DAMERHAM PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 15th September 2025 in Damerham Village Hall

Councillors present: Chairman Phil Tandy, Vice Chairman David Crane, Cllrs Glyn Ruth, Richard Major, Annie

Bellows, Phil Stephens

Members of the public present: None

Others present: Parish Clerk: Lindsey Malcom

Public participation: None

25.4.1 APOLOGIES AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM: Received from Cllrs Doherty and Anderson, and from NDFC Cllr Richards. Quorum was declared by the Chairman.

25.4.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY ANY COUNCILLOR ON ANY AGENDA ITEM: None

25.4.3 TO APPROVE & SIGN MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST JULY AND AMENDED MINUTES 16TH JUNE 2025: All voted in favour, and it was RESOLVED to accept both sets of Minutes as a true record of the meetings. The Chairman signed both sets of Minutes.

25.4.4 TO RECEIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

Footpaths: Previously, Cllr Bellows had been able to get a couple of the farmers alongside bridleway 46 between Damerham and Sandleheath to improve the surface and put in some drainage. She had also discussed further improvements with the Countryside department during their visit. This year they have been successful in obtaining a considerable grant to improve the bridleway and will start work in October and it will take 4-6 weeks to complete. Regarding footpaths 20 and 21, the HCC Countryside department are working closely with the land owners/tenants of the land which the paths traverse to resolve the issues and reinstate the footpaths.

Dark Skies: Cllr Bellows put Steve Tonkins in contact with Jubilee campsite, which was subsequently awarded a dark skies accreditation. They have held a dark skies camp out with the children from Western Downlands school which was very successful. Cllr Bellows also put Steve in contact with Lady Bird Farm at Rockbourne and he has given them Accreditation also. Cllr Bellows has arranged a Dark Sky Evening for Monday 10th November. Cllr Bellows was thanked by the other councillors for her hard work.

25.4.5 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

5.1 To receive and comment on applications received:

25/10706 COURTWOOD FARM, COURT HILL, SANDLEHEATH, DAMERHAM SP6 1QD

Stationing of caravan for residential occupation (Lawful Use Certificate for retaining an existing use or operation): As the caravan had been in situ and occupied for a long time and can't be seen from the road. Cllr Major proposed, Cllr Bellow seconded recommending PAR 1. With one abstention, six voted in favour, and it was RESOLVED to recommend PAR1 approval.

5.2 To review decisions received from the NFDC Planning Authority:

23/11105 OCTOBER HOUSE, LOWER DAGGONS LANE, SOUTH END, DAMERHAM SP6 3HW NFDC Decision – Refusal: The council noted the decision with some surprise.

5.3 Other planning matters: None

25.4.6 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES NOT APPEARING AS AGENDA ITEMS: None

25.4.7 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS:

7.1 The Chairman brought this item to the start of the meeting. One application to join the council had been received from Ms Anya Pardoe. She had previously been a parish councillor from 1998 until 2006. Cllr Bellows proposed, Cllr Crane seconded, all voted in favour and it was RESOLVED to accept Anya Pardoe as a parish councillor.

25.4.8 FINANCE:

8.1 To review current balances and financial situation: The Clerk circulated all finances to the councillors. **Deposit Account: £16,637.64 Current Account: £667.67**. Councillor Stephens proposed, Cllr Pardoe seconded, all voted in favour and it was RESOLVED to accept the accounts as true and accurate.

8.2 To approve payments: all voted in favour and it was RESOLVED to accept the invoices. The Chairman

signed all documents. Payments made since last meeting:

28.7.25	Mark Simpson	grass cutting inv 35	160.00
28.7.25	Mark Simpson	grass cutting inv 38	160.00
28.7.25	Time2Display	Inv August 703845 / 703844	72.00
31.7.25	Unity Bank	bank charges	6.00
31.8.25	Unity Bank	bank charges	6.00
27.8.25	Avon Tree care	Tree removal in Meadow	450.00
29.8.25	D Crane	LGR meeting expenses	30.45
11.9.25	L Malcom	Clerk wages August	240.00
29.8.25	HMRC	Clerk taxes August	60.00
11.9.25	The Defib Shop	Defib batteries and pads	135.60

25.4.9 COMMUNITY MATTERS:

- **9.1 To consider extra funding for Parish Pump**: The council thanked the editor, Mandy Robbins, for her hard work in creating the Parish Pump each month. Cllr Crane confirmed that printing charges would increase from January. As it is getting difficult for the editor to get all content onto the current size, revitalising the look and size of the Pump was discussed. Cllr Major proposed, Cllr Bellows seconded, and all voted in favour of increasing it to 4 colour pages with advertisements, starting with the Christmas edition which is circulated in late November. It was agreed that potential advertisers would be sought.
- **9.2** To decide on the cost of works required on the Playtrail after the ROSPA inspection: The Chairman agreed to get pricing from the contractor for discussion at the budget meeting in November.
- **9.3 To discuss refurbishment of the war memorial**: The volunteers who cut hedges around the War Memorial were thanked. Cllr Crane advised that the bench needs maintenance and suggested pots with plants surrounding. Cllr Major proposed, Cllr Pardoe seconded requesting a donation from the Village Fair committee for approximately £200 for materials. All voted in favour and it was RESOLVED to request a donation. Cllr Crane to apply to the committee by 10th October.
- **9.4 To consider the LGR proposals and feedback on Parish Council consultations**: The next online meeting Regarding this is on 18th September by HCC. Whitsbury, Martin and Sandleheath are keen to reestablish parish liaison meetings to discuss. NFDC Cllr Janet Richards sent in a report advising that that it is most likely that four different plans will be submitted to the government on 26th September, and it will be left to the government to make the final decision. There will be a consultation taking views from the public on which option should be chosen, starting in November, with the final decision due by March next year. Cllr Richards full report will be in the next edition of the Parish Pump.

25.4.10 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

10.1 Parish Lengthsman – Suggestions for task sheet for next visit to the village on 29th September: hedge cutting and hopscotch trimming were requested. The Chairman advised that SSE will be tree trimming in the play park to clear power lines. NFDC Richards advised in her report that the new bin service will start on 20th October but urged everyone to check everything is as it should be in good time before the rollout so that queries and problems can be ironed out in advance. The customer service team are still quite stretched, so there may be a delay in getting a response. Her full report will be in the next Pump.

- **25.4.11 CORRESPONDENCE**: Has been forwarded to councillors in advance. There were no comments.
- 25.4.12 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEMBERS WHO HAVE ATTENDED MEETINGS OF OUTSIDE BODIES. None

25.4.13 DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

Monday 17th November 2025 at 7.30pm – Damerham Village Hall Monday 20th October 2025 (if needed for planning applications)