MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FISHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
held on 13th October 2026 at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, Fishbourne Lane, Fishbourne, at 6.30 pm.

Present Cllr Hopper (Chair), Cllr Babu, Cllr Dugdale, Cllr Fontana, Cllr Talbot and Cllr Woollin
Mrs Katie Riley (Clerk)
12 members of the public

The Chair welcomed members of the public to the meeting and invited them to speak before the meeting commenced. Those present expressed concerns relating to minute 82/26-27(b), concerning the Land Registry application for 90 Fishbourne Lane, and the possibility that a change of ownership might affect access to and use of the Lower Green. The Chair advised that the land was protected by Village Green status and that a change of ownership would not alter this. He confirmed that the Isle of Wight Council (IWC) maintains the Lower Green, which Fishbourne Parish Council contributes towards. The Clerk had obtained the original VG5 documentation from the IWC relating to the designation. This was circulated among those present for inspection, alongside Land Registry maps showing the legally registered boundaries. For further reassurance, it was requested that the Parish Council write to the Land Registry to clarify the Village Green designation and that all parties are made aware.

78/26-27	No apologies for absence were received.
79/26-27	No declarations of interest or written requests for dispensation were received from members.
80/26-27	To approve the minutes of the Meeting of Fishbourne Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th September 2026. Cllr Talbot advised that, although the previous minutes recorded this year's RVYC Open Day as having achieved its highest-ever recorded attendance, a higher attendance of 193 had been recorded in 2018. **RESOLVED: THAT the minutes of the meeting of Fishbourne Parish Council held on Tuesday 8 September 2026, amended to state that this year's attendance at the RVYC Open Day had been one of the highest recorded, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**
81/26-27	<u>Best Kept Village on the Isle of Wight</u> The Chair reported on Fishbourne's success in winning both the medium-sized village award and the overall prize in the Best Kept Village competition on the Isle of Wight. The Chair had brought the certificates, shield and plaque presented to him at the awards evening to show members, together with the £150 prize cheque, which the Clerk would pay into the Council's bank account. The shield and plaque would need to be returned at the end of the year, but the certificates were for the village to keep. **RESOLVED: THAT the certificates be displayed on the noticeboards and, if possible, the shield and plaque be displayed at the RVYC.** Options for using the prize money were considered, including a Best Kept Village sign, hanging baskets or a planter. **RESOLVED: THAT options and costs be investigated and considered at a future meeting.**
82/26-27 a. b.	**Planning** <u>To consider the following application:</u> Application No: 26/01282/HOU Location: 29 Fishbourne Lane PO33 4EZ Proposal: Removal of raised decking; Proposed extension to create raised patio including pergola **RESOLVED: THAT Fishbourne Parish Council has no objection to this application** <u>Land Registry</u> To review the notice from the Land Registry advising of an application to register 90 Fishbourne Lane.

	RESOLVED: THAT information about the Village Green designation be shared with the Land Registry and the owner, to ensure that all parties are aware of the designation protecting the Green.
c.	<u>The following decision was noted:</u> Application No: 26/00960/CLEUD Location: The Barn, Elenors Grove, PO33 4HE Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate to confirm that the construction and laying of the base to the approved access road establishes a legal commencement of works for the development under appeal reference APP/P2114/W/22/3302552 (22/00024/FUL) Decision: Granted
d.	<u>Isle of Wight Council Planning Compliance (Enforcement)</u> To consider funding additional capacity within the Planning Compliance Team from 2027/28 onwards. **RESOLVED: THAT Fishbourne Parish Council would not fund additional capacity within the Planning Compliance Team from 2027/28 onwards.**
83/26-27	<u>Reports:</u>
a.	Chairman – The Chairman had already reported on his attendance at the Best Kept Village Awards evening earlier in the meeting.
b.	The Clerk had circulated a written report, including the following updates: • Reports of untaxed vehicles and vehicles without MOTs parked on Fishbourne Lane and believed to belong to Fishbourne Garage: The Clerk had received an update from PC Andrew Emery and when he had visited the site, he found no vehicles linked to the garage. He would continue to monitor the situation and take action if it changed. • Noticeboard posts: The Clerk had requested a quotation from Ryde Town Council for repainting the old noticeboard posts on Fishbourne Lane. However, given the extent of corrosion, members suggested that replacement might be preferable. The Clerk would investigate this option. • Planters: Dave Trickey had assessed the condition of the planters and advised that he could repair the small planter beneath the noticeboard by the pub, but the large planter at the junction of Kite Hill and Firestone Copse would need replacing. Members suggested that the Clerk ask Care in the Garden whether they could build a replacement, as they had done previously.
c.	Island Roads – The Clerk had forwarded reports to Island Roads regarding the pavement at Elenors Grove being overgrown with grass and weeds, which Island Roads would clear, and the broken door on the bin at the bus stop at the top of Kite Hill. Island Roads had confirmed that a request for a replacement bin had been sent to the IWC and that overflowing rubbish would be collected during scheduled rounds.
d.	Other Councillor reports, including IWALC – Cllr Talbot had circulated a written report highlighting her attendance at the Red Squirrel Forum on 6 October, followed by a walk in Howes Wood, courtesy of the Isle of Wight Red Squirrel Trust. Cllr Fontana reported that she was due to attend the IWC/Local Council Workshop on 14 October.
e.	IW Councillor Ian Dore was not in attendance and had not provided a report.
84/26-27	<u>Wightlink</u> To review any current issues ahead of the next partnership meeting, scheduled for 21 October 2026. Members raised concerns about the clarity of service updates when the catamaran was out of service recently. Members also noted reports of a flea infestation in the passenger lounge, believed to have been caused by a pet travelling with passengers. **RESOLVED: THAT the issue of service updates be raised, that the Council continue to request progress updates on the new kiosk 'open' sign, and that Wightlink be asked when the new piling works are due to take place.**

85/26-27	Footpath R1 - Wildfire risk To consider concerns about the risk of wildfire from dead bracken on Footpath R1 and ways in which the Parish Council might support the clearance of this vegetation. The Clerk reported that the IWC Rights of Way Maintenance Officer had inspected the site on 29 July 2026 and concluded that the surface of the path was clear and safe for pedestrian use. **RESOLVED: THAT the matter remain under review and the condition of the footpath be monitored to ensure that it remains accessible and safe for pedestrians.**
86/26-27	Remembrance Sunday To confirm the arrangements for the Garden of Remembrance on Sunday 8 November 2026 and agree on a donation to the Royal British Legion. **RESOLVED: THAT a gathering be held for those wishing to observe a two-minute silence beside the Garden of Remembrance on Oak Tree Green at 11.00 am on Sunday 8 November 2026, and that £75 be donated to the Royal British Legion in lieu of purchasing a wreath. Cllr Dugdale would attend on behalf of the Parish Council.**
87/26-27	Bus stop at the top of Kite Hill and Fishbourne Lane To consider concerns about the lack of lighting at the bus stop at the top of Kite Hill and Fishbourne Lane, towards Newport. Before the meeting, Cllr Dugdale had established that Island Roads was responsible for the bus shelters and would repair an existing light but would not necessarily install a new one. Any new installation would need to be considered through the Highways Safety and Improvement Register. **RESOLVED: THAT a request be made for a light to be installed as soon as possible at the bus stop at the top of Kite Hill and Fishbourne Lane to improve passenger safety.**
88/26-27	Accessibility Statement To review and approve the updated Accessibility Statement required ahead of the 2026 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), relating to website accessibility standards (WCAG 2.2 AA) for parish and town councils. **RESOLVED: THAT the updated Accessibility Statement be approved.**
89/26-27	Community Emergency Plan To consider whether to create a Community Emergency Plan to prepare for incidents and enhance local community resilience before, during and after an incident. Mixed views were expressed about the need for a Community Emergency Plan in Fishbourne. However, following an offer from IWC Resilience Co-ordinator Iain Lawrie to meet and discuss the formation of a plan, it was agreed that interested members would meet outside the full Parish Council meeting as a working group to explore the matter further. **RESOLVED: THAT the Clerk arrange a meeting for Cllrs Talbot and Dugdale with the IWC Resilience Co-ordinator to explore what might be useful for Fishbourne.**
90/26-27	Grounds maintenance To review and agree on the revised contributions for the IWC's Grounds Maintenance Service for 2027/2028 **RESOLVED: THAT the revised contribution of £684.44 for the IWC's Grounds Maintenance Service for 2027/2028 be approved.**
91/26-27	Ryde Information and Support Service To review correspondence regarding the possible expansion of Ryde Information and Support Service across the north-east of the Island and agree on next steps. **RESOLVED: THAT the offer from Ryde Town Council's Community Development Manager, Alison Pearce, to attend a future meeting to discuss how the Parish Council could support the service be accepted.**

92/26-27	Newsletter Cllr Talbot provided an overview of the submissions received so far for the November edition of the newsletter. Cllr Fontana reported that she was writing an article in memory of Jean Bennett, which she would submit with a photograph. Cllr Dugdale would send an update on the Wednesday Walkers.
93/26-27	Correspondence The Clerk had circulated the correspondence received, including a request for a contribution towards Isle of Wight Armed Forces Day 2027, which she would add to the agenda for the next meeting.
94/26-27 a. b. c.	Finance: To note the Bank Reconciliation for September 2026 **RESOLVED: THAT the Bank Reconciliation for September 2026 be noted** To note the half year Financial Review **RESOLVED: THAT the half year Financial Review be noted** To approve the Payment Schedule for October 2026 **RESOLVED: THAT the following payments totalling £1168.85 for October 2026 be approved:** • **Community Action IW (October payroll) £889.06** • **K Riley (October expenses) £69.07** • **DT Groundcare (watering) £144.00** • **Royal British Legion (remembrance donation) £75.00**
95/26-27	Agenda items: • Options for marking the Best Kept Village Award. • Fishbourne Lane noticeboard posts. • Replacement of the Kite Hill planter. • Isle of Wight Armed Forces Day 2027. • Ryde Information and Support Service. • Contribution to Carols on the Green.
96/26-27	Council Vacancy To receive Councillor Woollin's resignation, note the resulting casual vacancy and consider arrangements for filling the vacancy from 3 November. **RESOLVED: THAT the casual vacancy resulting from Cllr Woollin's resignation be noted assuming a by-election is not called by 3rd November, and that the vacancy be advertised in the next newsletter. Members thanked Cllr Woollin for her contribution during her term of office and wished her well.**
97/26-27	The date of the next scheduled meeting is Tuesday 10th November to be held at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, Fishbourne Lane, at 6.30pm

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.05 pm

Signed as a true record

Chairman…… 10/11/26