



**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
held in the main hall at Easton Village Hall
on Thursday 23rd April 2026 at 7.00pm.**

Presentation before the meeting:

Prior to the start of the formal meeting Kathryn Boyce and Steven... from Volker Fitzpatrick/Balfour Beatty gave a presentation on the M3 J9 Improvements project which included a short video of drone footage of the works and slides detailing the progress to date.

Questions and answers with members of the public followed. The main concerns highlighted by residents were the issues with drivers using Sat Nav to divert through Chapel Lane, the phasing of the traffic lights at Winnall roundabout and a need for advanced signage for the lane reduction on Easton Lane, how many lanes will be going through junction 9 and where does the M3 on slip road meet the M3 mainline.

Cllr Appleby thanked Kathryn and the communications team for keeping us updated in advance of road closures and diversion whilst the works are ongoing.

Members Attending:

Cllr Appleby (Chairman), Cllr Beresford, Cllr Johnston, Cllr Langford, Cllr Moffatt, Cllr Swinstead, Cllr Wolfe

In attendance:

Twenty residents of the Parish

Cllrs Gordon-Smith and Power Winchester City Council (WCC), Cllr Porter Hampshire County Council (HCC), Victoria Richardson (Parish Clerk)

The meeting was opened at 7.52 p.m.

1. Apologies received:

Itchen Valley Parish Council (IVPC) Cllrs Andrews and Jeffes
WCC Cllr Pinniger

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 2025

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 24th April 2025 were approved by all members that were present at that meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman's report:

The Chairman's report had been published in advance of the meeting on Itchen Valley Parish Council's website and copies were distributed at the meeting. The report was noted and discussed.

Topics raised and discussed included:

- a) IVPC continue to try and engage with HCC Highways over issues regarding insufficient signage at Chapel Lane and the upcoming deputation by residents to HCC on the issue.



Itchen Valley Parish Council

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- b) The works undertaken by Cllr Jeffes to enable costs to be kept to a minimum for footpath maintenance alongside works carried out by the lengthsman to keep many miles of footpaths cleared for the benefit of Itchen Valley residents.
- c) The successful placement of the Speed Indication Device (SID) at Graces Farm/ Easton Lane junction.
- d) The chairman noted the resignation of Helen Knight and thanked her for her service and therefore a vacancy on the Parish Council exists. Two residents have expressed an interest in joining the Council and a reminder that all residents are welcome at the monthly Full Council meetings, with all details published on IVPC website as well as noticeboards.

Finance Report:

The Finance report and unaudited accounts for 2025/26 were published on IVPC website and distributed at the meeting. The report was noted and discussed.

A resident commented that although an increase of 18% for the current year precept was high, it was a sensible decision due to the increases in costs, but in the future would prefer small increases on an annual basis rather than an infrequent larger raise.

3. City and County Councillor reports:

Cllr Porter highlighted the need for residents to engage with the 67 bus campaign to enable improvement in the service that it is currently partially funded by HCC schools transport fund. She also expressed her thanks to Cllr Jeffes for his work on footpaths. Also to note the application by the Magnier family to build warehouse/distribution facility at Popham and the huge increase to traffic on A33 that would affect Valley residents. She encouraged all to engage with the process before the plans are approved as then it is too late to complain about the effects of the increase in volumes of traffic. Comments to be submitted to Basingstoke Council.

Cllr Gordon-Smith noted the conclusion from central Government that will see Winchester City, East Hants District, Test Valley and part of the New Forest form a new unitary authority of approx. 500,000 residents. At this stage Parish and Town council's will continue with their responsibilities. He thanked Cllr Porter for her work in the successful adoption of the Local plan which protects the district from over development. He also noted the recent success that WCC has had with prosecutions against fly-tipping.

4. Campaign to improve the 67 Bus:

Cllr Wolfe detailed the issues that residents have noted regarding the lack of a regular, reliable service available on the 67 route, compared to the frequency of the 64 from Alresford to Winchester. To enable improved discussions with HCC and Stagecoach they require data and proof of a demand for the service. An online interactive tool has been developed that will enable residents to detail the times, dates and locations from where they would like to use the bus. He encouraged all residents that want to see an improved service to visit [My Ideal Bus Journey](#) to register their requirements.



5. Questions and Discussions:

An Easton resident raised their concerns regarding the lack of road markings visible on the road at the junction by The Cricketers since SGN completed the gas works in the village. Cllr Wolfe encouraged everyone to register all highways issues on Fix My Street.

Also the Easton resident highlighted a need for reduced speed through the village as around 4pm the roads are very busy with traffic moving at speed. He requested better signage warning people to slow down. A discussion was had regarding the implementation of a new reduced speed limit and the costs associated with applying to HCC for this.

An Itchen Abbas resident requested a return of the rope handrail at the steps on Chillandham Lane that lead up onto the Watercress Way and was advised that this request would need to be made to HCC Countryside ranger.

He also expressed his thanks to the Parish Council for all their hard work.

The meeting was closed at 8.51pm.