

DAMERHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting held on Monday 15th June 2026
in Damerham Village Hall at 7.30pm

Councillors present: Chairman P. Tandy, Vice Chairman D. Crane Cllrs G. Ruth, R. Major, A. Bellows, A Pardoe, P Doherty
Members of the public present: None
Others present: L Malcom - Parish Clerk

Public participation: None

26.3.1 APOLOGIES AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM: Apologies were received from Cllrs K. Anderson and P. Stephens. Quorum was declared by the Chairman.

26.3.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY ANY COUNCILLOR ON ANY AGENDA ITEM: Cllr Pardoe declared an interest in Rose Cottage application.

26.3.3 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3.1 To receive and comment on applications received

26/10461 42 WEST PARK LANE, DAMERHAM SP6 3HB

Retrospective application - The Chairman stated the application was not clear as not enough detail given. Cllr Ruth advised that the conservatory was not noticeable from the road and Cllr Crane stated that it matches the neighbouring houses. Cllr Bellows proposed recommending PAR 5, Cllr Crane seconded. All voted in favour and it was RESOLVED to recommend PAR5, unable to make balanced decision, as application did not show roof material on conservatory and did not include dimensional drawings.

26/10480 ROSE COTTAGE, HIGH STREET, DAMERHAM SP6 3EZ

Cllr Ruth stated it was a well put together application and the style and size of windows were in keeping with the original. Cllr Bellows commented that it appeared that advice had been sought from planning officers. It was agreed that this work was needed for the conservation of the cottage. Cllr Ruth proposed PAR3 approval and Cllr Bellows seconded PAR 3. All voted in favour (with one abstention as previously stated) and it was RESOLVED to recommend PAR3 approval..

3.2 To review decisions received from the NFDC Planning Authority:

26/10364 COWSLIP COTTAGE, LOWER DAGGONS LANE, SOUTH END, DAMERHAM SP6 3HW

Granted Subject to Conditions: The council noted the decision

3.3 Other planning matters: None

26.3.4. PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

4.1 To sign Minutes of 16th March and 20th April 2026: as previously agreed in May's meeting, the Chairman signed the Minutes

4.2 To receive any update on LGR and confirm date of meeting with local parishes: Cllr Crane reported on the meeting held by HALC regarding Local Government Reorganisation. Timeline to May 2028 is short, given the massive task involved. Shadowing starts May 2027 and the two systems will run in tandem. It will take a decade for any changes to bed in for any local councils. The key issues will be the major reduction in councillors (20%) - so there is debate on how much they will be able to do and whether it will be a full time job. Any changes will need leadership, as workload increasing. There will be an emphasis on 'neighbourhood governance' to make decision making closer to residents. Consultation needed to find what residents want of town and parish councils and what sort of structures will be able to deliver change. There is a need to focus on places where people live and work, rather than large contracts used now by HCC. The current one size fits all will not work. Cllr Crane stated there will be a huge gap between the new mayors and what will happen at local level. Are parish councils prepared to grow into a new role, rather than what is happening at the moment? If not, the whole project will fail. It will involve significantly more commitment than at present. Planning will be an issue. Very good reasons will be needed for

grouping parish councils together, not based on geography or size. Can have clusters of parishes, or unitary officer liaison for the authority. Another model would be neighbourhood 'boards' to cover areas. Everything is still undecided. HALC is setting up a working group to take this forward in order to have some say in what happens. Local parishes to Damerham have been invited to a meeting in Damerham to discuss on Monday 22nd June. Town and parish councils have been deliberately left vague in government documents. Cllr Crane stated are some really good best practices in Hampshire, eg. Test Valley and Romsey. Also Andover and surrounding areas. It needs local people to get involved and lead and run it. The council thanked the Vice Chairman for his update.

26.3.5. AOB

5.1 To discuss colour of tiles for new bus stop roof: After discussion, it was agreed to go with purple tiles, to match the tiles on the roof of Crossways Farm. All in favour.

5.2 Cllr Bellows had received a quote £2580 + VAT for delivery of an outside gym plus installation, and wished to submit a claim for CIL funding. Cllr Bellows requested that the £1900 CIL funding already held by the parish council could go towards it. Cllr Major proposed, Cllr Doherty seconded that all the £1900 be given towards the outside gym. All voted in favour and it was RESOLVED to allocate the funding.

5.3 Cllr Bellows stated she is still in contact with the Countryside department who intend to improve pathways through to Martin Down.

5.4 The Chairman stated with regret the formal resignation of the Clerk at the next meeting in July. The Chairman and Vice Chairman have interviewed the current Clerk of Sandheath and Rockbourne and wish to appoint him from 20th August. The council stated the clerk will be missed.

Date of next meeting: Parish Council Ordinary Meeting Monday 20th July 2026 Damerham Village Hall at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 20:20

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