



FARNHAM PARISH MEETING · MINUTES

Tuesday 5 May 2026

Held at St Oswald's Church, Farnham — the Meeting was declared quorate.

Apologies. Received from Phil and Emma Roebuck, and Malcolm and Kay Staveley.

Declarations of interest. None.

Minutes of 4 November 2025. Unanimously approved as a true record.

Matters arising. All follow-up items covered in the agenda items below.

Treasurer's Report & Accounts

As in prior years, the Meeting followed a designated order of approval for governance and accounts matters.

1. Internal audit. Jonathan Wilkinson's internal audit report — no matters of concern — was accepted. *Proposed by Simon Theakston, seconded by Stacey Adams. Passed unanimously.*
2. Governance & internal controls. Key risks, systems and contract procedures unchanged from the previous year. Revised wording of the contract procedures and the annual governance statement formally approved. *Proposed by Sat Gidda, seconded by Andy Day. Passed unanimously.*
3. Accounting Statements 2025 / 26. The Treasurer outlined the reasons for any changes from the previous year, and the statements were approved. *Proposed by Ben Galaud, seconded by Stacey Adams. Passed unanimously.* The full accounts are set out in the Annual Accounts statement.
4. External audit exemption. Confirmed not required, as both income and expenditure are below the £25,000 threshold; the Meeting will continue to make documents available for public inspection. The Chairman was authorised to sign the exemption form. *Proposed by Michael Taylor, seconded by Sat Gidda. Passed unanimously.*

Election of Officers & Internal Auditor

All existing officers expressed a willingness to continue in their present roles. Proposed by Ian Thornton, seconded by Andy Day, and appointed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN

Anne Wylie

WATER, DRAINAGE & TRANSPORT

Phil Roebuck

ROAD SAFETY

Sam Green

INTERNAL AUDITOR

Jonathan Wilkinson

TREASURER & SECRETARY

Pam Taylor

PLANNING

Michael Taylor

SIGNATORIES

Anne Wylie · Pam Taylor · Phil Roebuck

WEBSITE MAINTENANCE

in abeyance at the meeting

Since the Meeting, the Chairman has accepted an offer by Sat Gidda to update and maintain the village website.

Planning, Solar Farm & Battery Storage

Reported by Michael Taylor.

Ford Cottage. Amended application for a single-storey extension — approved.

The Old Cottage. Application to remove part of the boundary wall to create a driveway — Conservation Officer objected; the applicants withdrew the application.

Field at the top of Shaw Lane. Application by Steve Parkin for outline permission for nine houses. Various individual objections; the Highways Agency, Yorkshire Water, the Landscape Officer and the Housing Officer all raised concerns. Application withdrawn.

Orchard adjoining Manor Cottage. Application for a self-build dwelling, with slightly amended plans for house design and position. Objections from the Conservation Officer and the tree expert. The Planning Officer's detailed refusal cited the planning inspector's ruling on the previous appeal: the amendments were slight and did not provide grounds to overturn the earlier refusal. Application refused.

Solar farm and BESS applications. Numerous objections were lodged against all three applications. Michael Taylor noted that the Farnham Lake BESS has attracted the lowest number of objections and may find favour with planners. All three decisions will be made at Planning Committee level, not officer level; the Planning Officer hopes to put at least two applications before a Committee meeting in June. Michael Taylor has requested permission to attend and make oral representations on behalf of Farnham Parish Meeting.

Road Safety, Drainage & Public Transport

Nothing to report.

Church Matters

Stacey Adams gave a presentation on the key issues affecting the Church.

Funds. Following the recent appeal for donations, there has been a large increase in the funds raised.

A pressing need for volunteers. There has been no response to requests for volunteers to help edit *The Link* or to run Church events. Personal commitments mean the present Church volunteer team is unable to plan future events without further help. As the Church serves as the social hub of the village, this will have a real impact on residents as well as on the Church, and a solution needs to be found. One possibility discussed: residents might offer to arrange individual events rather than commit to a longer-term role.

Any Other Business

Waste disposal. Use of the recycling centre now has to be pre-registered. The Secretary will circulate the registration details by email.

