HAVENSTREET AND ASHEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held.
At 7.00pm on Thursday 3 September 2026.

Present:
Chairman Anthony Barry, Councilors Cllr Veronica Hattersley, Conrad Gauntlett, Mark Wilson and Sam Newnham
R Elliss (Clerk)

15 Minute Public Forum

An update regarding a van parked within the village which had been reported as potentially abandoned.

The Chair advised that three reports had been submitted through the Fix My Street reporting system. However, it had been confirmed that no further action could currently be taken as the vehicle is taxed and holds a valid licence and, therefore, does not meet the criteria for an abandoned vehicle.

A further question was raised regarding the recent introduction of charges by the Isle of Wight Council for the disposal of DIY waste at local Household Waste Recycling Centres. Concern and disappointment were expressed regarding this decision, with the view that such charges could lead to an increase in fly-tipping across the Island.

The Chair and Ward Councilor provided an overview of their understanding of the new charging arrangements and acknowledged the concerns raised by residents regarding the potential impact on levels of fly-tipping.

35/26/27 APOLOGIES
None received

36/26/27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Members confirmed existing declarations of interest as recorded.

37/26/27 MINUTES
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 September 2026

RESOLVED:
THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 September 2026 be taken as read, approved, and signed as a true record of the meeting.

38/26/27 FINANCE

To approve the Payments and Receipts lists as presented for August Paper B and Paper C -2026

RESOLVED:
THAT the Payments and Receipts for August 2026 be approved.

Members received and considered the Budget Summary Against Expenditure Report for Quarter 1 together with a summary of the Council's bank account balances for 2026.

BUDGET MATTERS

The Clerk advised Members that the next meeting would include consideration of the draft budget for 2027/28. Members were invited to prepare and submit their own budget proposals for consideration alongside the draft budget prepared by the Clerk. Members were also encouraged to begin identifying potential projects and areas of expenditure to help inform the Council's budget setting process for 2027/28.

RESOLVED:
THAT the reports be noted and that Members bring forward budget proposals and project ideas for consideration during the 2027/28 budget-setting process.

ADMINSTRATION ERROR

Members were advised that an administrative error had resulted in an overpayment to contractor Tim Grimstone in respect of Invoice No. 966 for the Ashey grass cutting works.
It was noted that the overpayment amounted to £10.00. Following discussion, it was:

RESOLVED:
THAT the Clerk contact Tim Grimstone and request that a credit of £10.00 be applied to the next invoice submitted to the Council. This approach was agreed to ensure a clear audit trail and appropriate financial record of the correction.

39/26/27 ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR AND EXTERNAL BODIES REPORT

The Chair gave an update on recent Isle of Wight Council matters and highlighted issues relevant to the parish.

Police

The Chair provided an update on the recent Police Beat Surgeries, including attendance levels and resident engagement. Members noted the importance of these surgeries as a valuable means of communication between the Police and residents, providing an opportunity for community concerns to be raised and discussed.

It was further noted that details of all upcoming and completed Police Beat Surgeries have been promoted through the Council's social media channels to maximise public awareness and encourage attendance.

Environment Officer

Members noted that the Environmental Enforcement Officer is currently unavailable and that there is presently only one enforcement officer covering the Island.

In light of the introduction of charges for DIY waste disposal at local Household Waste Recycling Centres and recent incidents of fly-tipping, including at **Coombeley Road, Havenstreet**, Members requested an update on enforcement activity and any observed impacts arising from the current arrangements.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk write to Public Realm requesting a report on the current environmental enforcement position, including information on fly-tipping incidents, enforcement activity, and any implications resulting from the charging of DIY waste at local amenity sites.

40/26/27 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

To receive the reports from Councilors and Representatives and outside bodies:

Havenstreet Community Association

Members were informed of the sad loss of a valued member and dear friend of the community. Members paid a respectful tribute to the individual, recognising their significant contribution, commitment and dedication to the local community over many years.

It was noted that, as a result of this loss, some planned activities and events have been cancelled. Members were advised that the organisation's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled to take place later in October, at which time further information regarding future activities and arrangements will be available.

IWALC

The Clerk reported that no updates had been received since the previous meeting and confirmed that all relevant correspondence had been circulated to Members

LAF

The Clerk reported that no updates had been received since the previous meeting and confirmed that all relevant correspondence had been circulated to Members

41/26/27 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Bus Survey Update

Members received an update on the recently launched community bus service and were pleased to note that the service is now operational, has attracted a good number of users, and has been well received by the local community.

It was reported that information and promotional leaflets had been delivered throughout the village by Cllr Tony Barry to help raise awareness of the new

service. Members also noted that Cllr Tony Barry and Cllr Sam Newnham was present on site for the inaugural bus journey.
Members expressed their support for the project and welcomed its early success, recognising the positive benefits it brings to residents and local connectivity. Thanks were recorded to Southern Vectis and the Isle of Wight Steam Railway for their partnership and support in delivering this successful initiative.

RESOLVED:
THAT the update be noted and that the Council's thanks be formally conveyed to all those involved in the development and launch of the service.

42/26/27 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk provided an update covering the following matters:

(a) Havenstreet Recreation Ground – Kompan Meeting

The Clerk, Chair and Cllr Sam Newnham met with Sam Chiltern, Isle of Wight Council Parks Officer, and representatives from Kompan to discuss the future provision of play equipment at the Recreation Ground. The meeting was held to help inform Members of future requirements and assist with budget planning.
It was noted that the existing net swing is approaching the end of its operational life and will likely require replacement in the future. Members were advised that any new play equipment would need to be funded by the Parish Council, potentially through external grant funding opportunities.
Discussion also took place regarding ownership, insurance and ongoing maintenance responsibilities. It was noted that any new equipment provided by the Parish Council would become a Parish Council asset. As such, the implications for insurance, inspection and maintenance requirements would need to be fully considered. Given that the Recreation Ground is owned by the Isle of Wight Council, discussions would also be required with the landowner regarding permissions, liabilities and responsibilities associated with the installation of any new equipment.

RESOLVED:
THAT the update be noted and that future replacement options, funding opportunities, ownership arrangements and associated insurance implications be considered as part of the Council's budget-setting and asset management planning processes.

(b) **Havenstreet Recreation Ground -Rewilding Area**

The Chair raised concerns regarding the condition of the rewilding area at the Recreation Ground and the need for maintenance and support to encourage its regeneration. Members acknowledged the value of the area for biodiversity and agreed that measures should be explored to improve its appearance and long-term sustainability.

Members were advised that the Recreation Ground is owned by the Isle of Wight Council and that any maintenance or management arrangements would require engagement with the landowner and existing contractor.

RESOLVED:
THAT the Clerk formally write to Public Realm requesting that the Isle of Wight Council and its contractor, John O'Conner, undertake a cut of the area where appropriate and provide support and guidance on options to regenerate and enhance the rewilding area at the Recreation Ground.

43/26/27 CORRESPONDENCE

Members were informed that correspondence had been received regarding the Resilience Isle of Wight Initiative.
The Clerk advised that the information would be circulated to all Members for consideration. It was noted that the initiative may present opportunities for the Parish to enhance local resilience planning and community preparedness. Members also discussed the potential availability of grant funding and agreed that further consideration should be given to exploring a possible funding application in Spring 2027.

RESOLVED:
THAT the correspondence be noted that the Clerk circulate the information to all Members, and that opportunities arising from the initiative, including any potential grant funding, be considered at a future meeting.

44/26/27 PLANNING
To consider local applications:
No Decisions Received.

45 /26/27 DATE OF NEXT MEETING
DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The time and date of the next meeting is 7.00pm on Thursday 5 November 2026 -Budget Briefing)
No December Meeting
No January Meeting
Thursday 4 February – Next Meeting

The meeting closed at 20:15pm