

**DAMERHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held**  
**on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025 in Damerham Village Hall**

<b>Councillors present:</b> Phil Tandy, Glyn Ruth, Kirsty Anderson, David Crane, Cathy Godber, Richard Major
<b>Members of the public present:</b> 2
<b>Others present:</b> Parish Clerk L. Malcom NFDC Cllr Janet Richards

**To receive the Chairman's report for 2024-2025**

Cllr Tandy welcomed everyone and gave the Chairman's report for 2024/2025, which was well received

- 25.1.1 To elect Chairman of the Council for 2025-2026 and to receive the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.** Cllr Major nominated Cllr Tandy, who accepted the nomination. Cllr Anderson seconded and all voted in favour of Cllr Tandy remaining chairman. The Chairman signed the Declaration, witnessed by the Clerk.
- 25.1.2 To elect the Vice Chairman of the Council for 2025-2026 & to receive the Vice Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.** Cllr Anderson nominated Cllr Crane, who accepted the nomination. Cllr Ruth seconded and all voted in favour of Cllr Crane remaining Vice Chairman. The Vice Chairman signed the Declaration, witnessed by the Clerk.
- 25.1.3 Apologies and declaration of quorum:** Cllr Stephens, Cllr Doherty and Cllr Bellows sent their apologies. Quorum was declared by the Chairman.
- 25.1.4 To receive any declarations of interest from any Councillor on any agenda item and to receive confirmation from all Councillors that Declaration of Interest forms are up to date.** Cllr Anderson declared an interest in planning application 25/10365. All councillors present confirmed there were no changes to their Dols.
- 25.1.5 Public Participation Session:** An elector advised that 'Johns Bottom', the footpath between Bouldsbury and Kite's Nest bridleway, is now open. He also requested an update on no. 49 bus route. The Chairman reiterated that the cost was too great to maintain. The Chairman was presented with the gavel used previously by Cllr Godber when she was chairman. The Chairman thanked the elector
- 25.1.6 To approve & sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025:** All voted in favour and it was RESOLVED to accept the Minutes as a true record of the meeting. The Chairman signed the Minutes.
- 25.1.7 To review, approve and adopt Parish Council legal documents:** All voted in favour and it was RESOLVED to accept all the documents unchanged for another year, although the Chairman advised that the Playtrail equipment may need to be devalued in a future Asset Register.
- 25.1.8 To consider and confirm the dates & times of ordinary meetings of the Council for the ensuing year:** After discussion, all voted in favour of returning to the third Monday of every other month. Planning meetings will be on the interim months on the third Monday.
- 25.1.9 Elect official signatories to official documents on behalf of Damerham Parish Council:** All agreed that the Clerk, Chairman and Vice Chairman would remain signatories. PT and DC, PC for bank. Cllr Anderson proposed, and Cllr Crane seconded, to accept Cllr Majors offer to be a fourth signatory. All voted in favour and it was RESOLVED to have a fourth signatory.
- 25.1.10 Finance**
- 10.1** The clerk circulated to all councillors the current balances.  
**Deposit account £21,027.68 Current account £724.06**
- 10.2** All voted in favour of approving the upcoming expenditure:
- Mowing of the Meadow £160
  - Meeting and printing expenses of Cllr Crane £43.60
  - Council insurance £550.34
  - RoSPA Inspection of Playtrail £110.40

Expenditure made since last meeting:

1.4.25	L Malcom	Clerk wages March 2025	240.00
22.4.15	Time2Display	702762 April pump	36.00
22.4.25	NFDC	Bin collection 25-26	1,509.70
29.4.25	Mark Simpson	grass cutting	160.00
29.4.25	HMRC	clerk taxes April	60.00
29.4.25	L Malcom	Clerk wages April	240.00
30.4.25	Unity Bank	bank charges	6.00
15.5.25	HALC	Affiliation fees 25/26	333.00
7.5.25	JW Parker	Playtrail repairs	95.00
20.5.25	Time2Display	Invoice 703036	36.00

**10.3** All voted in favour of accepting the annual accounts for 2024-2025

**10.4** The audit report was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would log onto the bank log at each meeting and the council would review the audit report every quarter. It was also noted that the financial reserve was too high and some needed to be spent.

**10.5** All voted in favour of approving the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and all documents were signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

**10.6** Two applications for s137 funding had been received, one for £500 and the other for £400. Cllr Major proposed, Cllr Crane seconded, and all voted in favour of granting £400 to both the sports field and church. It was also agreed that more requests would be accepted later in the year as money is available.

#### **25.1.11 To receive Officer reports:**

**11.1** Parish Footpaths Officer: Cllr Bellows sent a message saying there was nothing to report. All voted in favour of Cllr Bellows continuing as footpath officer.

**11.2** Dark Skies Officer: Cllr Bellows sent a message saying there was nothing to report. All voted in favour of Cllr Bellows continuing as Dark Skies officer.

**11.3** Parish Transport Representative: it was decided it was everyone's responsibility to report pot holes.

**11.4** Any other reports from meetings attended: Cllr Crane attended a NFDC meeting re local government reorganisation. NFDC wish to be aligned with rural councils Test Valley and Winchester. Final decision on proposal to Government due in September, with reply in early 2026. Election of Mayor of HIOW will be in 2026 but formation of new unitary authorities not until 2027. NFDC Cllr Richards advised that NFDC are starting new local plan, and NFDC will cease to exist before conclusion. Cllr Crane suggested liaising with other local councils.

**25.1.12 Matters to report** - To discuss any questions not on the Agenda: None

#### **25.1.13 Planning Applications:**

##### **13.1 To receive & comment on applications received:**

[25/10281](#) HILL FARM, MILL END, DAMERHAM SP6 3HU

Cllr Crane proposed, and Cllr Major seconded, and all voted in favour of PAR 5, thereby leaving it to NFDC to make final decision. All councillors raised concerns regarding the future use and would like to see the rest of the building remain for agricultural use.

[25/10365](#) THE CHAPEL, LOWER DAGGONS LANE, SOUTH END, DAMERHAM SP6 3HE

After considerable discussion, 3 voted in favour, 2 abstained and 1 against recommending PAR 3 approval.

##### **13.2 To review decisions received from the NFDC Planning Authority**

25/10024 TWIN OAKS, LOWER DAGGONS LANE, DAMERHAM SP6 3EE

Granted: Subject to Conditions: the council noted the decision.

**13.3 Other planning matters:** The Chairman advised that the Inspector agreed with the recommendation of the parish council and dismissed the appeal brought by Court Vale regarding the fuel tanks, which have to be removed by July.

#### **25.1.14 Community matters**

**14.1** Cllr Bellows had reported she not heard from NFDC re CIL money for outdoor gym, and therefore did not believe a grant had been awarded.

**14.2** The phone box is fully refurbished and now waiting for artists to create artwork, which will be on a

rotational basis.

**14.3** Cllr Crane advised that the Village Plan Team held several very helpful meetings and made some progress. However, after consulting with the NFDC planners, they are not sanctioning individual village design codes but looking for district wide design code and would welcome Damerham's input to that. NFDC Cllr Richards agreed to clarify the NFDC position as contradicting responses have been received from NFDC.

**14.4** SSE require the parish council to sign for trees to be trimmed that are not on council ground. The Chairman has emailed SSE with further input regarding the condition of trees and is awaiting a reply.

**25.1.15 Environmental matters**

The Lengthsman came on 8<sup>th</sup> May and did a good job of cutting down a tree in the Meadow and strimming the river bank. However, he ran out of time and the uncompleted jobs will be carried forward to his July visit.

**25.1.16** No points were raised on the correspondence forwarded to the councillors.

**25.1.17** It was agreed to add the RoSPA report on the Playtrail, the SSE tree trimming and decision regarding the village design code on the next agenda.

**25.1.18** The Chairman thanked Cllr Godber for her service to the council as she is stepping down with immediate effect from the parish council after 38 years. Cllr Major, on behalf of the council, thanked Cllr Tandy and Cllr Crane for their hard work as Chair and Vice Chairman

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June – if needed for planning applications  
**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 7.30pm – ordinary Parish Council Meeting**

The meeting closed at 20. 41

*These are draft minutes until approved at the next meeting*

*Lindsey Malcom – Damerham Parish Council Clerk [clerk@damerham.net](mailto:clerk@damerham.net)*

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