



MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th APRIL 2026

Present

Councillors Mr S Hoskins (Chair), Mr G Allwright, Mr J Gallagher, Mrs K Parker, Mr J Woodford and the Clerk, Mr S Marshall.

A member of the public was also present.

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mellor and Cllr Dunn.

1. Declaration of interest

None.

2. Minutes of previous meeting for approval

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th February 2026 were approved by the Chair and signed by the Chair as a true record.

3. Matters arising & Outstanding Action Points

Three additional litter bins have been installed on the Headley recreation ground and the new SID for Headley has been installed and is operational.

Cllr Gallagher had made contact with the maintenance company that is responsible for maintenance issues on the Oakfield and Lilly Wood housing estates in Ashford Hill.

Cllr Allwright confirmed that any appointed contractor for the installation of a MUGA would be required to have a £5 million cover for employers' liability insurance and a £5 million cover for public liability insurance.

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Trees in Thornford Road which were causing concern regarding their size have been reduced in size in order to avoid any potential danger to residents.

4. S137 grant to Citizens Advice Tadley & District

Councillors had been sent information regarding a request to make a grant available to Citizens Advice following the receipt of information regarding the use of the service by residents of the parish. The Chair proposed a grant of £150 which was seconded by Cllr Parker with all Councillors present in favour of the proposal.

5. Planters for parish noticeboards

Councillors had been sent information and costings regarding a proposal to add planters underneath the new noticeboards in the parish. The cost to supply, install, secure and plant out planters with seasonal shrubs, bulbs and bedding plants would be ca. £975 with a potential grant to assist with the cost of the Headley planter from Cheam School.

The Chair proposed the purchase and planting scheme which was seconded by Cllr Gallagher with all Councillors present in favour of the proposal.

It was suggested that the Ashford Hill Village Hall Management Committee be consulted regarding the proposal and that Cllr Parker would consult with the Ashford Hill with Headley Gardening Club regarding being involved in the project.

6. Highways issues

The Chair explained to the meeting the sequence of correspondence with senior management within the County Council's highways department regarding the totally unsatisfactory condition of the B3051 in Ashford Hill. It had been confirmed that a recent safety inspection of the B3051 in March had identified several defects which should be completed within 4-6 weeks. The Clerk would monitor the situation and continue to correspond with the highways department as required within the timescales indicated.

Councillors expressed their deep concern regarding the ongoing number of vehicles that were having punctured tyres and wheel damage caused because of the general condition of the B3051 when Cllr Woodford shared a file of photos of vehicles that had been affected over the weeks. The Chair confirmed that some of the photos of affected vehicles had been sent to senior management within the highways department of the County Council.

The Clerk reported on a recent meeting of BDBC when the condition of the highways within the borough was discussed. The Leader of the Borough Council reported that while the County Council had been awarded a further £14 million in 2025/2026 from central government for the specific purpose of road repairs, the County Council had calculated that it would cost £500 million to clear the road repair backlog in the county. The Leader of BDBC had criticised the County Council's "insane" practice of "reactive patching over planned preventative maintenance".

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7. Planning Applications

26/00139/HSE & 00140/LBC – Hill House, Hillhouse Lane, Plastow Green, Headley

- Roofing replacement works

No objection

25/02949/FUL & 25/02791/FUL - Cherry Cottage, Holdrop Hill, Headley

- Erection of 1 no. dwellings & 4 no. dwellings

Objection lodged against application for 4 no. dwellings

26/00464/HSE – Oakham, Plastow Green, Headley

- Timber cladding of bungalow over existing face brickwork

No objection

26/00388/HSE – White Oaks, Little Knowl Hill, Ashford Hill

- Erection of wooden outbuilding & associated works

No objection

26/00155/HSE – White Cottage, Ram Alley, Ashford Hill

- Proposed ground and first floor extensions
- Alterations to roof form including conservation rooflights
- Erection of oak framed porch
- Formation of aluminium veranda & associated external alterations

No objection

26/00264/HSE – Copse Brook, Union Lane, Kingsclere

- Single storey rear extension

No objection

26/00263/HSE – Copse Brook, Union Lane, Kingsclere

- Erection of double garage, external staircase & first floor study

No objection

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26/00147/PIP – Land adjoining Broadacres, Newbury Road, Headley

- Erection of 4 no. dwellings & associated works

Objection

26/00531/HSE – Le Stack Cottage, Ashford Hill

- Demolition of existing integral garage with flat roof
- Erection of replacement extension with pitched roof and single storey rear extension

- Replace existing flat roof to southern end with pitched roof
- New detached garage to front of dwelling and a new porch

No objection

26/00599/HSE – 2 Maybush Cottages, Common Road, Headley

- Single storey rear extension

No objection

8. Reports

Chair of the Parish Council

The Chair reported on a successful meeting with the bursarial management of Cheam School to discuss the proposal of a Community Summer Fete in 2027 to be hosted by the school.

The Chair would be attending the next AWE Local Liaison Committee meeting later in the month.

In response to a query from the ‘Residents Against Ashford Hill Development’ the Chair confirmed that there would not be a Parish Council representative at the upcoming appeal hearing to determine the planning application for an additional housing development in Ashford Hill. The Clerk confirmed that he had submitted the detail of the Parish Council’s original objection to the planning application to the Inspectorate.

Cllr Gallagher kindly agreed to undertake responsibility for the reviewing of planning applications as they relate to Ashford Hill under the guidance of Cllr Woodford. Cllr Gallagher would be attending the appeal hearing regarding the additional housing development proposal in his capacity as a resident of Ashford Hill.

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Parish Councillors

Cllr Allwright would be approaching Headley Tyres with the proposal for the company to supply and install a community defibrillator on their premises. *

Cllr Allwright had completed an ANPR equipment exercise with a volunteer that day and had recorded 32 cars exceeding the statutory speed limit. Cllr Parker confirmed that a ‘rota’ of volunteers was required to undertake the surveillance on a regular basis at the approved sites in both villages and would be working on that initiative in the near future.

*

Cllr Hoskins also confirmed that he was working on downloading the data collected on the new SID in Headley. *

Cllr Allwright was finalising the costing details of the preferred contractor's tender for the installation of the proposed MUGA together with discussions regarding fund raising for the combined project of the MUGA and the additional parking in Thornford Road in Headley.

Cllr Woodford asked for a letter to be sent to the residents of the Retreat in Ashford Hill to remind them of the need to maintain their perimeter fencing in order to maintain the aesthetics of the village environment. *

Cllr Woodford once again explained to the meeting that with the increased number of households within the parish as a result of recent housing developments, the Parish Council would be able to spread the cost of any increase in the precept in future years amongst more households, therefore making the Parish Council precept element of the Council tax more affordable for residents. The Chair confirmed that this fact would be considered as part of the deliberations regarding any increase in the precept in future years and the Clerk confirmed that the reserves of the Parish Council were dwindling and therefore such considerations would need to be borne in mind if such a level of current reserve is to be maintained going forward.

Clerk to the Council

The Clerk reported that the Annual Parish Council Meeting will take place at the May meeting of the Parish Council for the election of the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Parish Council.

Parish Councillors were reminded of the Borough Council election process for Parish Councillors, which will take place in May 2027.

The Clerk informed the meeting that in the absence of a March 2026 Parish Council meeting and the need to progress to the next stages required for the planning application process for additional car parking in Thornford Road, the Chair and VC with their executive authority to expend with the knowledge and agreement of the Responsible Financial Officer, the following costs have been committed from the CIL fund;

Biodiversity report - £800
Trees survey - £625
Drainage & flooding survey - £1850
Landscape design fee - £900
Supporting drawings for the parking areas - £750

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9. Recess

There were no matters raised by the member of the public present.

10. Financial statement

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £11,243.58

The Lloyds TSB deposit account of the Parish Council stood at £24,588.71

11. Payments for approval and payment

March 2026

EDF – Electricity supply for the Headley Pavilion - £124.78 – PAID

Information Commissioner’s Office – CCTV data protection fee - £52.00 – PAID

RAW Tree Services – Reduction of trees on recreation ground in Thornford Road - £950.00 – PAID

April 2026

Mr S Marshall - Clerk’s salary April-June 2026 & Expenses – £9,398.18 – PAID

Mrs S Kemp – Litter Warden’s salary April-June 2026 - £1,015.38 – PAID

Mr J Kirkby – Litter Warden’s salary April-June 2026 - £539.11 - PAID

Bramley Business Services Ltd – PAYE administration - £105.00

Bramley Business Services Ltd – HMRC Employees tax - £3,236.40

EDF – Electricity supply for the Headley Pavilion - £98.28

M Welby Ltd – Compliant tree survey for Thornford Road additional parking project - £750.00

KT Design – Website management fee – 3 months - £315.00

The Chair declared the meeting closed 8.53pm.