

**Goodworth Clatford Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting Minutes 7th January 2025**

**Date of Meeting: Tuesday 7th January 2025 at 7pm
Location: held at the Village Club**

Present:

Councillors	Clerk	TVBC + County Councillors	Others
Ian Platt (Chairman) Claire Henderson Will Walker Alan Willens Robin Welland Henryk Kwiatkowski Stephen Pyle	Eveline Attwood	David Drew Suzanne Hasselmann Maureen Flood	8

Acorn Energy

Prior to the meeting representatives from Acorn Energy (Rachel Head of Planning & Sophia Director of planning together with Andy Martin) presented to the meeting details of a replacement planning application to be submitted to for an anaerobic digester facility at Cowdown Lane together with new access north of Cowdown Lane.

- The previous application has been withdrawn.
- They are currently consulting with Hampshire Highways on a new layout for the North of Cowdown Lane/A3093 Junction
- Reduced height of digester tanks one at 16.5 metres and two at 9 metres
- Reduction in scale of development with additional landscape and woodland
- Reduction in operational noise levels
- Direct grid connection
- Shared details of the Community Benefit Fund
- Smaller site than three maid's hills.

Concerns raised included.

- Community unable to turn right, into Cowdown Lane when approaching from Andover, will inconvenience residents.
- The nursery planning was approved subject to using the northern end only. Alterations will make this impossible. Concern increased traffic accessing the nursery from Southern end.
- Lorries going accessing the Wherwell junction will create a hazard.
- Has Acorn engaged with Andover Town Council and are Picket Twenty residents aware?
- Acorn promised to let PC know how much power will be generated.
- As previously recorded in the minutes. Acorn were asked whether they will sign a legal agreement, so GCPC receives community benefit as promised in the previous meeting with them. *Response No legal agreement can be given prior to planning approval.*

Playgroup representative

Natalie who runs the Goodworth Clatford playgroup explained the difficulties raising enough money to pay for the hall rental at £105 monthly for one morning weekly session. Due to fluctuating numbers, it has currently left a debt of £269.50, and she advised that there was no alternative but to close this village facility for preschool children unless the PC could consider a donation.

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25001 Chairmans remarks – None

25002 Apologies for Absence – Cllrs Struthers & Cross

25003 Public Participation –. None

25004 Declarations of Interest – None

25005 To Approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 5th of November 2024

– The Chair asked if all members agreed with the minutes, and all agreed they could be signed.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 5th of November 2024 can be confirmed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

25006 Borough Councillors report - Councillor Hasselmann's report is in Appendix A

25007 County Councillor Drew report – Cllr Drews report is in Appendix B.

24008 Clerks report (This was circulated prior to the meeting)

- The two swing seats have now been replaced.
- Donation of £750 received for a new bench.
- SID will be ordered in January and delivered to Cllr Pyle (Delay due to lack of storage space during Xmas) Padlock purchased.
- One allotment with new tenant two more residents have expressed interest. Vacant allotment if Cllrs agree to refund for current tenant.
- Licence agreements have been sent out mixture of post and e mail.
- Extra bag of bark required for the footpath reordered.
- Awaiting TVBC for update about golf course. HCC response circulated from D Smith, asked for copy of the evidence he submitted to TVBC under FOI.
- Raffle money banked.
- Newsletter distributed.
- Residents are signing up to new website. Circulation list will end soon.
- Dog bags refilled after last meeting, one dispenser was completely empty despite filling two weeks before, it appeared to be a one off during half term week.

25009 SSE Village Clock & Recreation Ground – SSE have bulk loaded invoices from April to November on a variable rate. The complaints dept at the call centre is unable to answer questions. A written complaint has now been answered eight weeks later stating they will recalculate the costs and apologising for their errors.

25010.1 Planning - No new applications

25010.2 Update on previous applications

- 23/02105/CMAN Sludge Facility Cowdown – Awaiting decision.
- 22/03267/FULLN Anaerobic digestion facility – Withdrawn, new application expected
- 24/01239 OUTN Land at Barrow Hill Outline Planning Application for up to 40 Dwellings Awaiting Decision.

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- 24/02609/VARN Solar Array Adjacent to Andover Sewage Works Winchester Road Goodworth Clatford Awaiting Decision Loudspeakers will only be used by security when someone is detected on site in real time.
- 24/02706/FULLN Single Storey Side Extension and Replace Window and Door Holly House Church Lane Permission granted

25010.3 Planning Infringements - None

25010.4 Neighbourhood Plan Survey: Cllr Cross's e mail was read to the council in her absence. It was agreed the Clerk would share the wording with Cllrs Struthers and Cross before submitting to ensure that they were happy with the response.

Resolved: Goodworth Clatford Parish Council has agreed to accept the methodology and results of the survey, which were robust, and they are comfortable with the 52% return rate by village residents. The PC will seek to consider their own conclusions and include some of their own recommendations in the Neighbourhood Plan.

25011.1 Finance To approve the Statement of Accounts 1st October 2024 – 30th November 2024. The Clerk had circulated a Financial Statements pack to all members prior to the meeting.

Resolved: That the financial statements between 1st October 2024 – 30th November 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

25011. 2 Payments for approval November 2024

Finest Fuels Bark chip	£108.00
GC Village Club	£22.00
SSE - Village Clock 01/04/2024 -31/05/2024	£146.38
Clatford Shop Assoc	£436.66
Goodworth Clatford St Peters Room	£10.00
Bank Charges	£10.50
Hugo Fox - Setting up website and domain	£238.80
SSE - Village Clock 19/11/24	£365.69
HMRC - Employer NI	£33.53
HMRC Clerks tax	£66.40
Clerks pay & back pay & exp	£966.45

Payments for approval December 2024

GC Village Club	£31.00
Bulpitt Print Newsletter	£154.00
Business Stream - Allotments	£28.85
Clatford Shop Assoc	£436.66
Go Cardless - Hugo Fox - Website	£23.99
Will Walker Refund Dobbies soil dressing for trees	£36.98
TVBC- New swing seats	£374.78
SSE - Pavilion 16/04/24 - 22/08/24	£337.58
SSE - Pavilion 23/08/24 - 4/12/2024	£226.13
Bank Charges	£8.00
Weebly - .goodworth.com domain for e mails	£16.00
Weebly- non sterling transaction fee	£0.44
HMRC - Clerks Tax	£20.60
Clerks pay & exp	£785.18

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Resolved: Payments for November and December 2024 were approved.

Bank Reconciliation			
Business	£	1,457.20	
Treasurers	£	43,245.78	
Closing Balance as at 30th November 2024			£ 44,702.98

25011.3 Approval of Budget. See appendix C **Resolved:** Councillors approved the budget for the finance year of 25/26, which includes paying National Insurance for the Clerk.

25011.44 Approval of Precept 25/26 Resolved: Councillors approved the precept of £33060.00.

25011.5 Quarterly Statement Check. The finance committee confirmed this took place at the last finance meeting on 4th December 2024.

25011.6 Review of Investments. Cllr Welland expressed concern at the depreciation of value of capital investment and he was asked to find two consultants and bring a proposal to next months meeting. Cllrs were reminded that a financial adviser had been investigated previously, and the costs would have eaten into the yearly yield. The Finance Committee confirmed they were satisfied with the current yield, and they expected share prices to rise.

25011.7 Approval of Grounds Maintenance and Play Park Inspection.

Resolved: Councillors approved TVBC to carry out ground's maintenance at £1295.70 and the quarterly play park inspections at £238.16. The quote for the emptying the dog waste bins has not been received yet.

25011.8 Direct Debit. Resolved: Councillors approved monthly Direct Debit payments to Hugo Fox for hosting the website.

25011.9 Playgroup Funding – Cllrs discussed the playgroup's lack of funding to pay for the hall rental. Proposed Cllr Kwiatkowski Seconded Councillor Henderson one objection, six in agreement.

Resolved: To pay a sum of £945 (over 10 months by standing order) subject to a completed application form and copies of the bank statements.

25011.10 Approval to pay SSE invoices by direct debit.

Resolved: Councillors approved paying electric invoices for YU electric and SSE by direct debit.

25011.11 Approval to move e mail provider to Hugo Fox with a pc.gov.uk email addresses. Discussion has been deferred until the March meeting.

Environment

25012.1 Footpaths & Highways. – Cllr Walker reported that three volunteers will walk the footpaths and report any issues back to Cllr Walker as HCC no longer maintain them.

25012.2 Sheepwash Cllr Kwiatkowski reported the no fishing sign had been knocked over and the ground was boggy.

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25012.3 The Park & Estate Management Group – Cllr Walker reported:

- £2512.98 has been received in the form of a grant from HCC to purchase equipment to maintain the footpaths, hand cutters, safety vest, bollard, two trimmer's, brush cutter and batteries. **Resolved:** Cllrs approved ordering and payment of the equipment from Andover Garden Machinery.
- Three disease resistant elm trees have been planted with deer protection and additional compost was purchased.
- £1024 was raised by the annual raffle.
- Damaged tree in The Park has been tidied.
- E mail from Cllr Cross was read to the Council but it was agreed they were all permissive footpaths and landowners to tidy away fallen trees.

25012.4 Allotments – The Clerk reported that two residents have requested use of an allotment. **Resolved:** 6 months fees £42.75 can be returned to a plot holder so their allotment can be relet.

Cllr Welland reported that the hedges at both ends have not been cut and the tree at the top is over three metres high and requires pruning. Cllr Walker will speak to the contractor.

25012.5 Recreation Ground & Pavilion - The following was reported.

- Cllr Welland will monitor the zip wire for wear and tear.
- A £750 donation has been received for a replacement bench for the bench next to the road. **Resolved:** Cllrs approved the purchase of a bench.
- Timber tabletop surface is a little rough and will be monitored.
- Cllr Welland cleared the fallen branch on the footpath at Barrow Hill

25012.6. Completion of monthly H&S Inspections - •

Sheepwash Paperwork completed.

- The Park – Paperwork completed.
- Riverside Rest – Paperwork completed.
- Play Park – Paperwork completed.
- Allotments – Paperwork completed.

All issues discussed in the relevant part of the meeting.

25012.7 Flood Action/Pan Parish Forum- The following was reported.

- Levels of ground water are rising.
- One tanker in the village
- Relining of the sewers in the north of the village has taken place.
- Pump maintenance has also taken place.

25012.8 Lengthsman Scheme

Cllrs ask the Clerk to confirm that the Council holds £10 million public liability insurance. Cllr Kwiatkowski will contact the Lengthsman Lead running the Stockbridge area for further information.

25013 Correspondence – The following correspondence has been received.

- Complaints about Fullerton Farm Sewage works smell. Advice issued by the clerk to record dates and times and report to TVBC Environmental Health with evidence as they are the correct authority to deal with environmental issues.

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25014 Approval of meeting dates.

Resolved: Cllrs approved the meeting dates until March 2026. The Annual Parish meeting was approved for Thursday 22nd May 2025.

25015 Date of next meetings the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th March 2025 in St Peters Meeting room at 7pm

Appendix A Borough Councillor Hasselmann and Floods Report:

Local Authority Reorganisation

Hampshire County Council (HCC) had a special council meeting on the 9th January to consider a report on the implications and opportunities for the County Council of the English Devolution White paper which will include consideration of committing to devolution, local government reorganisation and requesting the Secretary of State to delay the County Council's election in May. During the meeting, the County Council committed to the creation of a Combined Authority across the wider region incorporating Isle of Wight Council, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council. The County Council therefore requested to be included in the Devolution Priority Programme (DPP) as a fast track to delivering devolution for the area. As a consequence of joining the Devolution Priority Programme the County Council committed to delivering Local Government Reorganisation across our area. The Local Government Reorganisation proposals will be submitted to Government by Autumn 2025. As a consequence of joining the Devolution Priority Programme the County Council requested a 12-month postponement of the County Council elections due to take place in May 2025 to provide a necessary stable platform on which devolution proposals can progress at pace in 2025. The implications for local residents, TVBC staff and Councillors, and the way we serve our local communities is not clear. We probably would all welcome improved efficiencies and productivity in our local government, but this has to be an evidence-based process to ensure we do not stifle progress and delivery through a wholesale reorganisation rather than focusing on what is important, i.e. local democracy and service to our residents. As we progress in this journey, we will update you and both Maureen, and I would welcome your views. Please either send us an email (see email address at the bottom of the report) or DM via Facebook.

National Planning Policy Framework The New National Planning Policy Framework was published just before Christmas 2024. TVCB officers are currently working through the implications locally which are likely to be significant. For the purposes of planning applications and appeals the NPPF has taken effect from 12 December.

A303 and A34 litter picking From Monday 6 January, the council's contractor, Core Highways Ltd, will commence clearing the litter from the borough's A303 and A34 verges, laybys and slip roads. Mobile traffic management will be deployed to ensure that working on verges and slip roads is safe. The work will take place during the day which will ensure the quality of the clearance and will be monitored and signed off by the Environmental Service.

Greenhouse gas report for 2023-24 and Climate Emergency Action Plan Progress Update
The council's annual greenhouse gas report for 2023/24 was published on the TVBC website last month. The report shows that during 2023/24 there was about a 60% drop in the reported gross TVBC greenhouse gas emissions and a 68% drop in net greenhouse gas emissions, compared to 2022/23. A significant contribution to this reduction was the transition to HVO in April 2023 in council's fleet vehicles. A progress update for the Climate Emergency Action Plan (2020) was published. It outlines the latest greenhouse gas position

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and also updates on action taken. Both documents are available to view at: Climate Emergency Action Plan | Test Valley Borough Council.

Sylvia Kennedy We were all very sad to hear of the passing Sylvia Kennedy, who died suddenly on 22 December 2024. Sylvia worked tirelessly for her community, and we would like to send our condolences to her friends and family.

Council grant helps get local tree surgery and fencing business off the ground.

Acrewood a new tree surgery and fencing business based in our ward has been given a £750 boost thanks to a Test Valley Borough Council Business Incentive Grant. Owned by Dan Wiltshire and Pat Kemp, Acrewood covers a variety of services from tree surgery to fencing, hedge cutting, stump grinding, ground, and property maintenance to eco grid driveways. The company have done work for residents as well as bigger clients including a local school and is now growing its customer base. Test Valley Borough Council supports new businesses through its Business Incentive Grants, which are designed to help entrepreneurs establish and grow their ventures in the community. Business Incentive Grants are for new businesses located in Test Valley and you must apply before you start your business. The council will pay the grant once you have been up and running for a minimum of six months.

Appendix B Cllr Drew Cabinet decides on County Council services for the future.

County Council to consider bidding to join the Government's 'fast-track' devolution programme.

Hampshire County Council could be one of the local authorities to apply for inclusion in the Government's Devolution Priority Programme (DPP) – for the delegation of central Government decision making powers and additional funding to local councils to give them more local control over certain areas such as education, transportation, and health services.

On the 9 and 10 January, the County Council and its Cabinet will decide whether or not to make a request to be included in the Devolution Priority Programme and be on the fast track to securing devolution for the area, with a view to unlocking the opportunities devolved powers would have as quickly as possible for the benefit of residents and communities across the region.

If it is agreed that a request for inclusion on the fast-track Programme should be made, this would be the first step towards creating a Strategic Authority across the wider region incorporating the local authority areas of Hampshire County Council, Isle of Wight Council, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council.

In addition to the creation of a new Strategic Authority, the Government is also expecting all areas across the country to produce local government re-organisation plans by Autumn 2025. This will create new large unitary authorities across the region, which for Hampshire will mean bringing together the County Council, 11 borough and district councils and small neighbouring unitary authorities into a number of new large unitary authorities.

To help areas develop and implement devolution proposals in the most ambitious timeframes, Government has been clear that they expect local authorities to postpone local council elections from May 2025 to May 2026. This will enable devolution proposals to progress at pace in 2025 and ensure the benefits for the area are realised as quickly as possible.

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<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20241231Devolution>

Working together in Hampshire to tackle climate change: twelve months in focus

Hampshire residents and communities are making a vital contribution to tackling climate change with over 550 householders investing in Hampshire County Council's third Solar Together scheme, generating their own green electricity and contributing to significant carbon reductions for the region.

This, combined with the previous two schemes, will contribute to a reduction of more than 59,000 tonnes of CO₂ in the region (over the 25-year guaranteed lifetime of the systems installed), and, with more people seeking repairs for worn out or mechanically failing items through Hampshire's Repair Cafés, over 50 tonnes of CO₂ have been saved.

Another key area of the County Council's climate change work, in collaboration with partners such as bus companies and Hampshire's district, borough and unitary councils, is reducing carbon emissions from transport through several ambitious programmes including:

- Helping to secure Government investment for sixty-two zero-emission (electric) buses operated by First Bus and serving bus passengers in Fareham, Gosport, and Portsmouth, helping to improve air quality.
- Improvements to 17 major bus services by funding the extension of services, with some now running 24 hours a day, and on Friday and Saturday evenings – reducing the number of car journeys and lowering carbon emissions.
- Construction of nine local walking and cycling routes in locations across the county, to enable people to walk, cycle or scoot for their local journeys instead of travelling by car.

Other positive climate change action over the past year has included planting many more trees through the [Hampshire Forest Partnership](#), bringing the total number of new carbon-absorbing trees planted in Hampshire to 41,000 since 2022.

To encourage and support younger residents to tackle climate change, the County Council has set up the [Go Green](#) challenge, spotlighting daily actions they can take, such as avoiding food waste or making a pledge to swap just one car journey for a greener alternative.

As part of finding ways to reduce carbon emissions across all County Council services, around 4,500 more people have been supported through Hampshire's Technology Enabled Care Programme, avoiding the need to travel to, or access, wider health services, and instead have received support at home, which significantly reduces carbon emissions.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20241210ClimateAR>

Hampshire leaders secure commitment from Southern Water to improve their response.

Hampshire County Council has hosted a meeting with Southern Water on the 19 December, bringing together Leaders of local councils and key partners, over concerns around its handling of the latest water supply incident impacting residents in parts of Southampton, Eastleigh, Romsey and the New Forest, and to find out what progress the company is making to improve its services, ensuring reliable water supplies for the county's residents in the longer term

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County Council Leader, Councillor Nick Adams-King said: “We understand that problems can and do occur, and that the scale of this particular emergency was significant, but Southern Water must have much better planning for this kind of occurrence. They need a more resilient system of distributing water, be upfront with the public about the impact and what is actually happening on the ground and work with their partners to ensure residents and businesses are helped in a timely and efficient way. Despite our frustrations, I am encouraged at how seriously Southern Water responded to our concerns, accepting that they need to dramatically improve their response to future incidents. We continue to monitor this incident closely and to offer our active support to the company in relation to the current situation, and to help them better prepare in the future.”

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20241219SWStatementLeader>

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GOODWORTH CLATFORD PARISH COUNCIL					
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	Budget
	Full Year Budget	Actual to Sept	Forecast Oct to Mar	TOTAL	2025/26
	£	£	£	£	£
Budget 2023/24					
INCOME					
Precept	31,486	31,486		31,486	33,060
CCLA	1,268	368	1,104	1,472	1,472
Blue Solar HL	594	153	153	306	306
VTSolar HL	384	198	200	398	398
Gore Street Energy HL	1,694	848	848	1,696	1,696
Nationwide 12 month Bond	450	0	450	450	425
Bank Interest	399	343	0	343	343
Allotment Rentals	755	723		723	723
Pavilion Elect & Water Charges paid by CK	395	79	150	229	229
CK Andover Use of Recreation Ground	895	447	447	894	939
License Agreements	166	0	174	174	174
Cable Consent (S&SE)	80	80		80	80
Rural Payments Agency	832	800		800	800
VAT Refund	0	1,877		1,877	0
Grant Received General	0	0		0	0
Donation	0	0		0	0
Raffle	0	0		0	0
TOTAL INCOME	39,399	37,402	3,526	40,928	40,645
EXPENDITURE					
ADMINISTRATION					
Clerks Office Allowance	312	156	156	312	312
Clerks Salary (inc Tax & NI)	9,298	4,434	5,208	9,641	11,884
Training	500	118	118	236	736
Insurance	1,696	1,629		1,629	1,711
Audit charges	812	667		667	700
Affiliation Fees/raffle/LEI	341	369		369	387
Stationery & Admin	227	24	150	174	183
Village Club Hire	321	201	250	451	465
Travel Expenses	109	28	30	58	100
Other Expenses	155	20	50	70	200
Bank Charges	0	50	70	120	120
Newsletter & Leaflet drops	339		300	300	309
Chairman's allowance	250	46	150	196	250
Data Prot'n & Web Site Fees	1,208	35	400	435	600
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	15,567	7,777	6,882	14,658	17,957
PROJECTS					
The Park	1,750			0	1,750
General	0		2,000	2,000	1,500
Additional SID x 1			2,360	2,360	0
Pavilion	500			0	1,000
Footpaths			1,500	1,500	1,500
Sheepwash	500		750	750	750
Clerks PC & Printer	1,000	499		499	
Review of IT Project	1,500			0	
TOTAL PROJECTS	5,250	499	6,610	7,109	6,500
OPEN SPACES					
Open Spaces - Sheepwash	1,500	665	210	875	1,500
Open Spaces - Village	300	370		370	389
Open Spaces - Riverside Walk & Rest	1,000	250		250	1,000
Open Spaces - Footpaths	200	0	1,500	1,500	1,000
Open Spaces - The Park Maintenance	1,500	462		462	1,000
Recreation Ground	1,300	0	1,365	1,365	1,000
Play Area Inspections/repairs	500	0		0	500
Pavilion Expenses	395	43		43	400
Allotments	750	602		602	800
Rubbish & Dog bins	2,000	482		482	800
Clock and Bus Shelter	230	15		15	400
Other Expenses	0	636		636	500
TOTAL OPEN SPACES	9,675	3,526	3,075	6,601	9,289
GRANT AID (S137) TO VILL ORGS					
Clatford Village Shop Ass'n	5,240	2,620	2,620	5,240	5,240
Other Grants	0			0	0
TOTAL GRANT AID	5,240	2,620	2,620	5,240	5,240
OTHER DONATIONS					
Other Donations	0	0	0	0	0
PCC Upkeep of Churchyard	300	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OTHER DONATIONS	300	0	0	0	0
VAT on Expenditure	0			0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	36,032	14,421	19,186	33,608	38,985
NET SURPLUS/(LOSS)	3,367	22,981	(15,661)	7,321	1,660