

DAMERHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting held on Monday 20th April 2026 in Damerham Village Hall

Councillors present: Chairman P Tandy, Vice Chairman D Crane, Cllrs G Ruth, R Major, A Bellows.

Members of the public present: 1

Others present: Parish Clerk: Lindsey Malcom

Public participation: None

26.1.1 APOLOGIES AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM: Cllr Pardoe sent her apologies. Cllrs Stephens and Doherty did not attend. Quorem was declared by the Chairman.

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

26.1.3 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3.1 To receive and comment on applications received

26/10225 WESTFIELD, NORTH END, DAMERHAM SP6 3HA

Use of the existing carport and workshop as a holiday let (Retrospective):

A member of the public asked the council if it could be insisted that it be a holiday let only and was concerned that no environmental checks had been carried out. The council believed that a planning officer will check the property as part of the planning process. Cllr Bellows advised it was a small dwelling and unlikely to attract long stay applicants and does not overlook any neighbours. After discussion, Cllr Crane proposed PAR1 to recommend approval with the following conditions: it is intended as a short term holiday let, not as a personal dwelling; that the applicant would accept a planning condition restricting it to a holiday let only, with prohibition of use as a permanent dwelling, and retention of an occupancy register to ensure that it doesn't operate as a residential unit. Cllr Bellows seconded. All voted in favour of PAR 1 approval, but would accept the final decision of the planning officer.

3.2 To review decisions received from the NFDC Planning Authority:

25/10830 COWSLIP COTTAGE, LOWER DAGGONS LANE, SOUTH END SP6 3HW

Granted Subject to Conditions - there were no further comments

3.3 Other planning matters: None

26.1.4. PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

4.1 To agree and sign audit and accounting statements: The council agreed to all documents and the Chairman signed the Certificate of Exemption and the Accounting Statements.

4.1 To authorize payments: All agreed to authorise:

Mowing services £160

HALC affiliation fees £317.00

Zurich Insurance £667.57

4.3 To sign clerk contract with amended hours: The Chairman signed the amendment showing the Clerk will work up to 20 hours a month as agreed at January's parish council meeting.

26.1.5. AOB

5.1 To discuss work for the next lengthsman visit on 1st May. Due 1st May. Cllr Crane stated that the mowing on the meadow is very good. The riverbank needs strimming completely along, and around the bend. Also, trees in the middle of the play area have brambles sprouting, and would like the lengthsman to dig them out. Also, the ditch just past Greenbanks is silted up and needs to be dug out as deeply as possible and soil removed. As the lengthsman also due in July, Cllr Crane asked Cllr Ruth to think what needs to be done in Mill Lane in his July visit. The Chairman stated that

outside contractors will be needed to deal with jobs that need doing between lengthsman's visits to keep the village tidy. Cllr Crane will meet with the lengthsman at each visit. The councillors discussed how good the Meadow was looking now that an outside contractor was cutting regularly.

5.2 To discuss the latest news, if any, on highway repairs : The councillors were dismayed at the continued condition of the local roads. Cllr Crane stated his belief that the council needs more information and to be seen to be more proactive about getting the roads done. He suggested that the council keep a database of roads to be kept in front of Hampshire Highways which would hopefully encourage better planned maintenance. Cllr Major requested that Highways be contacted first, to see if that would help them, before work is made in creating this database. The Chairman agreed to contact them to find out and report at the next meeting.

Cllr Crane reported that the surrounding parishes were interested in meeting together to discuss the local government reorganisation in May. However, it may be better to wait until after the HALC meeting on 11th June as there will be more information to discuss, especially in light of the current petition by NFDC to keep the New Forest together. The petition needs 25k signatures to trigger a debate in parliament. Currently it is at 17k signatures. The Clerk agreed to get back to the councils, suggesting Monday 15th or Monday 22nd June.

Date of next meeting: Parish Council Annual Meeting Monday 18th May 2026 Damerham Village Hall at 7.00pm - please note different time for this meeting only.

Meeting closed at 20.30

These are draft minutes until approved at the next meeting
Lindsey Malcom – Damerham Parish Council Clerk clerk@damerham.net