

Heytesbury Imber & Knook Parish Council

Minutes

Tuesday 28th April 2026

Membership: Councillors D Bond (Chair) **DB**, K Riggs (Vice Chair) **KR**, S Buttenshaw **SB**, A Moore **AM**, L Morris **LM**, R Rickcord **RR**, S Smith **SS**, Sue King **SK**, A Kennedy **AK**, and J Dando **JD**.

Present: Cllrs Bond, Riggs, Buttenshaw, Moore, Morris, Kennedy, Smith, Rickcord, King, Dando

Officers: Sarah Vesey-Thompson **SVT**, Parish Clerk

Public and Press: 19 in attendance including Cllr Christopher Newbury.

1. Apologies

No Apologies given.

2. Minutes

- 2.1 The minutes of the PC meeting held on 31st March 2026, circulated. Cllr Buttenshaw proposed the minutes are approved as a correct record. Cllr Morris 2ndd. All in favour. Signed by the Chairman.
- 2.2 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 31st March 2026.

The following updates were recorded:

Idverde grass cutting quotation and contract for the next three years at a cost of £1917.69. Cllr Moore proposed the contract as approved. Cllr Dando 2ndd. All in favour.

Bus Shelter outside Heytesbury School, received a query regarding the markings. Cllr Bond working with Wiltshire Council to resolve this query.

Litter Bin Contract, the Idverde contract has now ceased. Wiltshire Council taken over the contract of emptying the bins although East Hill Road not emptied. This will be chased up to ascertain the reason why this hasn't been emptied.

Knook allotments site meeting arranged for the 1st week in May, Cllr's Bond and Cllr Smith attending the meeting with Den Pictor.

Finalise the entry for the best kept village competition.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Bond declared non-pecuniary interest in planning application 2026/02266 as Cllr Bond lives in close proximity to the proposed site.

4. Chairman's Announcements:-

LHFIG budget has been reduced this year.

Standing Orders were suspended to allow public participation.

5. Public Participation

Public participation proceeded with Caroline Martin, the applicant for planning application PL/2026/02266, Land South of Park Street, Heytesbury – Erection of 9 residential dwellings, speaking and then answering questions from the PC. This was followed by residents airing their views and opposition to the application.

Chairman advised the public to record all their comments onto the Wiltshire Council Website – planning portal.

One resident recorded his approval of the application.

Standing Orders will be reinstated following public participation.

6. Financial Information

6.1 Balances of the Bank Accounts for noting:

Treasurers Account on 21.04.26	£11530.04
Instant Access Account on 21.04.26	£14005.10

78/26 WALC Training	£48.00
79/26 HR Support	£245.70
80/26 WALC Training	£48.00
81/26 Bank Service Charge	£4.25
82/26 March Pay	£433.38
83/26 Locum	£61.24
84/26 PC Mobile	£5.00
85/26 HR Support	£245.70

Zurich Insurance Renewal approved prior to payment.

Idverde payments – Standing Order to be arranged for future payments.

7. Parish Steward

Pothole filling continuing.

8. Policy Review

Policy updates with Clerk to renew.

9. Clerk

Risk Assessment – amendments with the clerk

Asset Register – amendments with the clerk

Standing Orders – to update for 2026/2027

Financial Regulations – to update for 2026/2027

10. Policing & Neighbourhood

Cllr Dando has arranged a meeting in early May with the community policing representative.

Road Closure – A36 road closure 29/4/26 to 5/5/26, Cllr Dando to update on social media and ensure appropriate signage is out around the village.

11. Planning Applications

Discussion continued around the planning application PL/2026/02266 Land South of Park Street. Although it was agreed that the plan showed sensitivity, there were many points that councilors explored further.

Issues pertaining to the River Wylfe, the water table, sewage treatment and building materials proposed for the development were discussed. Cllr Rickord led the discussion on the risk to houses already vulnerable to flooding.

Cllr Buttenshaw pointed out that the proposal for Plot One was to build in the style of a Dutch barn using metal for the walls and roof. It was agreed that this style was entirely out of keeping with the surrounding residential area, especially the two adjacent Listed buildings (Tinkers and Three Chimneys).

Increased traffic through the village was raised due to the difficult exit onto the A36 leading to cars going to Cotley Hill roundabout instead.

The proposed development is outside the Village Policy Limit and, although this is not totally binding, it was felt that allowing this development could lead to further development along Park Street and on Recreation Land.

Cllr Newbury answered some of the questions raised and gave some advice. After a lengthy, and thorough debate, Cllr Rickord proposed that the Council officially Object to Planning Application PL/2026/02266. 2nd by Cllr Morris, All in Favour.

12. Emails Shared with Councillors

Discussion held regarding management of emails and processes for sharing updates to the wider community.

Knook Camp: email received from Lucy Townsend, Wiltshire Council to Cllr Newbury: "I can confirm that neither the MOD or Home Office has contacted Wiltshire Council about using Knook Camp for housing immigrants.

Meeting ended at 20:45hrs.

Next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 26 May 2026 at 7 pm.