HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16 SEPTEMBER 2026

Cllrs. Present: Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr Ian Corben, Cllr David Fleming, Cllr Leigh Hadaway (Chair), Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Rupert Kyrle, Cllr Ron Nichols, Cllr James Paine

In attendance: Representative from Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Maggie Allingham, Cllr Helen Corben, Cllr Tonia Craig, Cllr Keith House, Cllr Jim Mitchell, Cllr Cliff Morris, Cllr Derek Pretty, Cllr John Shepherd

2. **Public Questions not on the Agenda**

   A resident of Goodlands Vale raised concerns regarding parking and highway safety on Turnpike Way. Concerns were expressed about the coaches, heavy goods vehicles and taxis parking along the road which restricted the visibility for motorists exiting Goodlands Vale and neighbouring roads.

   Councillors noted that similar concerns had previously been raised with Hampshire County Council. It was noted that matters relating to operator licence compliance fall within the remit of the DVSA, while requests for highway measures, including double yellow lines, were the responsibility of Hampshire County Council.

   Councillors acknowledged the concerns raised and the potential implications for road safety. Cllr Kyrle and Cllr Corben agreed to pursue the matter further with the relevant authorities, including enquiries regarding enforcement and operator licence compliance.

   A resident thanked the Council for action taken to reduce the hedge at the junction of Bursledon Road and Foord Road, noting the significant improvement in visibility for motorists.

   The resident also highlighted outdated signage on the junction of Freegrounds Road and St John's Road directing residents to a former bottle bank location and requested that the matter be investigated.

   The resident further raised questions regarding the potential reinstatement of CCTV coverage within Hedge End Village Centre. Members discussed previous CCTV arrangements, associated costs and potential funding opportunities. It was agreed that enquiries would be made regarding available grant funding.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

   None were declared.

4. To Receive a Police Report

PC Amanda Turner presented the latest policing update for Hedge End. It was reported that anti-social behaviour incidents were currently 11% lower than the previous year, although seasonal increases had been experienced during the summer months. An update was also provided regarding shoplifting offences, including ongoing work with local retailers and successful action against prolific offenders.

A detailed discussion took place regarding the increasing use of electric bikes, e-scooters and similar vehicles. Concerns were raised about excessive speeds, dangerous riding and vehicle noise nuisance. Councillors also highlighted difficulties experienced by residents when reporting incidents and suggested that a simplified reporting process would encourage greater public participation.

PC Amanda Turner advised that the issue is being reviewed at a senior level and encouraged residents to continue reporting incidents in order to support intelligence gathering and enforcement activity. Councillors thanked PC Amanda Turner for attending and for the continued support provided to the local community.

5. To receive the Speedwatch results

Councillors considered the latest Speedwatch and Vehicle Activated Sign data. Councillors noted that overall speed compliance remained relatively good across monitored locations. However, concern was expressed regarding a small number of vehicles travelling at significantly excessive speeds.

It was reported that recorded maximum speeds included vehicles travelling at up to 55mph in 30mph limits and 55mph in a 40mph limit. Councillors discussed whether greater emphasis should be placed on analysing the highest recorded speeds and the times at which they occur, rather than relying solely upon average speed data and 85th percentile measurements.

It was noted that Hampshire County Council generally bases decisions regarding traffic interventions on casualty data and 85th percentile speeds. Councillors expressed the view that preventative measures should be considered before serious accidents occur.

6. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17 June 2026.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

7. To agree to advertise the Village Ward vacancy for co-option.
RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to the advertising of the vacancy.

8. Approval of Suspension of Councillor Attendance Rules
Councillors noted the circumstances around Cllr Corbens absence and agreed that this was significant reasoning to suspend the Councillor Attendance Rule.
RESOLVED: Cllr Kryle proposed, and Cllr Carnell seconded. Councillors agreed the suspension of the Councillor Attendance Rule for Cllr Helen Corben until the next Annual Meeting in May 2027.

Councillors asked that their best wishes be conveyed to Cllr Helen Corben.

9. Chair's Remarks
Cllr Leigh Hadaway reported that he had attended the local Police Beat Surgery and Bike Register event during August. The event was well attended and provided a useful opportunity to observe local community policing activity and engagement initiatives.

10. Resolved Items for NOTING Only:

(a) Highways & Planning Committee – 3 June 2026, 17 June 2026, 1 July 2026 and 17 July 2026
(Minute H904, H905 H909, H913, H914 and H918)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 3 June, 17 June, 1 July and 17 July be received.

(b) Policy & Resources Committee – 7 July 2026 and 1 September 2026
(Minute P1565, P1566, P1569, P1571, P1574, P1575, P1576, P1577 and P1580)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 7 July and 1 September be received.

(c) Recreation & Amenities Committee – 8 July 2026 and 9 September 2026
(Minute R625, R626, R627, R628, R629, R630, R634, R638, R639, R640 and R641)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 8 July and 9 September be received.

11. Borough and County Reports

Councillors received an update on Local Government Reorganisation. It was reported that the programme has been paused pending further Government consideration, delaying the previously proposed timetable for implementation. Councillors noted the significant work already undertaken by local authorities and the uncertainty this creates for councils, staff and residents. It was further reported that Borough Council elections will proceed in the usual manner pending further announcements.

An update was provided on the ongoing works at Woodhouse Lane, including the impact of traffic management arrangements and diversion routes on local residents and road users.

Councillors were advised that pedestrian access to the Hedge End Household Waste Recycling Centre has been withdrawn following a health and safety review by the site operator. Concerns were expressed regarding the impact on residents without access to private transport and it was noted that representations had been made seeking a review of the decision.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21:02pm.