

**Minutes of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING of
Sixpenny Handley & Pentridge Parish Council
Held 4th December 2025 at 7:30pm @ Parish Office, 6 Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley.**

Item		Action By
	0 members present at the public open session	
	<p>Attendance & Apologies Cllr Simon Meaden (Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee) Cllr James Reed (Chairman of the Parish Council) Cllr Colin Taylor Cllr Robert Hassall Cllr Stuart McLean Cllr Dave Adams</p> <p>Also in Attendance Ciona Nicholson (Clerk)</p> <p>Apologies None</p>	
	<p>Declarations of Interest & Grants for Dispensation None</p> <p>The following members declare non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to:</p> <p>Cllr Colin Taylor – Pentridge Village Hall & SH Village Hall 1st Woodcutt Scouts, CCIO Cllr James Reed – Community Land Trust & Item Speed-watch Cllr Andy Turner – Community Land Trust & Skate-park Project Cllr Simon Meaden- 1st Woodcutt Scouts</p>	
	<p>Matters arising from the last F&GP Parish Council Meeting held 6th November 2025.</p> <p>F&GP 2/10/25 The wall between Keats Meadow & Mulberry Court was inspected by local contractor as the tiles on the top of the linking wall are broken and dangerously in disrepair.</p> <p>The estimated cost of repairs is £3000.00+ including labour and materials. Members acknowledged that the wall is not the property of the Parish Council and ownership needs to be established.</p> <p>Clerk to contact the Developer, Downton Village Homes, Fordingbridge.</p>	Clerk

	<p>Play Area Matters & Reports</p> <p>The on-sight weekly inspections were carried out by Cllr McLean who reported that the play area was in good order, grass cut, bins emptied, no litter or graffiti however the large climbing frame remains out of use.</p> <p>The Creative Play Team will carry out a site survey on January 8th and will meet Cllr McLean. The installation of the new climbing frame is expected to commence on 19th January 2026. The sports pavilion will be accessible to the installation team throughout the week.</p> <p>Local playground contractor will be carrying out repairs and refurbishment on Tuesday 4th December.</p>	SMc
	<p>Sports Facilities Matters & Recreation Ground</p> <p>Quotes received by local contractor:</p> <p>Q1 Removal of grass and slab area to the left of the pavilion at the rear for the purposes of a bin/barrel secure storage area £618.20</p> <p>Q2 Build 3.6m x .90cm bin and keg store, built with metal stud work framework with metal cladding £1110.00.</p> <p>Members resolved unanimously expenditure of £1728.00 to complete the construction of a storage area.</p> <p>Clerk to request contractor to quote for the following repairs:</p> <p>External/Internal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guttering (cricket side) 1 bracket lose and requires additional brackets.• Downpipe (cricket side) needs replacing.• Debris on the roof to be retrieved.• Joining floor strips are loose creating a trip hazard x2. <p>The Penny Tap to provide an update on outstanding repairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electricity wires and plug socket near the darts board needs conduit cover. (Penny Tap)• Area left of the darts board is not protected and the wall is marked. (Penny Tap) <p>The Penny Tap will be closed for a deep clean between 1st – 14th January 26.</p> <p>Fire Alarm System Fault</p> <p>Local electrical contractor re-wired the alarm system from the power supply to the main board – the system remains disconnected due to continued false alarms. Clerk to contact the Insurers to establish legal requirements.</p>	Penny Tap Clerk

	<p>The pavilion water softener has been regularly maintained for many years by Cllr Adams(DA). Salt tablets must be refilled on a regular basis. In future, the Clerk to incorporate regular task into the pavilion cleaners' responsibilities.</p> <p>Cllr Meaden acknowledged and thanked Cllr Adams for the many years of practical maintenance he had freely provided to the support the day to day running of the pavilion.</p> <p>Village Hall / Laurel bank Boundary Trees</p> <p>Cllrs SM, JR, RH visited the site on Wednesday 12th November.</p> <p>Clerk to contact both neighbouring properties to confirm the engagement of a Tree specialist, as there are concerns for Ash Die Back and for the further reduction of tree height down to the boundary fence.</p> <p>Clerk to contact Damory Tree & Sam Lister Trees</p> <p>Memorial Clock</p> <p>A replacement controller and power supply for the memorial clock has been received and local electrician will install at the earliest opportunity.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
	<p>Village Hall</p> <p>Emergency Generator Update</p> <p>The generator requires regular testing on a weekly basis to ensure reliability in an emergency situation. Since its inception the model has proved unreliable to start up under load. It is likely to start initially and then switch off within minutes of running.</p> <p>The PC needs to establish a protocol for storing fuel for the generator, annual maintenance and consider communication to vulnerable residents in the parish that in an emergency situation may need extra support.</p> <p>Clerk to check insurance conditions of storing fuel.</p> <p>Cllr Adams (DA) to arrange a meeting with Oil Tank specialist.</p>	<p>Clerk/All</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>DA</p>
	<p>Downsman</p> <p>The Downsman continues to be well received by the community as the content remains of local interest. The current small team needs to find extra support in order to reduce the volume of work. Extra administration support role includes chasing content and reminding regular content providers of deadlines.</p> <p>CT confirmed the Downsman has a good number of advertisers and therefore is solvent. Invoice distribution is difficult and further work is needed to ensure all advertisers are charged.</p>	<p>Clerk/RH</p> <p>CT/Clerk</p>

	<p>Freedom of Information.</p> <p>Members reviewed the Freedom of Information.</p>	
	<p>Complaints Procedure.</p> <p>Members reviewed the Complaints Procedure.</p>	
	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Letter received from Home-watch expressing concerns for the lack of local policing follow a spate of mindless vandalism in the village. Seven cars were targeted by drive by ball bearing attacks. Clerk to report the incident on-line.</p> <p>The First School requested the use of the gap between the school fence and the play area for play and lunch times. All unanimously approved.</p> <p>Simon Hoare MP is holding a surgery at Sixpenny Handley Parish Office on 13th March 26. Promote on social media nearer the time.</p>	Clerk
	<p>Financial Matters & Expenditure</p> <p>The RFO circulated to members prior to the meeting a report on finances to 4th December 25. Bank Reconciliation for signing; List of Receipts & Payments for scrutiny.</p> <p>Members finalised budget preparations for 2026/27 and unanimously resolved to recommend £74,500.00 as the Precept Claim to FPC for final approval.</p> <p>Clerk to administrate payments, Scrutineer Cllr S McLean 2nd Cllr C Taylor & 3rd Cllr Hassall to authorise payments.</p>	

Meeting Closed 9.00pm

**These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman after approval
at the next Full meeting of the Parish Council.**

Signed:..... 18th December 2025

Sixpenny Handley & Pentridge Parish Council

Payments – 6th November 2025

Date	Description	Receipts	Payment
06/11/2025	Dorset Council Rent	SO	484.00
06/11/2025	C Nicholson (October Salary Payment)	On-line	1,094.69
06/11/2025	Nest Pension Payment	DD	82.48
06/11/2025	As Time Goes By (Replacement Controller Memorial Clock)	On-line	300.00
06/11/2025	Mr C Taylor (Expenses Claim - Fresh Start DAPTC)	On-line	35.55
06/11/2025	Mr D Adams (Reimbursement Diesel Mower Strimmer)	On-line	34.53
06/11/2025	Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club (sundries for repairs)	On-line	311.68
06/11/2025	Source For Business (New Barn Allotments Dec 24 - June 25)	On-line	173.81
06/11/2025	Marc Hayward (x4 Litter bins)	On-line	22.50
06/11/2025	LJ Tuckey (x4 Parish Office cleans)	On-line	30.00
06/11/2025	Mr I Mereweather (Reimbursement HPWebcam)	On-line	41.99
06/11/2025	Mr I Mereweather (Reimbursement Poppy Wreaths)	On-line	28.50
06/11/2025	Elite Playground Inspections (Quarterly)	On-line	90.00
06/11/2025	Dorset Council (Dumpy bag of grit 2024)	On-line	130.20
06/11/2025	S Wallworth Electrical Services Ltd (Test & Inspection Bowls Club)	On-line	237.60
02/11/2025	Kinetico Watersoftener Service	DD	8.75
02/11/2025	Vodafone Broadband	DD	38.09
02/11/2025	Wessex Internet	DD	1.20
	November Total		3,145.57

To be submitted by the Clerk on Friday 6th November 2025.

Scrutineer – Cllr S Mclean 1st On-line authorisation Cllr Taylor 2nd On-line authorisation Cllr Hassall

Scrutineer.....Date.....