

## Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council Meeting 17 Mar 2026 Minutes

### 19.30 Public Time

A resident updated the meeting on a renaturing project. The suggested program to improve grass quality type including wildflower coverage and general improvement to the ecology and overall aspects of the area. To remove and replace some existing fencing, to designate 15 small copse areas 20mx20m to be planted with ash and beech saplings and 100 bigger trees. Government grants have been made available to assist in this program which is being discussed between several local landowners. No pesticides to be used.

It was requested that the pickle ball lines are marked with something other than chalk.

**Borough Councillor Update** – no update

**County Councillor Update** – no update

**Bombay Sapphire Helen** – Outlined planning application. BS requested to look into clock.

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Alice MacGinnis, Andrew White

In attendance: David Ellis Chair, Simon Albert Jt Deputy Chair, Jo Probut, Jayne Hudson Jt Deputy Chair

**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 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026. Approved & signed.

**4. Proposal for Head of Terms for lease of tennis facilities WTC** - Suggested use by WTC of lights on 3 days a week all year 4 pm till 10.00pm Tue, Wed and Thur were discussed. The use by WTC of the lights on Monday immediately before the meeting and changes made to increase the height/angle of the lights was a concern as to whether the WTC will comply with any agreement. It was agreed that in the lease angles and positioning are agreed and specified. It was noted that the review of this had to be practical for both residents and WTC. Concern was expressed about the continuing detrimental impact on residents' wellbeing of the lights. It was noted that the 3 specified days were now in line with previous meeting comments with Basingstoke officials and Lawn Tennis Association. and there was a benefit to reach an agreement rather than pursue alternative actions. It was noted that Heads of Terms are subject to contract and permissions only apply when a lease is agreed and signed.

The request for the council to share legal costs was discussed. It was noted that the only income for the site was from other users or the parish precept. The fee paid by WTC does not recover the refurbishment cost paid by the parish. It was inappropriate for other site users to be paying to give the WTC exclusive rights.

Proposed by David, seconded by Simon with 3-1 in favour. (LGA 1972 s 124-127)

**5. Planning Ref: 26/00324/LBC.** Location: Laverstoke Mill, The Bombay Sapphire Distillery RG28 7NR.

Proposed by Jo, seconded by David and all agreed.

**6. Speed Indicator Device** Option 2 was agreed

Proposed by David, seconded by Jayne and all agreed. (Local gov. and Rating Act 1997 s31)

**7. Scofell grass cutting contract**

Renewal of contract was agreed by e-mail. To re-ratified at April meeting

**8. Maintenance** Toilet seats have been purchased for LRH

**9. Book Exchange** The request to put a book exchange in the Beech Hedge car park was discussed. Given previous rodent problems in the car park there was concern over health and maintenance issues about this location. It was proposed to decline this request by Simon, seconded by Jo and all agreed (LGA 1972 s133)

**10. Request to use carpark for temporary moving of waste** Discussed

Proposed by David, seconded by Simon and all agreed (LGA 1972 s111)

**11. Request for planting of trees on PC land in Freefolk.** More information to be requested. It was also agreed that the Council should take the time to review plans for the land area before committing to changes that could impact options.

Proposed by David, seconded by Simon and all agreed (LGA 1972 s111)

**12. Update on L & F Community Site Bid** Awaiting reply from De La Rue

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### 13. Finance

#### 13.1 Approvals to make payments over £500 ex VAT

Payments £499 new PC as laptop failed, £850 Penningtons, £1,800 Wellers

Proposed by Simon, seconded by David and all agreed

(Accounts & Audit Regs 2015)

#### 13.2 Bank mandate update. Mandate to be updated as per meeting papers

Proposed by David, seconded by Jo and all agreed

(LGA 1972 s111, 112 & 151)

### 14. Correspondence

14.1. BDBC: - Housing Targets vs Water Supply – letters to EA and water companies

14.2. Juliet Henderson Police and Crime Commissioner meeting 18.3.26

14.3. Support letter from Whitchurch Town Council for L&F Community Site Bid

14.4. BDBC to confirm notice to co-op councillor

### [March Meeting Papers](#)

Next PC meeting: 21 April 26 at 19.30 in Lady Rose Hall.

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