



Minutes of meeting of Rooksdown Parish Council.

Monday 25th November 2024 at 7:30 pm

RDPC Councillors	Present	Apologies	Absent
Cllr Paul Mahoney – Chair	✓		
Cllr Douglas How – Vice Chair	✓		
Cllr David Knights	✓		
Cllr Scott Mason	✓		
Cllr Michael Anigbo	✓		
Cllr Abimbola Bisiriyu	✓		
Cllr Dan Harris	✓		
Vacant			
Clerk Christian Gutierrez	✓		

Also present: Ward Councillor Ganesh | Hampshire County Councillor Arun Mummalaneni |

No members of the Public were present.

24/159	To receive and accept apologies for absence <i>None.</i>
24/160	To receive and note any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and requests for dispensation for items to be discussed <i>None.</i>
24/161	To approve the minutes of the Rooksdown Parish Council meeting of 28 October 2024 <i>The minutes of the following meeting were Approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Full Council meeting Monday 28th October 2024: Item(s) 24/140 – 24/158</i> <i>[Proposed: Cllr.How Seconded: Cllr.Mason Abstained: none]</i>
24/162	To discuss matters arising from the minutes All items complete except:

	<p>June 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider bracing the new Tommy statue to prevent future damage. Also, consider repairing the broken statue for repositioning elsewhere. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Engagement with Welders Inc. to restore the Tommy Statue is ongoing, and a quote is pending.</i> <p>September 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lesson learned workshop for events to be conducted in October/November. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Covered under 24/174.</i> • Review and agree on the marketing strategy, events working group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Covered under 24/174.</i> • The £1,600 donation from DWH has not been received, despite a reminder being sent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Covered under 24/170.</i> <p>October 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on social media posts about speed limits around Rooksdown and adherence to road rules, particularly regarding turns from the hospital into Rooksdown via Dinwoodie Drive. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>A post has been made on the various Rooksdown Facebook Groups to remind residents of the speed limits. North Hampshire Hospital has been contacted and reminded of the road rules concerning turns into Dinwoodie Drive.</i> • Grant application for IT hardware submitted to the Borough Council. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Covered under 24/171.</i> • Storage solution options for Parish assets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Clerk proposed two storage solutions: 'Now Storage' (£384.00) and 'More.Storage' (£369.60). The Chair, Cllr. Mahoney, suggested using the unit on Mill Road at no cost. The Parish Council approved this proposal.</i> <p style="text-align: center;">- Appendix X</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[Proposed: Cllr.Mahoney Seconded: Cllr.How Abstained: none]</p>
24/163	<p>To invite members of the public to address the meeting (up to 15 minutes in total)</p> <p><i>None.</i></p>
24/164	<p>To receive reports from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chairman of Rooksdown Parish Council (report to follow) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Chair welcomed Cllr. Harris to the Parish Council.</i> ○ <i>The Chair also noted improved engagement with DWH following the residents' meeting held on 11th November, as well as the meeting at the PP Allotment. DWH has committed to enhancing communication with residents and addressing roadworks before Christmas 2024.</i> 2. Clerk to the Parish Council (verbal update / report to follow) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Clerk informed members about the ongoing consultation on Remote Attendance and Proxy Voting, which aims to provide flexibility for council members to attend Parish meetings remotely.</i> (P.A) – <i>The Clerk will draft a response and send it to the Chairman for review.</i> 3. County Councillor (report to follow) – See Agenda Item 24/164 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Squirrel Wood Runoff: <i>Proposal for a raised walkway in the underpass between Rooksdown and Winklebury under review, safety and usability assessment ongoing. Cllr.Mahoney asked if this will be in place before winter, there is no clear view on implementation dates.</i> ○ David Wilson Adoption: <i>Progress on section 38 road works; completion expected by Christmas 2024, updates are being sent by email and letter. Resident's meeting</i>

- held with DWG senior management, with follow up planned for January 14th - revised actions list pending from the November meeting.*
- *Tree Planting Initiative: funding available for disease-resistant elm trees for eligible landowners.*
 - *Proposals to close Household Waste Recycling Centres and remove School Crossing Patrols rejected.*
 - *Plans for formal crossings to replace patrols in the future under review.*
4. **Borough Councillor (report to follow) – See Agenda Item 24/164**
- *Public consultation on the budget is underway.*
 - *A projected £2.4 million budget gap in the fourth year raises concerns about financial sustainability and potential service impacts.*
 - *The Chair proposes a joint meeting with Sherborne St John Parish Council and the Borough councillors as a brainstorm session on how to best handle before the proposal is put in place, as changes cannot be done after.*
 - *More details will be provided in January about what is being proposed.*
 - *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) changes: Awaiting a central government response.*
 - *Anticipated local government white paper may reorganise district and county councils into unitary authorities, potentially impacting access to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council assets.*
 - *The council is monitoring potential benefits and risks, including asset stripping concerns.*
5. **Rooksdown Community Association (RCA) (verbal update)**
- *None*
6. **Police/PCSO/CSPO (verbal update)**
- *None*

24/165

To approve payments

[Proposed: Cllr.Bisiriyu | Seconded: Cllr.Mason | Abstained: None]

Payments were reviewed by Cllr S. Mason and Cllr D. Bisiriyu and confirmed as an accurate record. The summary below reflects invoices from the previous Parish meeting to date

Voucher	Date	Pay/Rcpt	Supplier ref.	Supplier / customer	Amount	Payment
	11/11/2024	Receipt		Lloyds Bank - receipt	129.74	
	12/11/2024	Receipt		SHARPE S L	45.00	
	08/11/2024	Receipt		NEST PENSION refund	8.84	
	30/10/2024	Receipt		MTHIM R	45.00	
	29/10/2024	Receipt		S CYRIAC	45.00	
	29/10/2024	Receipt		BIJAY GURUNG	45.00	
	29/10/2024	Receipt		SINCLAIRE LF	45.00	
77	17/09/2024	Payment	Invoice 1904	RCA	880.00	880.00
78	22/09/2024	Payment	Invoice 2837	Premier Ground & Garden	239.40	239.40
79	29/10/2024	Payment	INV-6966	HALC	117.60	117.60
80	12/11/2024	Payment		RBLI	250.00	250.00
81	14/11/2024	Payment	60358	SkipHireUk - to CG	329.00	329.00
82	19/11/2024	Payment	Invoice 1928	RCA	660.00	660.00
83	30/11/2024	Payment	581/NZ62011	Brighpay	833.84	833.84
84	31/10/2024	Payment	MEM026842101	NEST	77.36	77.36
85	30/11/2024	Payment	581PH00233209	HMRC	259.96	259.96
86	30/11/2024	Payment	MEM026842101	NEST	38.68	38.68
						3,685.84

24/166	<p>To note the current financial situation and bank reconciliations</p> <p><i>The bank reconciliation reports for Q2 2024 (July - October) were noted as satisfactory and signed by the Chair. - Appendix XX</i></p>
24/167	<p>To review latest view of draft budget for financial year 2025/2026</p> <p><i>The Financial Working Group met in November to review year-to-date costs, categorising them as either Capital or Operational. An initial outline of the Operational Budget for 2025 was presented to the Parish Council.</i></p> <p><i>A further financial meeting is scheduled for December to finalise the draft budget ahead of approval in January.</i></p> <p><i>Cllr.Anigbo suggested that the 2025 budget should allocate £600 for a storage solution.</i></p>
24/168	<p>Planning applications</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Conversion of part of existing double garage into a study for working from home purposes. Installation of new window and 2 no. additional doors to allow access from garden to garage and study area.</u> 6 Barron Place Basingstoke Hampshire RG24 9JS Ref. No: 24/02608/HSE Received: Wed 13 Nov 2024 Validated: Wed 13 Nov 2024 Status: Registered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The parish council noted the planning application.</i> 2. <u>G1. Beech. Running along length of car parking area of Locksbridge House. Reduce lateral spread over car parking area by 2-3m, lift crowns to 5m from ground level. T6 Beech. Monolith at 6m.. T15 Beech. Monolith at 6m.</u> 1 Locksbridge House 1 Divot Way Basingstoke Hampshire RG24 9YB Ref. No: T/00561/24/TPO Received: Tue 12 Nov 2024 Validated: Fri 15 Nov 2024 Status: Registered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The parish council noted the planning application and would support the position of TPO.</i> 3. Applications not on the agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>none</i> <p>Applications received between the date of this agenda and the meeting, for which the closing date is before the next meeting, will be discussed under this heading</p> <p><i>None</i></p>
24/169	<p>To consider Rooksdown Reporter for Spring 2025 publication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Parish Council aims to issue the 2025 Newsletter in alignment with key Council events, setting publication dates potentially for March, June, and September 2025.</i> ○ <i>The Council discussed running several competitions as part of the publication.</i> ○ <i>The Clerk proposed drafting a project plan for the newsletters to ensure inputs are gathered methodically. It was also suggested that an agenda item be included in each Council meeting to review and update the planning process.</i>
24/170	<p>To receive an update on David Wilson Home</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Progress on Section 38 roadworks is ongoing, with completion expected by Christmas 2024.</i> ○ <i>Residents' meetings were held to address concerns, with follow-ups planned for December & January.</i> ○ <i>Parking and yellow line issues require review with Hampshire County Council.</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DWH senior management met at the PP Allotment and advised that the handover of the allotment has not yet been completed. ○ County Cllr. Mummaleneni reported no further updates from DWH regarding the £1,600 donation. Although DWH committed to providing an update by 30th November, no details have been received. The Parish Council expressed concerns about the lack of communication from DWH on this matter.
24/171	<p>To approve grant application for IT into the Borough council</p> <p>[Proposed: Cllr.Mason Seconded: Cllr.Knights Abstained: None]</p> <p>Following the Clerk's recommendation, the Parish Council approved the purchase of a ViewSonic Europe PA5035 projector (£295.20) and a 100-inch projection screen (£154.99). These items will be funded through a Borough Council Grant application. - See Agenda Item 24/171</p> <p>(P.A) – Clerk to submit Grant application.</p>
24/172	<p>To consider adoption of Code of Conduct to the revised Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council / LGA version as presented 24/03/2022</p> <p>[Proposed: Cllr.How Seconded: Cllr.Anigbo Abstained: None]</p> <p>The Parish Council has elected to adopt the Borough's 'Model Code of Conduct,' aligning Rooksdown Parish Council with 34 other Parish Councils in the Borough that have adopted the model code. – See Agenda item 24/172</p>
24/173	<p>To receive an update on the Allotments and make appropriate decisions (report attached)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the cost of Splitting SF allotment plot 4 into Two half plots. <p>[Proposed: Cllr.Mason Seconded: Cllr.How Abstained: None]</p> <p>The Parish Council approved the cost of materials, totalling £54.10, to divide Plot 4 at the SF Allotment. The labour will be carried out by the Clerk. – See Agenda item 24/173</p> 2. Evaluate if legal engagement is required on plots not maintained. <p>The Parish Council resolved that no legal engagement is required at this time. This will be revisited in the future if needed, based on plot holders' compliance with the tenancy agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Council received an update on the allocation of empty plots: two plots remain empty at the PP Allotment (Plots 2b and 3b) due to accessibility issues. SF Plot 4, which has been returned, will be offered to the waiting list as two half-plots (Plots 4a and 4b). ○ Plot holders at the SF Allotment continue to respond to the Council's emails regarding plot upkeep. Plot 7 has been granted an extension until 31st March to restore the plot, acknowledging that winter conditions may hinder progress. ○ A formal complaint was received from the holder of Plot 12b (SF Allotment) regarding an email about plot upkeep. The Chair engaged with the plot holder to clarify responsibilities under the tenancy agreement. ○ The provision of an 'amnesty skip' was a success. The skip remained at the allotment for two weeks and was widely used. Lessons learned for future implementations include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Considering a larger skip. 2. Developing a mechanism for fair use to prevent disproportionate benefit by certain plot holders. 3. Providing the skip earlier in the year to take advantage of better weather conditions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Allotment Working Group noted that hedging around the allotment and a tree on Plot 9b at the SF Allotment need attention.</i> (P.A) – <i>The Allotment Working Group will review options to address hedging and overgrowth issues.</i> ○ <i>The Chair highlighted a meeting with DWH senior management at the PP Allotment. The discussion focused on the handover of the allotment, which remains incomplete, and the deforming driveway, which must be resolved before handover to the Parish Council. DWH has taken these actions for resolution.</i> ○ <i>The eroding driveway at the SF Allotment remains a concern, particularly during the winter rainy months.</i> (P.A) – <i>Engagement with B&D Ground Maintenance and the Borough Council is required to address maintenance issues and clarify funding.</i>
24/174	<p>To receive an update on Events for rest of 2024 and into 2025, including 2024 festive events proposal (report attached)</p> <p>Christmas 2024 Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Light Trail will be held on 15th December, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. A total of 11 properties have expressed interest in participating.</i> ○ <i>Flyers will be distributed to encourage further participation.</i> ○ <i>The activity will include a printed map, children’s gifts, and presents, with a total budget of £800.</i> ○ <i>Rooksdown Parish Council will support the Friends of Rooksdown fundraising event at the Castle Hill Christmas Fayre through a 'Lucky Balls' game on 13th December from 3:15 pm to 6:00 pm. The proposed budget for presents is £500.</i> ○ <i>Cllr. Knights will report back to the Council in January with details of funds raised, for a formal decision on donation allocation.</i> <p>2025 Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Events are planned to coincide with significant dates, including:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a. The 80th Anniversary of VE Day on 8th May.</i> <i>b. The "Rooksdown 2025" summer event in July.</i> <i>c. A Remembrance event in November.</i> <i>d. A Christmas celebration during November and December.</i>
24/175	<p>To confirm a date and attendees for an HR Committee meeting to conduct the three-month evaluation of the Parish Clerk and RFO as part of their six-month probation period.</p> <p><i>A meeting will be held on Wednesday, 18th December, to conduct a three-month evaluation of the Parish Clerk and RFO. The HR Committee will attend.</i></p>
24/176	<p>To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting in January - Monday, January 20th 2025</p> <p><i>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 20th January 2025, at 7:30 pm in the Youth Room at the Community Centre.</i></p>
24/177	<p>Chairman’s correspondence</p> <p><i>None.</i></p>
24/178	<p>Clerk’s correspondence</p> <p><i>Correspondence has been received from Premier Grounds & Garden Maintenance, the current provider maintaining the allotments for the Parish Council. From January 2025, their prices will increase by 15%, equating to a monthly increase of £29.92.</i></p>

	<i>(P.A) – The Clerk will check and confirm any prior commercial agreement with Premier Grounds & Garden Maintenance.</i>
24/179	Chairman to close meeting <i>The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and the meeting was closed at 22.00</i>

Attachments may be found on the council website under [Council Documents/Agendas](#) – scan this code for direct link - or obtained by email using the address below.

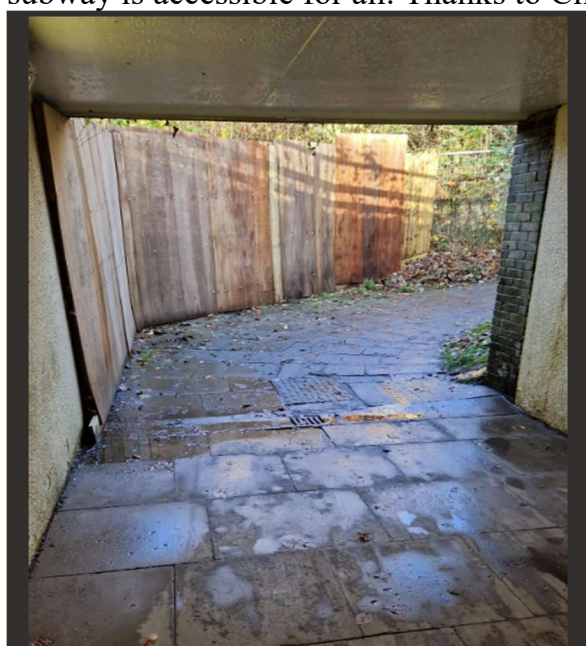


Hampshire County Councillor Update – Nov 2024

Cllr Arun Mummalaneni

Squirrel Wood - Runoff into the Footpath/tunnel under Ringway North

Resolving the Squirrel Wood subway flooding issue remains a priority. The flooding situation at the underpass has significantly improved following measures implemented by Places for People (PfP) engineers to prevent runoff from the Squirrel Wood development. Despite this progress, I am continuing to advocate for the installation of an elevated scaffolding walkway to ensure a short-term, reliable solution. Efforts are ongoing to expedite the project and improve safety and accessibility for residents. The following picture taken this morning despite heavy rain for past two days, the subway is accessible for all. Thanks to Cllr How for the picture.



Raised Walkway Proposal

- The primary solution involves the installation of a raised walkway to mitigate the impact of flooding.
- Hampshire County Council (HCC)'s Road Safety Team is currently reviewing the design, which was revised by Places for People (PfP) following earlier feedback.
- The updated design is under assessment to ensure it meets all safety and usability requirements.

Current Status of Design and Approval

- Scott Gregory, Group Engineer for Structures at HCC, has been liaising with a scaffolding contractor to finalize the raised walkway design.
- Flooding photographs have been provided to inform the design and ensure that it addresses the severity of the issue.
- Upon approval, PfP will install the raised walkway with anti-skid surfacing and appropriate signage to enhance safety.

Maintenance and Additional Actions

- PfP’s groundwork contractor continues to monitor and address general maintenance issues, including fencing in the area which has been subject to vandalism.

Timeline and Next Steps

- The final design will be shared with councillors and relevant stakeholders upon approval.
- PfP will manage the installation phase, with timelines dependent on the completion of the design review and approval process.

My Actions

- Regular follow-ups with HCC engineers and contractors have been conducted to ensure the project remains on track.
- Requests for clear timelines and progress updates have been made to keep residents informed.

David Wilson road adoption

Acknowledgments

A special thanks to Cllr Knights for their consistent efforts in monitoring the situation on-site and diligently following up with David Wilson Homes (DWH). Their role has been instrumental in maintaining momentum on this issue.

Key Developments

- Following an escalation to the DWH senior management team, there has been notable progress both on the ground and in the paperwork.
- An on-site visit took place with the DWH senior leadership team, me, and parish councillors.
- A residents' meeting was held on **19th November 2024** at Rooks down Community Hall, attended by over 30 residents. The Managing Director for DWH Southeast was also present.
- DWH has committed to completing the road works under their Section 38 agreement before Christmas 2024.
- Another meeting is scheduled with Peach Street residents on **17th December 2024**, followed by a larger residents' meeting on **14th January 2024**.

Residents’ Meeting Highlights

1. **Section 38 Road Works:**
 - DWH confirmed that road works are ongoing and aimed for completion by the year-end.
2. **Parking and Yellow Lines:**

- DWH clarified they are not authorised to impose yellow lines until the roads are officially adopted. I am currently liaising with Hampshire County Council (HCC) to explore interim solutions.
- 3. **Grant to Rooks down Parish:**
 - The grant promised to Rooks down Parish has been approved.
- 4. **Peach Street Survey:**
 - A sample survey of Peach Street properties has been completed, and reports are awaited.
 - Based on residents' feedback, DWH has agreed to conduct a comprehensive 100% survey of all affected properties.

Concerns and Clarifications

- **Delays in Road Works:**
 - DWH attributed delays to HCC inspections; however, HCC's records indicate multiple sites visits this year. During discussions, DWH admitted that the delays were not due to HCC.
- **Scepticism About Commitments:**
 - While the mood at the meeting was generally positive, it is worth noting that similar assurances have been given in the past without concrete outcomes. Therefore, I remain cautiously optimistic about DWH delivering on their promises this time.

Next Steps

- Awaiting the full meeting notes from DWH for circulation.
- Continued monitoring of the Section 38 road works to ensure timely completion.
- Follow-up on the Peach Street survey reports and the broader residents' meeting in January.

Thank you to all stakeholders and residents for their active participation and patience as we work to bring this long-standing issue to a resolution.

Road Works:

During the last quarter, our highways team have made the most of the favourable summer weather and the additional 'Stronger Roads Today' campaign funding to focus on addressing road defects and keeping Hampshire's Road network in a safe and serviceable condition. We have also been cleansing and clearing high numbers of road gullies and drains ahead of wetter weather expected over the Autumn and Winter period. Residents can now find out more about what we do and how we do

it by visiting hants.gov.uk/strongerroadstoday where we have brought together helpful information about highway maintenance.

The webpage includes a video and some FAQs, with explanations for the various maintenance techniques and treatments that we routinely use. As always, we welcome residents' online reports about all road issues via OurHants app, or online at hants.gov.uk/transport/highways



The following scheduled road works are impacting our parish.

While there is no roadworks directly within our parish, nearby roadworks may still affect residents' journeys.

Next two weeks

Roadworks - delays likely

Aldermaston Road
 9 Dec 09:30 - 16:00
 # FF402TH2425000031090-01 Granted
 Hampshire County Council

Centre on map

Roadworks - delays possible

Aldermaston Road
 4 Dec 09:30 - 16:00
 # FF402TH2425000031127-01 Granted
 Hampshire County Council

Centre on map

INFORMATION FOR ROAD USERS

Location
Aldermaston Road

Traffic management
Lane closure

Date
9 Dec 09:30 - 16:00

WORK DESCRIPTIONS

Description
 VEGO; WORKS DESCRIPTION: Fllail hedges Siding carriageway This includes 2 x off slips, 2 x on slips, the roundabout inside and out, Aldermaston Road northbound and Popley Way southbound at junction. Fllail to a height of 5m and to 1m in depth. Arb gang to remove larger branches where required and vegetation surrounding traffic signals and Signage to be removed.

Location
ALDERMASTON ROUNDABOUT

INFORMATION FOR ROAD USERS

Location
Aldermaston Road

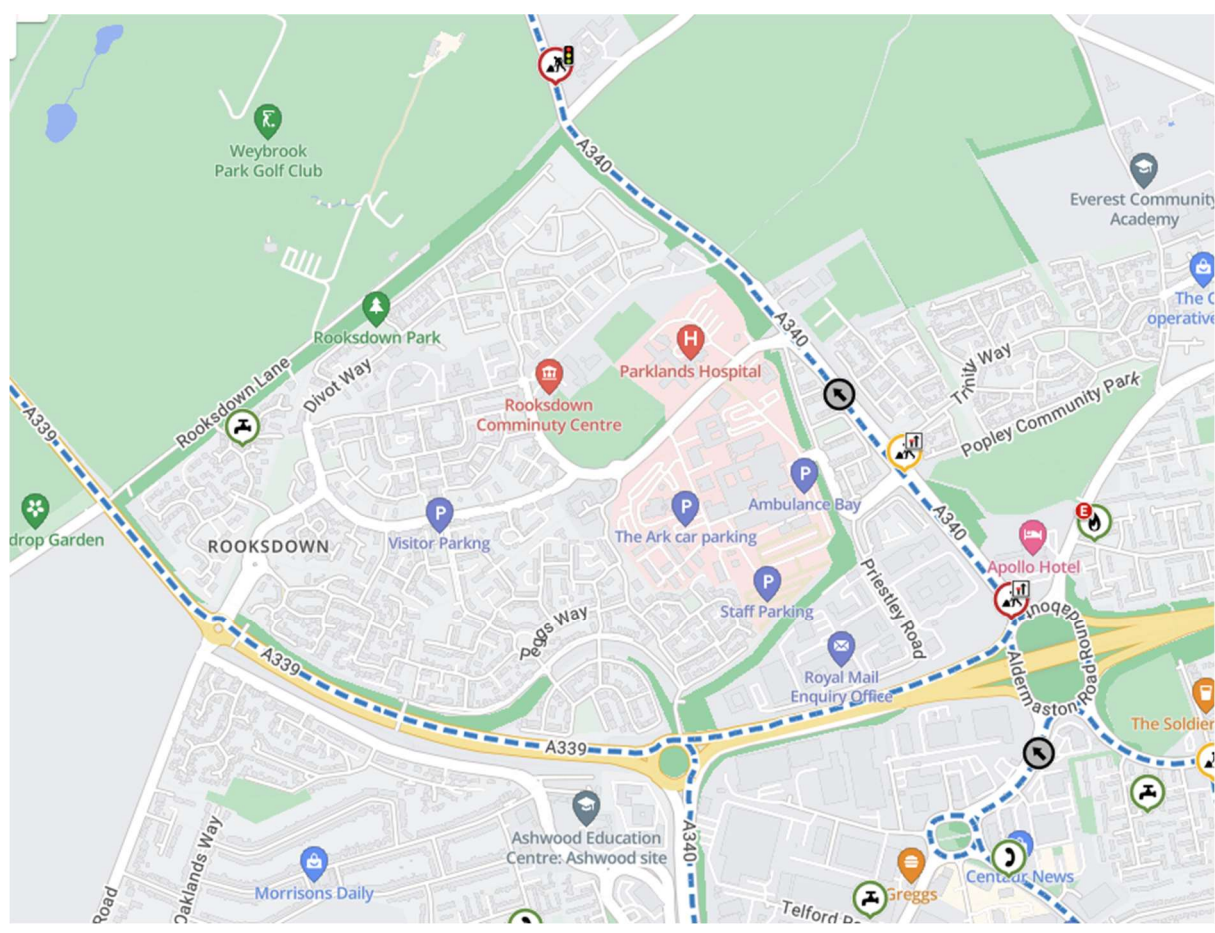
Traffic management
Lane closure

Date
4 Dec 09:30 - 16:00

WORK DESCRIPTIONS

Description
 G; SIGN; SIGNING ORDER WORK TYPE: Sign replacement. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS: Lane closure, Restricted hours 0930-1600 Signing works: NEW SIGN TO BE ORDERED: left pointing directional sign, white background, black border, black lettering, red Hospital and A&E sign. Width 1500mm 765mm height X height 80mm H SIGN 260mm A & E sign x height 80mm height 130mm width 335mm 76mm

Location
ALDERMASTON ROAD



Reporting Highway Problems

Links to report road issues are here:

Potholes:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes>

Tree/hedge problems:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/treehedge>

Flooding/drainage issues:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding>

Pavement problems:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving>

Problems with rights of way:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

When reporting an issue, you'll be sent an email confirming a reference number for the report. If you would like me to follow this up for you then do, please forward that message to me and I will chase for you.

Highways Updates:

Barriers to walking and cycling

Have your say between 28 October and 22 December

As part of Hampshire County Council's commitment to improve accessibility and enable more people to walk and cycle for short journeys, you are invited to help us identify where there are barriers to walking and cycling on your local streets.

We want to hear from all walkers and cyclists, including people who use mobility aids (including mobility scooters), pushchairs or buggies, people who use cargo bikes and trailers, or other adapted cycles.

Have your say

The survey is open from 28 October at noon until 22 December at 11.59pm.

For more information, and to complete the survey:
Visit: hants.gov.uk/barriers-walking-cycling
Email: engagement.feedback@hants.gov.uk
Phone number: 0300 555 1388

Barriers to cycling and walking.

Hampshire County Council are carrying out an audit of accessibility and connectivity across the county. The survey is aimed at identifying issues with accessibility and connectivity for walking and cycling. This is part of Hampshire County Council's commitment to improving accessibility and encouraging more people to walk and cycle for short journeys. The survey closes just before midnight on 22 December 2024.

Please click on the scheme web page to access the survey:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transportchemes/barriers-walking-cycling>

HCC Savings Proposals – HWRCs and School Crossing Patrols saved.

HCC Cabinet colleagues and I voted to reject proposals to close local Household Waste and Recycling Centres and remove School Crossing Patrols.

The 12 HWRC sites at Aldershot, Bordon, Romsey, Hedge End, Marchwood, Petersfield, Somerley, Alresford, Bishops Waltham, Fair Oak, Hartley Wintney and Hayling Island will remain fully open.

The County Council has bold plans to improve recycling across Hampshire in the next four years, Cabinet felt that any change to the HWRC network needed to be taken into account alongside these emerging schemes.

We also rejected plans to remove School Crossing Patrols from 17 locations across the county.

Instead, a review will begin into more than 170 school crossing patrol sites to identify whether hard crossings could eventually be installed as an alternative to manned crossings as and when the posts become vacant.

The review will start with the more than 30 sites where a school crossing patrol should be in place, but the Council have been unable to recruit to the role.

Although school crossing patrols are a lovely, traditional way for school children to cross the road -it is unreliable. Ever fewer people wish to undertake the role. Investment in formal crossings will ensure our children's safety for years to come.

Funding for disease-resistant elm trees

Hampshire Forest Partnership has funding available to give away different variants of disease resistant elms (bare root and pot grown).

Farmers and landowners are eligible to apply and can specify preferred tree sizes. The land need not be publicly accessible, but the Partnership prefers locations where people will be able to see the elms once they grow to maturity - for example in fields, hedgerows or boundaries viewable from a road, footpath or viewpoint.

They prefer locations out of woodlands, and the trees must be allowed to grow to full maturity.

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/.../peopl.../disease-resistant-elms>

Please contact treeplanting@hants.gov.uk for an application form.



The screenshot shows the Hampshire Forest Partnership website. At the top, there is a logo with a tree and the text 'HAMPSHIRE FOREST PARTNERSHIP a legacy in leaves'. Below the logo is a navigation bar with links: 'About us', 'Get involved', 'News and events', and 'Contact us'. The main heading is 'DISEASE-RESISTANT ELM TRIALS' with the sub-heading 'Join our trial and claim your free trees to take part'. The text describes the historical significance of elms in the English countryside and the impact of Dutch elm disease. It mentions that the disease is caused by a pathogenic microfungus carried by two species of elm bark beetle and has killed nearly all the mature elms in Britain, with an estimated toll of 60-100 million trees. It also notes that the elm was historically one of the six major trees within our woodlands, widely used in landscaping, and hosts more than 80 species of invertebrate, including several rare moths and the now endangered white-letter hairstreak butterfly. The text concludes by stating that they are trialling several different elm varieties that have been developed by specialised breeding programmes, with initial findings suggesting these cultivars can resist the disease and establish well. The planting locations are being mapped to help record future growth patterns, ability to resist the disease and how well the elms support biodiversity and nature recovery. There are three photographs: one showing three people standing in a field, one showing a person standing next to a tree, and one showing a close-up of a tree trunk.

ROOM IN YOUR HOME AND IN YOUR HEART – HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CELEBRATES FOSTER FOCUS WEEK 2024

Could you create special, lifechanging memories by fostering a vulnerable child?

[Room in your home and in your heart – Hampshire County Council celebrates Foster Focus Week 2024 | Hampshire County Council](#)



Parish Council meeting – 25 November 2024

Item 24/164.4 To receive reports from: Borough Councillor

Rooksdown Parish Council – Monthly Report for November

1. Budget

The council budget is now out for public consultation. A key concern is the projected budget gap of £2.4 million in the fourth year, which poses significant challenges. This gap raises questions about the financial sustainability of the council, particularly in light of the additional staff recruited over the past 12 months by the new administration. While these positions were initially justified to support enhanced service delivery, the financial pressures may place these roles at risk, potentially impacting service levels and staff morale. We await the capital budget and forecast for the next four years as officers have told us that the capital reserves will soon be close to £19 million which is significantly lower than they were and close to the acceptable minimum.

2. Planning

The council is still awaiting a formal response from central government regarding the timeline for changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The consultation process concluded some time ago, but clarity on when the proposed amendments will be considered and implemented remains elusive. This delay creates uncertainty for local planning and decision-making.

3. Local Planning

The part-retrospective planning application at Weybrook View remains a priority issue. This application involves the construction of a new industrial unit (divided in two) and the permanent establishment of a car storage area accommodating 55 vehicles. The council is closely monitoring this case to ensure all planning requirements and community concerns are appropriately addressed.

4. Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation

Anticipation of the forthcoming local government white paper by the new national government has sparked significant media coverage and local discussion. Proposals suggest that district and county councils may be reorganised into unitary authorities, potentially affecting access to assets held by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC). While potential cost benefits from reorganisation are being highlighted, concerns persist about asset stripping and the long-term implications for Basingstoke and Deane. The council will continue to monitor developments closely to understand how these changes might impact residents.

5. Current Case Work

The borough councillors remain engaged in partnership work addressing problematic developments across and neighbouring the parish. Issues range from communal area maintenance to challenges with individual properties, including houses and flats. These matters require ongoing collaboration with developers and property managers to seek timely resolutions.

6. Housing Associations

Borough councillors are actively pursuing maintenance activities and schedules for various blocks and houses across Rooksdown. Delays in repairs and general upkeep by housing associations continue to be a point of contention, and councillors are committed to ensuring residents receive the necessary support and maintenance.

Conclusion

The council faces significant challenges across financial, planning, and housing domains. Continued collaboration and proactive engagement with stakeholders will be essential to address these issues effectively and uphold the quality of life for residents in Rooksdown.



Parish Council meeting – 25 November 2024

Item 24/162 Storage solution options for Parish assets.

To discuss options for the storage of Parish Council assets. The current agreement with RCA (Rooksdown Community Association) runs until March 2025. An alternative storage solution will be required from April 2025 onward or to address any additional storage needs before that time.

Two suppliers have been approached for the provision of a 25-square-foot storage unit:

1. Now Storage is located closer to town. They offer a 25 sq. ft. unit for **£19.20** per week, there is a 50% discount for the first 12 weeks. [Link](#).

2. More.Storage is located off the roundabout on Aldermaston Road, offering a 25 sq. ft. unit for **£16.80** per week, with a 50% discount for the first 8 weeks. [Link](#).

Expected calculations:

Period	Now Storage	More.Storage
8 weeks	£76.80	£67.20
6 Months	£384.00	£369.60
12 Months	£883.2	£806.40

The forecasted cost of extending the office facility agreement with RCA is £16.50 per month (£198 per year). This assumes no price increase.



Parish Council meeting – 25 November 2024

Item 24/171 To approve grant application for IT into the Brough council

To discuss options for the submission of a grant application to Borough Councillors for IT infrastructure. The proposal includes a projector and a display screen, which would be utilised during Parish Council meetings and for events or activities where the Council wishes to promote or display information.

Proposal:

Projector	ViewSonic Europe, PA5035	£295.20	https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B071G5H5Q1?tag=track-ect-uk-2550147-21&linkCode=osi&th=1&ascsubtag=ecSEPaixrjm3o77nj4
	Epson, EB-49	£420.00	https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B08KXZ5CPY?tag=track-ect-uk-2550147-21&linkCode=osi&th=1&psc=1&ascsubtag=ecSEPaixrjm3o77nj0
Screen	100-inch Screen	£154.99	https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B07BPY2T69?ref=emc_p_m_5_i_atc
	60-inch Screen	£104.99	https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B07ZQRY6QK?ref=emc_p_m_5_i_atc

Projectors



ViewSonic PA5035 SVGA 3,800 Lumens Business Projector with HDMI, 10W Speaker - White



Epson EB-X49 3LCD Projector XGA 3600 ANSI lumen HDMI 1080P

Price	-14% £295 ²⁰ RRP: £342.00	-7% £420 ⁰⁰ RRP: £453.00
Delivery	Get it as soon as Friday, Nov 22	Get it 26 – 29 Nov
Customer Ratings	4.4 ★★★★★ 2,438	4.4 ★★★★★ 25
Sold By	ViewSonic Europe	Amazon EU
Hardware Interface	hdmi, vga, serial interface	usb, hdmi, d sub, vga
Display Resolution	1980 x 1080	1024 x 768
Brightness	3800	3600
Native Resolution	1920 x 1080	1024 x 768
Image Contrast Ratio	22000:1	4:3
Maximum Throw Distance	43 feet	7.62 meters
Min Throw Distance	3.9 feet	0.76 meters
Controller Type	Remote Control	Remote Control
Mounting Type	Ceiling Mount	Ceiling Mount
Maximum Image Size	762 centimeters	300 inches
Minimum Image Size	30 inches	—

Screens



100 inch 16:9

Add To Basket



60 inch 16:9

Add To Basket

Customer Reviews	★★★★★ 5,051	★★★★★ 5,051
Price	£154 ⁹⁹	£104 ⁹⁹
Diagonal ?	100"	60"
Aspect Ratio	16:9	16:9
Canvas Dimensions	124.5 cm x 221.2 cm	74.7 cm x 132.1 cm
Materials	Aluminum body, PVC canvas	Aluminum body, PVC canvas
Additional Items	Tight transport straps	Tight transport straps
Carry Bag	✓	✓
Length in a bag ?	222,5 cm	150 cm
Packaged Weight	8 kg	5 kg



Parish Council meeting – 25 November 2024

Item 24/172 To consider adoption of Code of Conduct to the revised Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council / LGA version as presented 24/03/2022

The Standards Committee of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council has requested feedback on whether Rooksdown Parish Council has adopted the borough's 'Model Code of Conduct.'

The Basingstoke and Deane Code of Conduct for Councillors is based on the model Councillor Code of Conduct developed by the Local Government Association (LGA) in association with key partners and after extensive consultation within the sector. The LGA will undertake an annual review of this code to ensure it continues to be fit-for-purpose, incorporating advances in technology, social media and changes in legislation.

BDBC approved the Code of Conduct for Councillors on 24 March 2022 and it was adopted following the local elections in May 2022.

The Basingstoke Borough Council Code of Conduct is based on the Local Government Association (LGA) Model Code of Conduct, promoting transparency, integrity, and adherence to public service principles. It covers councillor behaviour, including conflicts of interest, disclosure requirements, and the application of the Nolan Principles of Public Life.

In contrast, the Rooksdown Parish Council Code of Conduct is adapted from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) template. It similarly emphasises ethical behaviour but includes more tailored provisions for small councils, such as specific registration and declaration rules for financial and non-financial interests.

While both emphasize ethical governance and public trust, the Basingstoke model applies broader principles suitable for borough councils, whereas Rooksdown's focuses on localized parish needs

The borough's Monitoring Office has highlighted that 34 out of 42 parish councils have adopted the model code.

They have asked us to confirm the following:

- Whether we have adopted the borough's model code.
- If not, whether we intend to adopt it.
- If we do not intend to adopt it, the reasons for this decision.

To assist in responding to this request, a table summarising the key differences between the Rooksdown Code and the borough's model code is provided below.

To be clear – it is not mandatory / compulsory to adopt the Borough's 'Model Code of Conduct' and we can continue with our existing policy if we so choose.

Topic	Rooksdown Code (2018)	Model Code (2022)
Scope and Context	Focuses on council meetings and activities. No mention of social media or modern communication.	Broad scope, covering all forms of communication, including social media. Adopts Nolan Principles as guiding values.
Respect and Behaviour	Mentions respect and prohibits bullying but lacks detailed definitions or examples.	Expands on respect, explicitly prohibits bullying, harassment, and discrimination, with detailed definitions.
Impartiality	Not explicitly addressed.	Prohibits compromising officers' impartiality and provides examples of appropriate conduct.
Confidentiality	Prohibits disclosing confidential information but offers limited guidance.	Expands on confidentiality, including when disclosures may be permitted (e.g., legal advice, public interest).
Use of Resources	Requires resources to be used per council requirements.	Details proper and improper use of council resources, with examples (e.g., IT equipment, political activities).
Gifts and Hospitality	Not addressed.	Requires registering gifts/hospitality over £50 and advises caution in accepting any to avoid conflicts of interest.
Registration of Interests	Mentions interests generally and includes a single appendix for declarations.	Introduces "Disclosable Pecuniary Interests" and "Other Registerable Interests" with specific guidance and examples.
Sensitive Interests	Mentions sensitive interests briefly.	Provides clear definitions and processes for sensitive interests to protect councillors and associated individuals.
Sanctions and Training	No mention of sanctions or training.	Encourages training, requires cooperation with investigations, and sets out sanctions for breaches.
Guidance and Support	Minimal guidance provided.	Encourages councillors to seek advice from the Clerk or Monitoring Officer, with proactive support mechanisms.

Appendix

Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council - [Councillor Code of Conduct](#)

Rooksdown Parish Council - [Code-of-Conduct-for-Rooksdown-Parish-Council-Sept-2019-1_0.pdf](#)



Parish Council meeting – 25 November 2024

Item 24/173 Approve the cost of Splitting SF allotment plot 4 into Two half plots.

To approve the budget for the division of Plot 4 at Sherborne Field Allotment. This plot has been vacated by the previous allotment holder. As agreed at the Council meeting on 28th October 2024, the plot will be split into two half plots. Below is the estimated cost for the division.

	Qty	Cost/Qty	Total	
25mm Wire netting	10meter	£ 2.00	£ 20.00	https://www.wickes.co.uk/Wickes-25mm-Galvanised-Wire-Netting---900mm-x-10m/p/187731
Postcrete, Ready to use	4	£ 7.00	£ 28.00	https://www.wickes.co.uk/Blue-Circle-Ready-To-Use-Postcrete---20kg/p/221100
Wire Staples	1	£ 6.10	£ 6.10	https://www.wickes.co.uk/Wire-Staples---20-x-2mm---500g/p/287516
			£ 54.10	