

UNCONFIRMED
MINUTES OF THE HAMBLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 9th February 2026, Skirmett Village Hall

PRESENT: Mr A Armstrong – Chair, Cllr S Webb, Mr C Hussey, Mr G Hartley Russell, Mrs A Hopkins, Mr D House, Mr R Ashcroft.

Mrs L Coldwell – Clerk
 Cllr Mark Turner – Buckinghamshire Councillor
 2 members of the public (some part)

Minute 10289

Public Question Time

- A Frieth resident attended to give thanks for the new MVAS which is currently located in Frieth, and for the PC purchasing further Frieth CEC School speeding posters that will be displayed in the parish. She suggested writing a piece for the FVS newsletter and the Hambleden magazine to let residents know what is being done for speeding issues in the parish. All in agreement, the resident will draft something to share with Cllrs. Cllr Hussey proposed making residents more aware of the work that the PC carries out in general, particularly any “good news” stories which can also show where the precept is spent.
- A Skirmett resident attended and commented on the poor condition of the roads at the moment, and the trouble with speeding in the parish.

Minute 10290

To receive any apologies for absence

Cllr S Taylor.

Minute 10291

Declaration of disclosable pecuniary and personal interests by Members relating to items on the agenda

None declared.

Minute 10292

To confirm and approve the minutes of ordinary Parish Council meeting held 12th January 2026

The minutes of the meeting held in January were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

Minute 10293

Clerk and any Councillors if appropriate to report on matters arising and any updates from previous minutes which are not on the agenda

- Minute 10208 – the contractor has replaced the posts, invoice to be paid at this meeting. Clerk to ask for 2 additional posts to be installed in the larger gaps.
Action:Clerk
- Minute 10264 – letters have been sent to Emma Reynolds MP, with a visit to the parish scheduled for June. A visit to the Hamble Brook is unlikely until 2027.
- Minute 10267 – the MVAS is up and running, Cllr House is co-ordinating volunteers for moving it around the parish. Clerk has passed to him the old MVAS padlock key. Clerk can add a page to the website where the data from the MVAS can be shared.
- Minute 10280 – Clerk has advertised the election on the website and social media.
- Minute 10282 – Clerk has placed the statement on the website.
- Minute 10283 – Cllr Hopkins approached a resident who would be willing to create a logo.
- Minute 10285.d – the precept was sent to Buckinghamshire Council.
- Minute 10286.1 – Clerk placed a notice on the website and social media regarding the fire station meeting.
- Clerk has been contacted regarding alleged unauthorised building taking place at Varnells Terrace, Clerk to report to Planning Enforcement.
Action:Clerk
- Clerk has been contacted by the contractor for SSE who will be undertaking tree works in Pheasants Hill on the common. They will need to create a small track to enable the machinery to get in to replace the electricity pole, they will have an Environmental Supervisor on site to ensure all is correct.
- Cllr House reported that the batteries are being charged at Frieth Village Hall for the MVAS and gave thanks to them for the assistance. There are 12 volunteers, and a 2 week rotation cycle is in place. Cllr Hartley Russell volunteered to help. A second charger would be useful; all in agreement to purchase, Cllr House will organise. **Action:Cllr House**

- Yellow notices have been placed on the abandoned cars at Moor End, advising they will be removed within 7 days.
- AED machines have been checked and reported to The Circle. The Fingest AED is still offline, as is the Hambleden AED following the expiration of the pads at the end of December. Clerk has chased for the delivery of both sets of pads which are from different suppliers.
- Road closures have been placed on the website and Facebook page.
- Clerk has reported various potholes, damaged signs, blocked drains and faded white lines around the parish. This can be done by anyone via [Fix My Street](#).

Minute 10294

To receive updates if any from meetings attended since the previous ordinary meeting by Clerk and Councillors

Any slides have been circulated to the Councillors, Clerk has attended:

15/01/2026 – BMKALC Parish Liaison meeting

22/01/2026 – new NPPF training

26/01/2026 – Clerks Meeting

27/01/2026 – Bucks Data training

30/01/2026 – NALC Legal Updates

Cllr Hopkins attended a meeting of Greener Futures, organised by Greener Henley.

Minute 10295

To discuss the vacancy in the North Ward; to consider co-option of the vacancy

An election has been called; this will take place on 12th March 2026. Any interested party can find details of how to submit their nomination on the [Buckinghamshire Council Elections page](#). Please [contact the Clerk](#) or [an existing Councillor](#) for further information, and details can be found on the parish Council website – [North Ward Elections](#).

Minute 10296

To receive any updates from the Climate Change Working Party; to discuss any other matters relating

Cllr Hopkins reported that the most recent meeting of the working party was productive. Ideas for the visit with Emma Reynolds MP were discussed. The working group debated joining Motion for the Ocean but advised the PC against signing up. However, it was proposed to produce a factsheet about the importance of water, particularly the Hamble Brook and what affects the quality. This will involve residents by perhaps involving the local school, and wider residents via a presentation evening that will be open to all. All in agreement to proceed with this. Cllr Hopkins gave thanks to the Frieth residents who are members for their invaluable input.

Action: Climate Change Working Group

Minute 10297

To discuss traffic in the parish; to consider joining the 20 is Plenty initiative

A further accident occurred at the bottom of Cobstone Hill in Fingest last week. Cllr Turner met with residents and Cllr Broome, the Cabinet Member for Transport on site to discuss again what amendments can be made to make this road safer. Cllr Turner and the PC have tried previously for remedies at this location. Suggestions included signage advising this is an accident black spot, to remind motorists. Illuminated signage would need electricity, and signage should be limited in the National Landscape. A speed limit change is not feasible due to costs.

All in agreement to join the 20 is Plenty initiative, Clerk to order stickers for residents to display on their bins if they wish.

Cllr Hopkins raised funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner may be available later this year. Clerk will apply for funding for an additional MVAS in the next round.

Action: Clerk

Minute 10298

To consider open spaces in the parish; to consider the grass maintenance contract for 2026/2027

Cllr Armstrong suggested that a type of parish lengthsman be employed for 2 hours a week, rather than a grass maintenance contractor only. They would be able to do other jobs during the months where no grass cutting is needed, such as weeding, sign cleaning, bus shelter cleaning, litter picking, clearing the brook when needed. This would mean the parish could be smartened up. Clerk to forward the existing grass maintenance contracts to all.

Action: Clerk

Minute 10299**To discuss drainage and flooding on the Skirmett Road, Hambleden**

Clerk advised that a number of people have complained about flooding on the road. The Local Area Technician has advised it is on the capital maintenance list, but action may not be taken for years. Cllr Armstrong has spoken with the landowner who will organise works to alleviate the flooding.

Clerk to speak with the LAT to see what will happen with the flooding in Skirmett since the landowner refused Highways access to dig ditches.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10300**To discuss a new premises license application received by Buckinghamshire Council -**

[PR202601-378322](#)

All in agreement, no objections. Clerk to advise.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10301**Finance:**

a) To approve the accounts for February 2026: Approved and noted.

Accounts to be paid in February 2026:

Mrs L Coldwell – salary (via standing order)	1022.96
BC Pension Fund (via standing order)	316.09
Mrs L Coldwell – expenses	242.66
Cllr D House – MVAS expenses	24.00
Skirmett Village Hall – hire	35.00
Buckland Landscapes – grass maintenance	1387.50
M Tuddenham – Hambleden toilet clean and open/close	120.00
Bacres Farm – wooden posts Mill End	972.00
Vision ICT – website hosting	392.40
Lloyds Bank – account charges	4.25
Total	4516.86
Balance as 1st January 2026	77948.28
Less January payments	(8241.61)
Transfer to Savings Account	(30000.00)
Balance as of 31st January 2026	39706.67
Of which CIL Funds	3653.95
Church Wall reserve	20000.00
Other Earmarked reserves	3250.00
Hambleden Parking fund	696.39
Unrestricted Reserves	12106.33

Film Fund

Total of all funds at 1 st January 2026	17832.07
Donation – THIG	1500.00
Lloyds – account charges	(4.25)
Total of all funds at 31st January 2026	19327.82

Savings Account

Total of all funds at 1 st January 2026	30000.00
Interest	2.47
Total of all funds at 31st January 2026	30002.47

b) To nominate a Councillor to check and approve the bank reconciliation for December and January

Cllr Ashcroft to checked and confirmed both reconciliations.

It was agreed that the invoices to be paid by the Clerk via BACS.

Minute 10302**Members questions: including any items for the next agenda**

- 1. **Cllr House** – raised the potholes in Frieth car park. He will obtain quotations for filling in the potholes and resurfacing the carpark.
Action:Cllr House
- 2. **Cllr Hopkins** – discussed hedgerows and the need to retain and protect them. Clerk suggested a factsheet regarding hedgerows.
- 3. **Cllr Webb** – raised 2 large potholes in Hambleton village. Clerk to report.
Action:Clerk
- 4. Tree surgeons working on behalf of Buckinghamshire Council were in the village assessing the sycamore tree that the PC paid for works to be carried out in previous years. At the time, Buckinghamshire Council denied ownership of the tree. Clerk to investigate.
Action:Clerk
- 5. **Cllr Hussey** – discussed access to the Chilterns National Landscape for all, including those with disabilities. Not all the footpaths in the parish are suitable, but some will be or could be with minor modifications. Defra are keen to open the countryside for all as much as possible.
- 6. Over a year ago, the Natural History Museum took E-DNA from the Hamble Brook and other streams in Bucks, the results came out last week. There were 294 species found in the brook.

Minute 10303**Planning****To consider all recent applications received from Buckinghamshire Council detailed and any other planning applications submitted and published on the Buckinghamshire Council Planning Portal between the circulation of the agenda and the meeting:**

[PL/25/6354/FA](#) & [PL/25/6355/HB](#) – The Flat Roofed House Innings Road Frieth – Demolition of existing single storey side extension and construction of new single storey side extension with basement storey below, together with external access steps and open light-well to side/rear – **no objection**

[PL/26/00085/FA](#) – The Firm Frieth Hill Frieth – Single storey rear extension – **no objection**

Planning Application Decisions made since the date of the last Parish Council meeting – for information only:

[PL/25/3353/FA](#) – The Cottage Bottom Hill Hambleton – Creation of 2 off street parking spaces including retrospective planning permission for space previously formed – **application permitted**

[PL/25/6160/KA](#) – The Barn Hambleton Village Hambleton – T1. Robinia. Full canopy reduction by 2 metres, T2,T3. Walnut. Take laterals back to old cuts. 1 metre, T4. Chestnut. 20% thin, T5. Willow. Pollard (3-6m, back to original cuts) – **TPO shall not be made**

[PL/25/6160/KA](#) – The Barn Hambleton Village Hambleton – T1. Robinia. Full canopy reduction by 2 metres, T2,T3. Walnut. Take laterals back to old cuts. 1 metre, T4. Chestnut. 20% thin, T5. Willow. Pollard (3-6m, back to original cuts) – **TPO shall not be made**

An appeal to the Planning Inspectorate has been made with regards to planning application [25/06137/FUL](#), APP/K0425/W/25/3375513 – Rockwell End House Farm Rockwell End Lane

Minute 10304**To confirm the date for the next meeting as:**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 9th March – Hambleton Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 21.33.

Signed Date