

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council Meeting 10 Feb 2026 Minutes

Public Time – no comments raised.

Borough Councillor Update – no update

County Councillor Update – Apologies sent. [Written report](#) received and circulated. The huge budget gap for highway (pothole) repairs required and actual budget was also highlighted in a separate report.

1. Apologies for Absence: Jayne Hudson

In attendance: David Ellis Chair, Simon Albert Deputy Chair, Jo Probut, Andrew White, Alice MacGinnis
Julia Chedgey has resigned with immediate effect. David thanked Julia for her contribution to the PC over the last four years.

2. Declarations of interest – David Ellis: PCC, Millennium Green; Jo Probut: B&D BC employee. Also see item 8.

3. Sign and approve minutes of PC meetings of 20 Jan 2026. Approved & signed.

4. Planning Ref T/00051/26/TCA . Location: Manor Farm House, Freefolk. Proposal: tree works to include felling and pruning as per application. Discussed. It was proposed by David, seconded by Andrew and agreed by all to comment as follows:

The Parish Council is pleased to see this land is being managed and maintained as woodland. Our local tree warden has advised that, outside of trees 1,2,6,7 & 15 that require felling, not all the Black Poplars may cause a problem to the road or the electricity poles. We understand that while the Black Poplar was originally planted as a crop (and cropped) it is now a threatened and endangered native tree species. We understand that the tree warden has spoken to Borough tree officers directly. We would therefore appreciate that the Borough tree officers with their professional expertise consider this in its review of the proposal.

5. Maintenance – Door handles have been replaced on 3 doors in LRH.

6. Finance – approvals for payments to make over £500 (none)

7. Correspondence

7.1. Police & Crime Commissioner Donna Jones - Road Safety Summit 3 March 26

7.2. B&D Electoral services - 7 May LRH to be used for polling for Borough & Cty Cllr elections

7.3. B&D Community Resilience event 28 Feb, planning for emergency use of community buildings

8. Resolution to exclude press and public due to confidential nature of business to be transacted in item 9. (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1(2))

The chair raised that he understood some members have made pledges of a fundraising contribution towards a potential bid for the Laverstoke and Freefolk Community Site. Also, that no payments have been made at this stage and any future donations would be entirely voluntary and fully refundable if the bid does not proceed or is unsuccessful. The following members declared this for transparency: David Ellis, Simon Albert, Jo Probut, Alice MacGinnis.

The members have confirmed that they have no Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. As the pledges are voluntary and refundable and this item relates only to whether the council should submit a bid, members may remain, participate and vote.

The press and public exclusion was then proposed by Andrew, seconded by Alice and all agreed.
Members of the public departed.

9. Laverstoke & Freefolk Community Site acquisition: consideration of business case and authority to make an offer. Confidential item (offer: LGA 1972 S124; delegation: LGA 1972 s101) It was proposed by Alice, seconded by Andrew and all agreed to submit a bid for the site. Delegation of authority to make the bid was proposed by Jo, seconded by Alice and all agreed.

Next PC meeting: 10 Feb 26 at 19.30 in Lady Rose Hall.

Sign.....Date.....