

SHEET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Cllr. James Plant

CLERK: Julia Elliman

Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th June 2026 at Sheet Village Hall

Present. Cllrs. Ric Flatt (in the Chair), Brian Bird, Robin Forrest, Liz Hartley, Owen Jonathan, Sue Wood and Craig Stevens

In Attendance. Julia Elliman (Clerk) Cllr. Drew (County and District)

26/114 Apologies – Cllr. Plant

26/115 Declarations of Pecuniary Interests – Councillors were reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest on any item on the agenda. None were declared.

26/116 Minutes – The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2026 were approved as a correct record and duly signed.

26/117 Public Comment – None

26/118 District Councillor Report –

- Cllr. Drew reported that there was work ongoing in Waitrose car park replacing and adding trees so there would be some disruption.
- The Litter cleanup programme has been active especially around the A3 exits which are looking much cleaner; they are keen to do it more frequently. There has been much more enforcement action for perpetrators.
- County were looking hard at the illegal setup of businesses and going through the legal process for removal.
- Cllr. Drew agreed to find out who owned the trees at the bottom of Love Lane (one in need of remedial work).

26/119 County Councillor Report -

- Cllr. Drew had discussed the proposed Merryfield site with traffic officers; they believed increased traffic on Love Lane/Pulens Lane would not be a safety issue. He had followed up to ask whether there they really meant they believed there was no threat to life at school pick up times etc. The site is now included as a development in the County Plan, and Cllr. Drew has asked for re-evaluation of the risk surrounding the school.
- The final decision for the Pulens land crossroads and other works is on 22 June 26. However, there will be no actual work until October and there is no due date planned for the other works.
- Cllr. Drew is chasing action on the large pothole at the bottom of Hazelbank Close; Clerk had registered.
- There is an App showing which roads are impacted by closures- lots closed at the moment due to pothole remedies. It is not 100% accurate as unscheduled emergency work is not always covered. He requested the Council let him know by email if it doesn't work (Clerk to collate replies and scope advertising on website).

26/120 Audit 25-26

- (a) The Internal Audit had been carried out by Tim Light of Lightatouch– his report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.
- (b) BDO – It was confirmed that no member of Sheet Parish Council has a conflict of interest with the External Auditor, BDO, and the relevant declaration was signed.
- (c) Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement – The Governance Statement had been circulated prior to the meeting and statements 1-8, 10 were approved to have a “yes” response; statement 9 is not applicable to Sheet PC. The Statement was duly signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

- (d) Section 2 – Accounting Statements 25-26 – The Accounting Statement 25-26 had been circulated prior to the meeting, having been checked by the Internal Auditor. The Accounting Statement 25-26 had been signed by the Clerk before being presented to the Council and was duly signed by the Chair following approval of the figures.
- (e) Notice of Public Rights – The Clerk confirmed that the notice of Public Rights to view the accounts would be displayed on the PC website and noticeboards around the parish to run from Tuesday 16th June to Monday 27th July.

Cllr. Drew queried at what point the Unitary Council plans would have an impact on the parish financial situation – if assets were added or taken away and what capacity there was to manage this change. He noted that Parish elections may now be the same time as the unitary elections.

26/121 Planning – There were no objections to: SDNP/26/01676/LIS 4 Village Street.

- It was confirmed the posting of planning notices was an SDNP responsibility.
- It was noted that there was a HALC planning course 8th July – Clerk to circulate a link to course
- Cllr Drew noted that there had been a change to planning processes within District; they would no longer accept a Cllr. request for a Planning Committee. Whilst the change had been instigated to accelerate the planning process it would remove delegated authority and mean that Cllrs. could not ensure everyone was heard. This was a significant concern and would limit residents and Cllrs' ability to question tricky planning submissions. It was not clear whether this would also affect SDNP. It was noted that this approach discriminated against those who were not computer literate, as the only means to comment would now be online.
- Cllrs. Flatt and Plant had made the owners of a house on Village Street aware that they were likely to need to apply for planning for a structure in the front garden. Clerk to check for the application in due course.

26/122 Green Spaces –

- The quote to clear obstructions and cut grass on Farnham Road was approved.
- The request for a Memorial bench for one of the crew members of the recent Navy helicopter crash was unanimously supported. Cllr. Bird to investigate the cost to restore the current bench that and that at the top of field. The lower bench might be moved to make way for the Memorial bench. Clerk to reply that we are supportive and ask for a proposal.

26/123 Finance – Items as per the Agenda:

- June payments were approved as circulated.
- Cambridge replacement account – Cllr Steves had investigated and recommended Redwood which is managed entirely online. Clerk to go to local parishes for comparison with who they use pending approval.

26/124 Policies and Regulations – NSTR

26/125 IT –

- IT Policy - Cllr. Stevens had researched an IT policy for smaller authorities – to circulate and on Agenda for next meeting.
- IT Support – Cllr. Stevens had researched options for future IT support, noting the current provider intention to step back in due course. Uniserve were noted to support several councils, charge a reasonable set up fee, with monthly costs covering licences and support over 15 mins. He was awaiting a written quote. There was an option to add backup and training - costs to be requested.
- Website training - Clerk to get investigate further and offer some training.

26/126 Roads and Traffic - Roads and traffic meeting – Cllr. Jonathan said that they were struggling to find an easy online way to signpost to residents to notify Hampshire Highways of accidents, difficulty in crossing the road, near misses etc. The mechanism was not evident. The number of data points on speed being

verified has gone up and excess speed has gone up. Last month police asked for direct access to our data (ASW) and are contacting some of those 200 people offending every day. Some are significant repeat offenders.

The team were trying to accumulate data to go in front of Tim Lawton. Cllr. Oppenheimer had clearly set out why it should be 30mph but he had not responded constructively. Cllr. Wood reinforced the fact there was no pedestrian priority in the village with number of speeders every day. It was agreed that a reduction in speed limit would be preferred but would take a pedestrian crossing if the only route to safer roads was this.

Cllr. Drew was in the process of applying for funding for 2 fixed cameras on London Road. He noted that the Clerk could write to offenders on behalf of the Council. Clerk to investigate.

It was noted that a local camera painted yellow is having an effect on reducing speeding however, these coloured cameras have started to be vandalised.

There are no red rimmed 30mph signs on Pulens lane (either gateway or repeaters).

- 26/127 Recreation Ground – The Rude Mechanicals (18 July) have been relocated to the Millenium Meadow – Clerk to apply for a grant to support the provision of 3 public toilets for approx. 150 people. Cllr. Drew agreed to fund the grant for £300. Cllr. Jonathan would investigate whether his field could be cut to a sufficiently low level to allow parking. The Clerk would request the grass on the MM to be cut just before the event.

- 26/128 Mill Lane – It was agreed that there was a need to secure Mill Lane access, given a recent problem with a scaffolding lorry. The affected house owner would talk to other residents about trimming hedges and trees.

The primary resident who is not keeping their boundaries in order would be formally written to. Advice would be taken from the Environment Agency on the degradation of, and building on, the riverbank by that resident. Owners of overgrown hedges on Inmans Lane will also be written to, noting nesting season. The Clerk had written to Lawrence Godsen. To chase.

- 26/129 Village Hall – A formal quote for the remainder of the roof was received and agreed. Cllrs. requested that this work was planned in with the contractor. A re-quote for loft insulation was requested. Clerk to instigate. It was requested that a new timer for the central heating and/or thermostatic valves for radiators should be investigated. Clerk to instigate with Darren.

- 26/130 Old Billiard Room – The architect had advised that SDNP should be consulted regarding a potential change in intended use as planning had been granted for a dwelling. Cllr. Plant would talk to Planning, noting something needed to be done with the building before it deteriorated further, and also noting that planning permission would lapse in Spring 27.

The current tenants of the OBR had been informed of plans to develop 3 years ago but would be notified of the intent again. The concept of using it as a rental property was discussed again, noting the low yield and expenses associated with being a landlord. Sale was also considered and likely value discussed. It was agreed that Darren would be asked to cost the basic work needed to keep it safe and basic refurbishment costs.

- 26/131 SDNP Plan – Opportunity to comment until 23rd June – Cllrs to review if interested.

- 26/132 Millennium Field/Dog Waste – No response has yet been received from PTC.

- 26/133 BT Phone Box – Clerk noted that Phone Box team had confirmed our interest was noted and the formal consultation period would complete on 11th June and we would be notified in due course.

- 26/134 BMX Track – The agreement had been altered to restrict to a 3-year term, at 100 days per year but was ready in draft. Cllrs. noted that the Management Board for Sheet Trails needed an additional person on their board to sign it off. Clerk to finalise and communicate the requirements to Josh Byford.
- 26/135 Lengthsman – The Clerk was requested to circulate the list of active jobs and copy to Sam and Tom to get the work going.
- 26/136 Allotments – Cllr. Jonathan agreed to review the current tenancy agreement. Clerk to send contract to Cllrs. Plant and Jonathan well as water bill details.
- 26/137 Correspondence – There had been an email exchange over the development off Pulens lane, but the position of the Planning team remained that all the issues had been thoroughly investigated. It was noted that the letter from Tim Lawson stated that as the implementation stage of opening the access off Pulens lane to site was approaching, Cllrs. noted that this might be another opportunity to intervene and try and ensure it was as safe as possible.
- Tim Slaney's advice was that all procedures had been correctly followed to agree permission for access, so a judicial review (the only option open) would not succeed. The S106 agreement was being written and would determine how much developers were going to pay in contribution to the community. It was agreed Cllrs. might now go back on safety grounds and request money to be ringfenced, for example, for a crossing for Sheet. Cllr. Flatt agreed to draft a note (to Lawson and Slaney) after talking to Cllr. Drew. The resident's work in highlighting issues was applauded and supported.
- 26/138 Date of Next Meeting – The next meeting of Sheet Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday, 14th July 2026** at 7.00 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.11 p.m.

Julia Elliman
Clerk

June 2026