Penton Grafton Parish Council

2026

Minutes of the Penton Grafton Parish Council AGM meeting held on Tuesday 12th of May 2026 in the Parish Office at 7.00pm.

Present:
Cllr Mrs P Foster – Chairman
Cllr Mrs J Osborne
Cllr Mrs Z Smale
Cllr Mr C May
Richard Waterman and Heidi Easton Parish Clerk's
County Councillor Mr C Donnelly.
Members of the Public – 1

Apologies for Absence
Cllr Mr N Blackmore – Vice Chairman, Cllr Mr J Neal

0526/1 WELCOME. The Chairman, Cllr Foster welcomed everyone to the meeting and Introduced Heidi Easton as the new clerk for PGPC.
0526/2 Declarations of Interests The Chairman declared an interest in the Fairground. No other declarations were made.
0526/3 Chairman's Annual Report
The Chairman delivered the Annual Report, noting a busy and productive year for the parish Council.
Cllr Foster opened her report with Thanks to Richard waterman as he has stepped down as Clerk in preparation for his retirement in a couple of years. Cllr Foster said Richard will still be involved with the parish Council managing the Fairground site and the 9 Cottage Charity properties. She thanked Richard Waterman for his long-standing contribution and service to the Council and its Parishioners.
Cllr Foster Thanked her fellow Cllrs for their input over the year and praised Vice Chair, Cllr Blackmore for his sterling work especially relating to the draft Borough Plan, Southern Water and Highway issues. Working with neighbouring Parishes the A342 working group and the Upper Anton Flood forum. Chairman Cllr Foster also reported,
Draft Borough Plan.
The publication of the Test Valley Draft Borough Plan and the massive development around the Weyhill took up a large chunk of 2025. The Parish Council had worked with neighbouring parishes and got out information to assist residents if they wished to object to TVBC.
Housing Survey.
The Parish Council worked with TVBC to conduct a housing needs survey. The Parish Council delivered the survey to all residents of Penton Grafton, Weyhill and Clanville.

A342 Working Group.

The A342 working group was set up in the late Summer of 2025 and is making good headway with collecting data and evidence that the road will not be able to cope with the large-scale development planned in the draft borough plan. It is feared that villages will all be used as a rat run to access major roads.

Motley Mill.

Mr S Brown gave a presentation on a mixed tenure residential housing proposal, after working with the Test Valley planners and had submitted a pre-planning application for the Motely Mill site. This is still ongoing I believe.

Weyhill Fair

Planning permission has at long last been approved and the contractor will start work on redeveloping the site. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to save the mural, there was an open day on the 24thApril for villagers to take pictures as this will cease to exist when the pub is demolished. Cllr Foster said this was well attended. The pub sign is being moved to the fairground site and will be placed on the Village Hall.

Highways

Cllr Blackmore is still trying to get HCC to sort the A342 traffic island and pedestrian crossing.

New signage has been installed at Weyhill Bottom crossroads and there is promise of flashing warning lights.

Weyhill Bottom Crossroads

All new signs have been erected. All that is outstanding are the solar powered flashing warning signs.

Two solar powered flashing speed reminder signs have been purchased and installed. The new signs will give the Parish Council much needed data on volume and speed of vehicles on the A342.

The development at Conholt Park and the state of the road from Weyhill Bottom through to the Wiltshire boarder has been raised with TVBC and HCC. I believe that the owner of Conholt Park is contributing to repairs in Wiltshire, but it is not confirmed that this will include part of Hampshire.

Southern Water are continuing to over pump the sewers in Appleshaw, Weyhill and Penton Mewsey. There have been issues with large tankers using Rectory Lane, HCC have erected new signage to deter this.

Weyhill

The front walls of the bus shelter adjacent to Hardy Fair Close have been removed. As well as dealing with an ongoing vandalism problem, this has resulted in the shelter being more accessible for prams and wheelchairs.

The lengthsman cleared the path and undergrowth on the A342 between Red Post Lane and the Garage and cut back the overgrowth on the corner of Rectory Place.

The Parish Council are looking at providing further Bus shelters in the parish and hope to access grant funding for this.

Cllr Foster Thanked the grass cutter Mr Chris Wilkins for the excellent job he does for keeping Weyhill neat and tidy.

Clanville

Cllr May through perseverance has managed to get HCC to not only dig out the Clanville pond but admit that it is their responsibility. There was no major issues with flooding during the winter of 2025/26.

Cllr Foster also mentioned the "Warm Hub", to be used in a village emergency. A generator has been installed to provide power that will enable the gas central heating to work. To complete the Resilience Project, we need to install Broadband into the Fairground Hall. The recruitment of volunteers is ongoing and now even more important.

The Upper Anton Parishes Flood Forum continue to work towards improving the flooding and sewage problems.

Footpaths. Cllr Smale is the parish Council footpath Officer, and I would s like to thank her for doing an excellent job.

The Fairground Craft Centre continues to be popular with the local population; we have 11 businesses on site and a thriving café. We have upgraded the parking, and it is working well. We are also starting the long job of painting all the boundary walls.

Parish Council administration

Over the next 12 months the Parish Council are undertaking a review of its policies and procedures to make sure that we are compliant with all current legislation.

On closing I would like to thank our Borough and County Cllrs for all their help and support.

A vote of thanks from the public was formally recorded for Richard Waterman's long, dedicated and exceptional service.

0526/4 Financial Report (Annual Accounts)

The Clerk Richard Waterman presented the accounts.

PENTON GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2026

RECEIPTS.

Precept	£19,000.00
Bank Interest	8.11
VAT Refund	11,940.96
Services Charged to Other PC's	3,793.16
SSE Weyleave Street Light	36.02
Hire Charge – Christmas Trees	400.00
Lengthsman Funding	1,000.00
Income for Fairground Site	70,999.57
	£107,177.82

PAYMENTS

Administration	£4,975.36
Wages	4,800.00
Grass Cutting/Maintenance	1,289.47
Street Lighting	108.39
Flashing Speed Signs	7,819.73
Resilience Project	2,120.53
Site Project	4,285.00
VAT on Payments	2,476.02
Notice Board	244.00
Defibrillator Battery and Pads	324.20
Expenditure from Fairground Site	73,321.06
	£101,763.76

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY

Balance BFW 1st April 2025	£13,376.71
Add Income	£107,177.82
	£120,554.53
Less Payments	£101,763.76
Balance Carried Forward	**£18,790.77**

The Parish Clerk explained each item. Cllr Mrs P Foster proposed that the Parish Council adopt the Account for the Year Ending 31st March 2026. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs J Osborne. All agreed.

CONFLICT OF INTREST WITH BDO LLP THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR.
There were no conflicts of interest recorded with BDO LLP.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025/2026
The Clerk read out the Annual Governance Statement 2025/2026 ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statement.
The Annual Governance Statement was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Mrs P Foster and seconded by Cllr Mrs Z Smale.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2025/2026
The Annual Accounting Statement 2025/2026 was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Mrs P Foster and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Osborne. All agreed.

The Clerk explained VAT transfers delayed due to Lloyds Bank system changes requiring dual authorisation.
The Council unanimously approved, adopted and signed the accounts.
Section 1 and section 2 of the Agar was reviewed, agreed and signed for year-end 31st March 2026.

0526/5 Members of the Public No comment

0526/6 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman
Chairman: Cllr Foster was nominated and elected. This was proposed by Cllr May and seconded by Cllr Smale.
Vice Chairman: Cllr Blackmore's position was deferred until the July meeting.
Close of AGM meeting.

ORDINARY May PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

0526/7 Minutes of Previous Meeting
The minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

0526/8 Financial report
- Income: £12,100 (including precept instalment and legacy scheme funds)
- Expenditure: £1,250.33
- Bank Balances: £16,541.38 total across accounts

0526/9 Planning Applications to review
26/00681 OUTN Erection of up to 2-3 residential dwellings with access, parking, open space and landscaping and associated works all matters access. NO OBJECTION

26/00404/TPON T1 Sycamore fell. Noted. Previous refusal acknowledged; no further comment.

0526/10 Test Valley Borough Council Local Plan Update
Cllr Blackmore reported by email that there had been 1,800 submissions to the consultation. TVBC planning policy are now proceeding to develop those plans in the light of the consultations, land withdrawals and recent speculative proposals. The revised plan will be published as a section 19 plan for consultation, in the late summer 2026. This revised plan will then proceed to government submission.

0526/11 A342 Working Group
Hampshire County Council are now considering a corridor-wide review of Weyhill.
Cllr Lashbrook is seeking to release CIL funds before Test Valley's reorganisation.
The Working Group evidence considered strong; intention to present findings directly to HCC cabinet member, Which links to the ongoing highways concerns.

0526/12 Highways
Cllr Blackmore had sent in an email reporting the ongoing problems which had now been absorbed into the HCC plan looking into the corridor of Weyhill to Ludgershall, focusing on

improving sustainable modes access. This is driven by both consented and anticipated development along the corridor, as well as the need to improve existing connections within Weyhill.

0526/13 Flooding

The Over-pumping issues at Weyhill Bottom have improved following signage changes. and Southern Water are to reinstate the pavement and verge damage.
• Local flood warden arrangements are progressing.
• Upper Anton Flood Forum pursuing landowner maintenance issues.
Cllr Osborne raised a concern regarding vehicles parking on widened pavement areas at Weyhill Bottom, which the Parish Council are to monitor and consider signage. As mentioned in the Chairman's Report

0526/14 Footpaths
Cllr Smale reported the need for a Dog Waste Bin which all Cllrs unanimously agreed with the location along footpath between car boot sale and the pub. Clerk to progress the installation. Cllr Smale also requested the Lengthsman start cutting back regrowth on the pathways.

0526/15 5 yr Plan • Five-year plan actions progressing.
• Car park maintenance solution agreed using adapted sit-on mower and harrow attachment.
• Composite shutters to be costed for future maintenance programme.
• Weyhill Bottom signage largely completed.

0526/16 County and Borough Cllr's Reports
Full Cllr Reports can be found on their retrospective websites.
Cllr Donnelly attended the meeting and discussed the recent elections and was grateful to still be in post. His main concerns for the area are to fulfil his commitments to the local schools and the ongoing corridor of the A342.

0526/17 Parish Cllr's Reports
Cllr May was pleased with the progress and delegated responsibility to HCC regarding the pond clearing and ongoing maintenance.

Members of the Public No Comment
Close of Meeting 8.16pm
Date of next Meeting 14th July 2026

Signed and Approved by Chairman .....