proposals in the round against the criteria and any consultation responses	By early March 2026
Structural Changes Order Made	Legislation laid before Parliament to enact approved changes	Pre/post summer recess 2026
Transition arrangements in place – Shadow Unitaries established	Existing councils will continue to deliver services whilst preparing for vesting day for new councils.	1 April 2027
New Unitary Authorities Established – Vesting Day	New councils formally come into existence and assume powers.	1 April 2028

Community Resilience - 'Now' and in a 'Post' Local Government

Resilience concerns at parish level have been prompted following recent LGR consultation discussions on reorganisation options and the debate on a new 'Community Resilience Strategy' at the WCC Health and Environment Policy Committee on 02/12/2025. A Cttee definition of Resilience emerged - "*the capacity for individuals and communities to respond to and overcome shocks or challenges. It is underpinned by personal and community wellbeing, which creates the capacity to transcend challenges*". Ahead of any formal Resilience Strategy to strengthen community resilience, your Councillors suggest a resilience review may be appropriate. Three areas are suggested worthy of consideration:

• Parish Council capacity

Solution might be for Central Meon Valley parishes to share an additional Officer role. A suggested additional role could be for a 'Nature Recovery / Protection Officer' post. See proposals and reasons forwarded Dec 2025. This suggestion will be for the five Central Meon Valley parishes to take forward as Council support is not possible due to LGR. We have asked HALC for their views.

****Your Councillors are looking forward to your feedback on this proposal.****

●Telecoms and Power Resilience

This area of concern has been prompted by questions about the fast approaching withdrawal of the UK telecommunication landline (PSTN) in 2027. Concerns were reinforced by reports of regular local grid power outages and/or grid instability. A response to your telecom concerns is available under Question 2 @ (Questions/Answers from Members for Council, 14/01/2026). A question about grid power outages and instability, specifically about the frequency of power outages, has been posed to SSE. A 'Community Resilience Hub (CRH)' approach might be part solution for long periods of power outages. We have suggested guidance for CRHs in the 'Community Resilience Strategy' would be helpful. Meanwhile, self help might be appropriate.

●Emergency Resilience Plans.

Emergencies happen every day in the UK and across the world. They can be caused by severe weather or other natural hazards, by deliberate actions, or as a result of accidents or infrastructure failure. Do you have an up to date Plan? Your Cllrs can signpost you to HCC via WCC for guidance. Some general information is available at: Communities - Local Resilience Forum |Hampshire & Isle of Wight

Local Plan - Winchester

Major Modification consultation closed in January and is now under review. We hope to see the new aspiring Winchester Local Plan in Spring 2026.

SDNP Partnership Management Plan 2026–31

A new and ambitious SDNP Partnership Management Plan has been published, setting priorities for nature recovery, clean water, climate action, young people and thriving communities. It paves the way for the development of the next South Downs Local Plan. Partnership Management Plan 2026-31

Mayor of Winchester's Community Awards- nominations close 15th February

As in previous years, the emphasis is firmly on voluntary action. However, there is also scope to pay tribute to those who routinely go above and beyond the call of duty in the course of their paid employment.

Nominees can be:

- any age;
- volunteering or working in any area of life, except causes that do not respect equalities legislation, or that promote extremism or otherwise conflict with established Council policies and duties.

Nominees must:

- live in the Winchester District (or, in the case of organisations, deliver a substantial part of their services to residents of the District) and, in the case of children, attend school or youth groups within the District;
- not have received a Mayor of Winchester's Award in the previous two years.

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/councillors-committees/mayor-of-winchester/mayors-awards>

Healthy and Thriving Communities Fund

This fund can provide organisations with up to £5,000 to help towards core costs for services and projects during 2026/27. Applications for the Healthy and Thriving Communities Fund will open in February 2026 for organisations working within the Winchester District. This fund aims to build healthier, stronger, and more resilient communities by supporting services and projects aligned with the council's strategic direction. To help potential applicants understand the priorities and ask questions, the council's grants team are hosting two webinars for potential applicants:

- Tuesday 3 February at 10:30am
- Wednesday 11 February at 4:00pm

For more information about funding, please contact Rachael Corrie, Funding and Development Officer.

Former Leisure Centre Site - Riverpark, Winchester

Winchester City Council is inviting residents to attend a public engagement event about the next steps and potential future options for the former leisure centre site. Although this site is in central Winchester, it is a district asset owned by the Winchester City Council. You are invited to give feedback online on the expressions of interest the council have received:

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/regeneration/32907/former-leisure-centre-site>

Homes for Ukraine- Employment Support Project

This project offers free support to Ukrainian guests, including:

- Help with finding training and employment opportunities
- Support with preparing a CV and Cover Letters
- Preparing for interviews

- Qualification checks to compare qualifications to UK equivalent awards

There is also an 'employment support guide' that can be downloaded. Find out more:

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/community-recreation/winchester-city-council-pledge-support-for-ukraine>

City and Spaces of Sanctuary

The network of Spaces of Sanctuary is growing, with more organisations signing up to offer safe, welcoming places for peace and guidance without fear or prejudice. Two new venues have joined: Barnaby's Community Coffee Shop in Swanmore and West Meon Village Shop. Barnaby's, run entirely by volunteers, is a hub for relaxation and community connection. For other organisations want to learn more about becoming a Space of Sanctuary, or feel like it's something they already offer and would like to raise the awareness of your space, contact communities@winchester.gov.uk

Weekly food waste recycling collections

The new food waste collections service continues to be successfully rolled out. Residents who haven't started their food waste collection can find out when their collections starts on the WCC website: [winchester.gov.uk/foodwaste](https://www.winchester.gov.uk/foodwaste) In the three weeks before the food waste collections starts, residents will receive a kitchen caddy, compostable caddy liners, an information leaflet and small, grey outdoor bin.

SDNP CIL funding:

Applications now open until 31st March 2026. <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/community-infrastructure-levy/>

Meon Valley Community Bus.

The Meon Valley Community Bus Association website has all the current timetables and information regarding private hire: <https://meonvalleybus.co.uk/> They are also producing information leaflets for residents in the area covered by the bus. To find out more or apply to volunteer, contact Steve Houlding at mvcba1985@gmail.com

Fire Service Residents Panel

Hampshire and IOW Fire and Rescue Service are starting a new engagement panel, Called 'Your Service, Your Say'. The panel is a way to share your thoughts on Hampshire and IOW Fire and Rescue service -helping ensure service meets the need of local communities. Find out more **on their website**

Community Connect' newsletter

The Grants team at WCC have a newsletter for community organisations, with all the information on funding, support and opportunities in one place:

[Newsletter for community organisations - Winchester City Council](#)

Winchester City Council Community Hubs

Join us for a FREE cuppa and a bite to eat at one of our Community Hub at Wickham or Winchester. Have a friendly chat with our officers about any issues relating to benefits, housing, and wellbeing. For informal guidance, information and sign-posting for anyone looking for support around the cost of living.

Where and when:

- Alresford: Every 3rd Wednesday of the month 10:00 – 12.00pm at St Gregory's Church, Grange Rd, Alresford SO24 9HB.
- Wickham: Every 1st Monday of the month | 2.30pm - 4.30 pm. Wickham Community Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham, Fareham PO17 5AL.
- Winchester: Every 3rd Thursday of the month | 10.30am - 12.30pm. Unit 12 Community Food Pantry, Winnall Valley Rd, Winchester SO23 0LD.
- Winchester: Every 3rd Monday of the month | 10.00am - 12pm. The Carroll Centre, Somers Close, Stanmore, Winchester SO22 4EJ.

My Home Made Better

An initiative launched by the Hampshire Environment Centre **My Home Made Better**. The aim is to inspire residents with one-to-one advice, case studies, videos, online resources, open homes, events and webinars, all designed to help individuals make more informed decisions about their properties. There is free training available for people who would like to become local 'energy champions', who will then be able to provide energy efficiency information to help residents improve their homes. Contact Stuart Mills at WinACC for more information stuart.mills@winacc.org.uk

Other Home Energy Efficiency opportunities

The following offers advice and support. But please carefully check eligibility for grants as they will depend on the type of home and your circumstances.

- The Energy Saving Trust . Guidance for the type of insulation for properties..
- Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) scheme - supports energy efficiency measures for homes in fuel poverty.

APPENDIX B

Hampshire County Councillor Report Feb 2026
Cllr Malcolm Wallace (mwallace@winchester.gov.uk)

Devolution Update – Hampshire and the Solent

Hampshire and Solent mayoral elections for the new Mayoral Strategic Authority have been deferred to 2028. A foundational authority will now be created, bringing together Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight, with limited initial funding to begin preparatory work—such as early collaboration with Homes England to expand social and affordable housing and support local growth. The [Government statement](#) announced an annual allocation of £44.6 million to Hampshire and the Solent mayoral authority. Each new Mayoral Strategic Authority will also receive additional start-up support, including £1 million when the legislation is laid (anticipated summer 2026) and £3 million over the first three years to help establish the new bodies. For general information and future updates, visit: [Devolution | Hampshire County Council](#)

Local Government Reorganisation

Consultation on Hampshire and the Solent's Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) has closed. Councils are now being asked for early views on how the transition should be managed. This includes the structure of interim committees, arrangements for the first elections to the new councils, and practical matters such as naming the authorities. The Government is likely to make its formal announcement in March, with transition planning taking place over the following two years before new councils come into effect in April 2028. Elections to a Unitary Authority are expected in May 2027, after which the shadow authority will lead the transition. For more information, visit: [Local Government Reorganisation | Hampshire County Council](#)

Local Elections in Hampshire & Winchester to Proceed as Planned

The Government has confirmed that while some councils involved in Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) will have their 2026 elections postponed, most will still go ahead, including those in Hampshire and Winchester. Neither Hampshire County Council nor Winchester City Council sought a delay, and both fall within the group of authorities where elections are expected to take place in May 2026. For local residents, this means a normal election cycle this spring, ensuring continuity of representation while work continues in the background on future unitary council arrangements.

M27 Reopens Early After Major Engineering Works

Hampshire County Council has confirmed that the M27 between Junctions 9 and 11 reopened 24 hours ahead of schedule, following the successful completion of a complex engineering operation. The motorway reopened at 4am on Saturday 3 January, instead of the originally planned 4am on Sunday 4 January. The closure, which began on Christmas Eve, allowed engineers to install a new underpass at Junction 10 using an innovative “box-slide” technique — only used a handful of times in the UK. A 60-metre pre-built concrete structure, weighing around 8,500 tonnes, was slid into position before the motorway surface was reinstated. This approach avoided months of lane restrictions and overnight works. Over the 10-day closure, around 130 workers operated around the clock, completing roughly 10,000 hours of construction. Completion of this phase paves the way for the new “all-moves” Junction 10, due to open later this year, supporting access to the Welborne Garden Village.

Highways Update from Cllr Lulu Bowerman, Executive Member for Highways

“Since Christmas, wintry and wet weather has hit our highway network particularly hard. The impacts of regular freeze–thaw cycles and persistent rain have accelerated road deterioration, leading to a significant surge in pothole reports and repair requests. This level of degradation is consistent with what our highways officers would expect to see at this time of year, which can lead to weakened road surfaces and failure of the underlying layers. As an aside, since the start of the financial year, the Highways Team have already repaired more than 62,000 defects, including potholes and other surface damage. To tackle the damage and spike in demand, the Highways Team, working closely with M Group, have successfully secured extra supply-chain resources - and they have managed this despite a significant rise in demand for frontline resources nationally from other highway authorities! Highways have extra Jet/Dragon Patchers already out on the Hampshire

network with more due soon. In addition, extra carriageway patching gangs started on 12 January, and more are expected to join by the end of this month. Further resource increases are likely over the coming weeks. While dealing with potholes will remain the main focus over the coming months, the winter weather is also placing pressure on other parts of the network, especially drainage assets. To help manage the increase in flooding, there are also additional jetting machines available to respond to issues related to piped drainage systems. A team is also available to tackle other localised flooding problems. In addition, an extra white lining team is now on the network addressing small, localised sites where markings have deteriorated. In light of the increased demand, it is inevitable that some reported defects will need to be temporarily infilled to ensure road safety. Whilst permanent first-time repairs are always preferred, the level of demand is currently so high across Hampshire that infill repairs will need to be considered as a quick-fix while longer term permanent repairs are scheduled. I would strongly encourage residents to report any highway issues via our website or via the Our Hants app. This still remains the most effective way for our teams to prioritise work. Clear descriptions of the location and photographs of the pothole are always appreciated - though not essential - and greatly assist in ensuring a timely response.”

More Specialist SEND School Places Approved Across Hampshire

Hampshire County Council has approved a major expansion of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision, creating 157 new specialist school places across the county. This follows a steep rise in the number of children requiring Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), which climbed to 20,555 by December 2025 – up from 17,234 the previous autumn. New investment includes autism and SEMH (Social, Emotional and Mental Health) resourced provision in both primary and secondary settings, refurbishments to increase specialist teaching space, and new modular buildings to support pupils with more complex needs. Schools benefiting from approved projects include Hamble School, Wyvern College, Wavell School, and Hamble Primary School, with works set to open in phases from September 2026. The Council is also launching statutory consultations on further expansions, including a satellite site for The Waterloo School and new autism-specific spaces at schools in Fareham, Eastleigh and the New Forest. If approved, these would add a further 70 SEMH places from 2027. This programme contributes to Hampshire’s goal of delivering 1,000 new specialist places by 2030, ensuring more children can access the support they need closer to home.

Record Seizure of Illegal Vapes by Hampshire Trading Standards

Hampshire County Council’s Trading Standards team has reported a record year in tackling illegal vape and tobacco sales, seizing 116,000 unlawful products worth around £138,000 during 2025. This forms part of their ongoing work to protect residents from unsafe goods and to support responsible local retailers. Officers have been carrying out regular inspections—often alongside Hampshire Police—as well as test-purchasing exercises using young volunteers to identify outlets selling to under-18s or stocking counterfeit items. Illegal vapes often contain unknown ingredients or excessive nicotine levels, posing real risks to public health. Residents are encouraged to stay alert for suspicious products, such as poor-quality packaging, missing health warnings or absent safety markings, and to report concerns directly to Trading Standards. Tackling these illegal sales helps protect young people and prevents dangerous products from circulating in local communities.

Hampshire County Councillor Grants Open!

The County Councillor grant scheme is now open for 2025-26. Groups and organisations can apply for funding for both revenue (one-off) and minor capital projects. Revenue grants should generally be used to support short term project related costs. More details are available on the County Council website: [County Councillor grants | Hampshire County Council](#). The 2025/26 County Councillor grant scheme is open until 28 February 2026.

Free Advice to Reduce Your Home Energy Bills

The Environment Centre has launched a ground-breaking service to make our homes warmer, greener and cheaper to run. It’s called *My Home Made Better*, and it offers free and impartial advice on everything from insulation and heating upgrades, to switching to new energy-efficient technologies. Experienced energy advisers will simplify complex information and dispel myths to guide you through your options and help you find the best ways to keep the heat in, lower your energy bills, and make your home more comfortable. This is how it works:

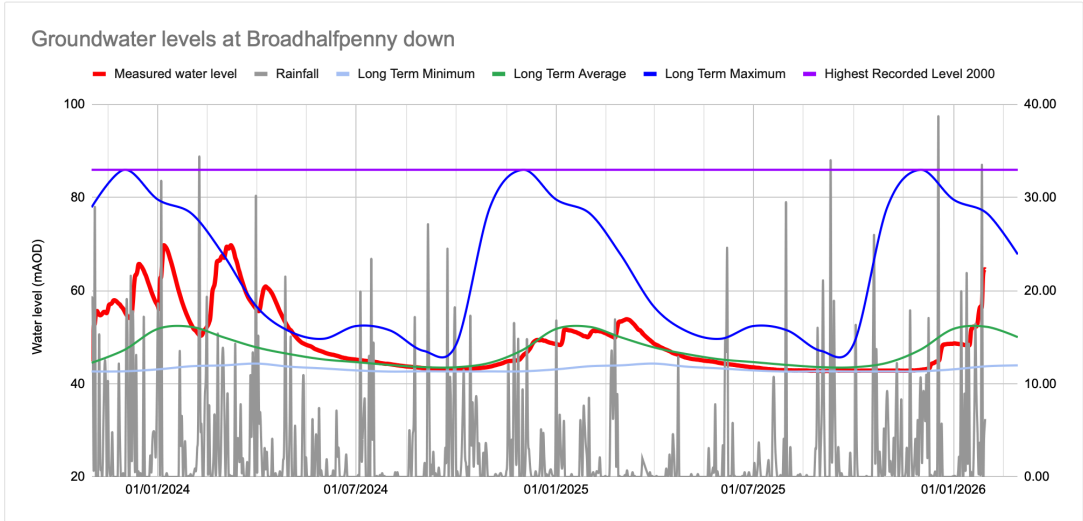
1. You call 0800 804 8601 (or email) to chat with one of the friendly advisers. Lines are open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

2. You'll be asked about your property and circumstances, following which you will receive tailor-made recommendations and your own personalised plan. This will comprise a summary of everything discussed, including recommendations and things to consider before taking your next step.
3. When you're ready, search the independent directory to find local suppliers and installers. For more information go to myhomemadebetter.org

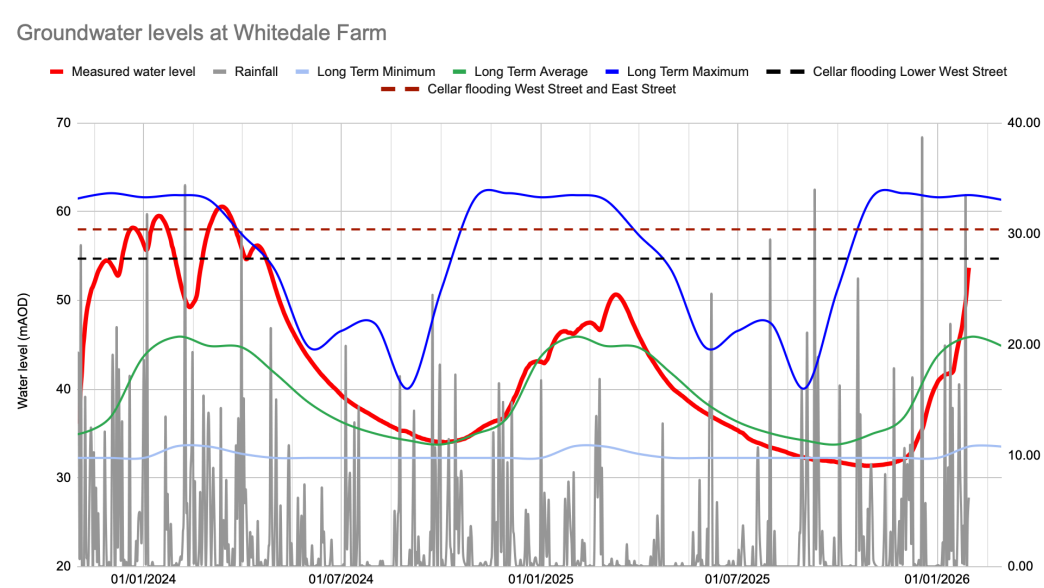
APPENDIX C

FAG Report Feb 2026

Latest on the flooding is below. I walked around the other day and did not find many places ready and waiting for this flooding with pipes etc in place. But I guess they may be prepared to put them out quickly. No requests for help have been received.



Label	Message	Issued	Last Updated
Groundwater flooding in Hambledon	High groundwater levels may lead to flooding. Flooding is possible, as a lot of rain fell this week (41mm). From Friday 30/01/2026, flooding will affect cellars of a small number of properties in Lower West Street. From Monday 02/02/2026, an increased number of properties on West Street are expected to be affected by cellar flooding. On Friday 30/01/2026 and Saturday 31/01/2026, up to 15mm of rain is forecast on each day. Sunday 01/02/2026 and Monday 02/02/2026, are expected to be drier. Groundwater levels at the borehole at Whitdale Farm are expected to continue rising through next week and it is possible that properties on East Street could be affected by cellar flooding during this time. We are closely monitoring the situation and liaising with Hambledon Flood Action Group. Residents are advised to prepare property resilience measures and ensure that pumps are working where they have been installed. This message will be updated by 6:00PM on 05 February 2026 or as the situation changes.	12:22 Monday 26 January 2026	16:13 Thursday 29 January 2026



Tracey Webb (HH) looked at the most recently suggested position for the Three Corners gate 14/01/25 (without informing us that she would be on site) and has reported back with the following:

This verge is quite narrow and the sign will be closer to the carriageway than I would like. I am concerned that although the hedge is cut back at the moment it will not be long before it will grow back and obscure the sign position. This will cause problems for future hedge cutting operations. Please bear these issues in mind when making the decision on whether to proceed with this location.

I would suggest that this is not a ringing endorsement and without it we are unlikely to get this location approved. Hence, I think we have a number of options in terms of where we go from here:

- Proceed with the application for x3 gates, using the latest location on Green Lane and accepting that it may not be approved. I will check with the licensing department whether a licence for part of the application could be awarded or whether we would have to re-submit with another £750 fee. Hopefully, I will have this info available for the PC meeting on Monday.
- Go ahead with application for x2 gates ie Park and Hook Vinney (or even just at Park). We'll still have to pay the full £750 fee to HCC for the licence, but at least we can be fairly sure that it will be agreed. If, at a later date, we find a suitable location on Green Lane, then we would have to go through the whole process again and pay the £270 and £750 fees.
- Look for another option on Green Lane. I think we've exhausted this route, but am open to suggestions.
- Re-consider HCC's suggestion of putting it under the existing directional signs (noting that it would cost the PC circa £400 for HCC to install taller poles).
- Shelve this project in its entirety and focus on other initiatives, such as SIDs.

SIDs

The PC can't progress this until we have advice on suitable locations and costs for installing posts and post-holes etc. I have not received a response from HCC Traffic Management Team to my emails (26/11/25 and 17/12/25) and have asked Cllr Wallace to chase on our behalf, which he did 06/01/26. HH has a committed turnaround time for councillor enquiries of 20 working days. Malcolm will update us as soon as a response is received.

APPENDIX E

Response to Central Government Consultation on LGR

- 1 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests councils that are based on sensible geographies and economic areas? [*Somewhat agree*]
- 2 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal? [*Neither agree nor disagree*]
- 3 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils are the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks? [*Neither agree nor disagree*]
- 4 To what extent do you agree or disagree that this proposal will put local government in the area as a whole on a firmer footing, particularly given that some councils in the area are in receipt of Exceptional Financial Support? [*Neither agree nor disagree*]
- 5 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will deliver high quality, sustainable public services? [*Neither agree nor disagree*]
- 6 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs? [*Neither agree nor disagree*]
- 7 To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing the councils in this proposal will support devolution arrangements, for example, the establishment of a strategic authority? [*Neither agree nor disagree*]
- 8 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment? [*Neither agree nor disagree*]
- 9 If you would like to, please use the free text box to explain the answers you have provided to questions 1-8 referring to the question numbers as part of your answer. You may also use the box to provide any other comments you have on this proposal. [*PC members agree that there is insufficient information or evidence that any of the Unitary Authority options necessarily benefit our area. Choosing the option suggested by Winchester therefore seems most sensible as we presume that little will change for us.*]