

Minutes of the Meeting of Knowlton Parish Council
11th February 2026 at 7:00pm
Horton & Chalbury Village Hall

Item	
	<p>Attendance Cllr Caroline Barnes Cllr Trevor Brown Cllr Steve Butler (Chairman) Cllr Colin Davidson Cllr Marian Eldrett Cllr Anthony (Sam) Keet Cllr Ian Potentier</p> <p>Miss Sarah Forwood (Clerk)</p>
1	<p>Welcome from the Chairman including housekeeping notices</p> <p>None.</p>
2	<p>To receive and accept apologies for absence Cllr Morgan Antell Cllr Kevin Minns Cllr Will Chakawhata – Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward (Horton & Chalbury) Cllr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne & Alderholt Ward (Woodlands & Wimborne St Giles)</p>
3	<p>Declarations of Interest and/or consider the granting of dispensation</p> <p>None.</p>
4	<p>Public Open Session</p> <p>None.</p>
5	<p>Confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 14th January 2026</p> <p>It was resolved unanimously that the minutes, having been circulated to members prior to the meeting, are confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>
6	<p>Minutes of the Knowlton Parish Community Benefit Fund Committee Meetings held 25th January & 4th February 2026</p> <p>The minutes of the meetings, having been circulated to members prior to the meeting, were accepted.</p>
7	<p>KPC Projects</p>

	None.
8	<p>Chairman's Announcements</p> <p>The Chairman noted that Cllr Paul Millett has resigned as the Chalbury Councillor.</p>
9	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>Please see Annex A of these minutes.</p>
10.	<p>Outstanding Actions</p> <p>Please see Annex B of these minutes.</p> <p>Action 04/24 Councillors agreed to consider funding the Knowlton Church Layby along with potential funding from Knowlton Community Benefit Fund and Defra via Cranborne Chase National Landscapes.</p> <p><i>Action 85/25 Clerk to contact DC Ranger to discuss the options of having cameras on the byway and obtain a quote for the cameras.</i></p>
11	<p>Dorset Councillors Reports</p> <p><u>Cllr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne & Alderholt Ward (Woodlands & Wimborne St Giles)</u></p> <p>Report received. Please see Annex C</p>
12	<p>Dorset Councillors Reports</p> <p><u>Cllr Will Chakawhata – Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward (Horton & Chalbury)</u></p> <p>Updates received on actions. Please see Annex D.</p>
13	<p>Planning Applications & Matters</p> <p>P/PALH/2026/00248 Proposal: Erection of additional storey Location: Stepping Stones, Haythorne, Horton. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION on the proposal.</p> <p>P/HOU/2026/00393 Proposal: Renovation to existing dwelling including new window and dormer arrangements, external wall and roof materials. Replacement of existing stable with small home office. Location: Chalbury Lodge Junction On B3078 At Sybil Cottages Via Chalbury Hill To Chalbury Lane, Horton, BH21 7EZ. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION on the proposal.</p> <p>P/HOU/2026/00537 Proposal: Retain Installation of solar panels and minor changes to existing garage. Location: 6 Welchnut Cottages, Horton To The Oaks Horton Hollow, Horton, BH21 7JE. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION on the proposal.</p>

	<p>P/HOU/2026/00634 Proposal: Erect a two-storey extension, replacement porch and alterations to windows. Install solar panels and 1 source heat pump. Location: School House, Burts Lane, Horton, BH21 7JX.</p> <p>Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION on the proposal.</p>
14	<p>Highways Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors agreed to carry out one speed survey in Horton to obtain definitive data. • Members agreed the Woodlands Litter Pick Risk Assessment, a date for the litter pick is to be TBC. • Cllrs are concerned about the HGV vehicles going into Haythornes with the missing HGV sign. It was agreed that the sign needs to be replaced before any work is carried out on the Woodland solar farm. • Cllrs are concerned about the road damage through Haythornes and Woodlands with the number of lorries transporting the panels for the solar farm in Woodlands, DC should have an ESCROW agreement in place. <p><i>Cllr Steve Butler to contact DC and Planning to discuss the routes in and out for the solar farm at Woodlands.</i></p> <p><i>Cllr Colin Davidson to bring back to the March meeting what funding KPC will receive from both solar farms and the number of panels that are being installed on both solar farms.</i></p>
15	<p>Rights of Way/Open Spaces</p> <p>None.</p>
16	<p>Burgess Field Play Area, Woodlands – Inspections</p> <p>Weekly visual play inspections completed. The quarterly inspection report was received and emailed to Cllr Morgan Antell.</p>
17	<p>Tree Matters</p> <p>None.</p>
18	<p>Land at Horton Heath – DC Enforcement</p> <p>Cllr Potentier noted that the land had been sold in the previous year. Hardcore was delivered shortly afterwards and a laurel hedge was planted. DC Enforcement was notified in December. A concrete base and building were subsequently installed. The landowner had agreed to submit a planning application. It was further noted that the site lies within the Green Belt and has no water or electricity supply.</p>
19	<p>Adopt the new NALC Financial Regulations and Standing Orders</p> <p>Members reviewed and adopted the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations without amendment.</p>

20	<p>Buckingham Palace Royal Garden Party 8th May 2026 – nominations due by 12th February 2026</p> <p>Cllr Steve Butler nominated Cllr Caroline Barnes for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party. The Clerk will advise the DAPTC of the Parish Councils nomination.</p>									
21	<p>Financial Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members reviewed and approved the effectiveness of the internal audit procedure. • Members resolved unanimously to support Life Education Wessex with a grant of £155.00 toward their work with Wimborne St Giles First School. • Members resolved unanimously to pay items below including Clerk’s Salary. Two Councillors volunteered to approve the online banking payments: <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%;">ELITE PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Quarterly Operational Inspection</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">£90.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DORSET COUNCIL</td> <td>Relocation of Horton Heath Sign</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£684.73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DORSET COUNCIL</td> <td>Relocation of Horton Heath Sign</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£453.00</td> </tr> </table>	ELITE PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS	Quarterly Operational Inspection	£90.00	DORSET COUNCIL	Relocation of Horton Heath Sign	£684.73	DORSET COUNCIL	Relocation of Horton Heath Sign	£453.00
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22	<p>Other Information for report only</p> <p>The Annual Parish Meeting will be held 6:30pm on 15th April 2026 and AGM 13th May 2026</p>									
23	<p>Next Meeting will be on Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 7:00pm in Horton & Chalbury Village Hall.</p>									

Meeting closed at 20:22 hours

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

Signed;..... *Forwood*11th February 2026

Annex A**Clerks Report
11th February 2026****Correspondence**

Flood Wardens

With the strong support you have shown for the *Lunch & Learn* sessions over the last 18 months, we are happy to confirm that we will be continuing them this year with a varied program that also includes some face-to-face sessions in our Bridgwater and Blandford Offices.

Upcoming Sessions:

- Groundwater - Thursday 22 January 12:30pm with Chris Baker, Environment Agency

Groundwater flooding and flood warnings

- Recovering from flooding – Thursday 19 February 12:30pm with Mary Long-Dhonau OBE, property flood resilience advocate, Flood Mary www.FloodMary.com

“Having been flooded on many occasions, I have been supporting other victims of flooding during recovery for 25 years.”

- Flood Re - Thursday 19 March 12:30pm with Emma Holroyde from Flood Re

Learn how this reinsurance scheme works to help householders at risk of flooding and Build Back Better scheme to supporting property flood resilience in the event of a claim

Further Topics for the year (more details to follow):

- Local Resilience Forums – what they are and how they work to manage emergencies and incidents and where flood wardens fit in with this.
- Recruiting and Keeping Volunteers
- Drop in Sessions in Bridgwater and Blandford Environment Agency Offices – first week in June to coincide with National Volunteers Week
- Flood Plans and Action Cards
- Exercising Plans
- Fly Tipping, Waste Crime and Recycling
- Intro to the Flood Warden Role
- Online Information – how to find the latest flood alerts and warnings, forecasts, river, sea, groundwater and rainfall levels, long term flood risk information and historical data.
- Flood Risk and Awareness – how to stay safe as a volunteer during flood events

Sessions will be online (unless indicated as a drop in or face to face session). Online sessions start at 12:30pm for 30 mins with extra time for Q&A. Reminders and joining details are emailed to all Wessex Flood Wardens and Town and Parish Council contacts in the preceding week.

- Natural Flood Management – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0pAXjjh56oY>
- Flash Flooding – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hck2ufdPTwg>
- Property Flood Resilience (PFR) – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6KDAaupa4h0>
- Introduction to the Flood Warden Role - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_niBfDjQQU
- Flood Risk Management - <https://youtu.be/h2IqZyAVuZl>
- New Warning Service - <https://youtu.be/bhRDiiXZQDk>

We really value your feedback on the sessions, together with your suggestions and requests for further topics. This is the opportunity to have your say, so please take a few moments to share your thoughts using this link [Environment Agency Lunch and Learn Feedback – Fill in form](#)

Storm Chandra

Please find [a link to an article](#) addressing recent comments made about our drains maintenance in the wake of Storm Chandra and subsequent flooding.

Please note there is currently a [Yellow Weather Warning in place for tomorrow afternoon \(29 Jan\)](#), which may result in further flooding. Please take extra care if travelling at this time.

If you wish to share this news via your own channels, please find the attached image and following text:-

“Storm Chandra’s flooding in Dorset mainly came from swollen rivers, rising groundwater and intense rainfall - not blocked highway drains, which can’t move water when the whole system is already full.

You can read the full explanation from Cllr. Jon Andrews, Dorset Council’s Cabinet Member for Place Services, here: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/news/storm-chandra-are-blocked-drains-to-blame-for-the-recent-flooding->”

Next Climate and Nature Action Support Group Meeting: Tuesday 17th Feb, 7.30pm
Please find attached the notes from January's Climate & Nature Action Support meeting.
The very useful talk by Cllr Belinda Bawden on The Great Collaboration

The next meeting is on Tues 17th Feb 7.30pm

Topic: National Emergency Briefing

We will be joined by Laura Baldwin, Olympic sailor and coach, sports sustainability adviser, and founder of Portland 4 the Planet. Laura attended the National Emergency Briefing event in Westminster in November 2025, along with Cllr Nick Ireland. Laura will summarise the key issues covered by the briefing, their impact, and what we can do locally.

Dorset Council Town & Parish Council Forum - Planning and Building Control presentation.

Road Closures

None

Annex B

Action No	Date	Action	Assigned To	Status
02/20	July 2020	Water rising in Woodlands opposite 'Four Oaks.	Clerk	<p>Aug 22: DC plan to install a new gully and pipe to watercourse with adjacent landowners' permission, subject to priority and funding. Nov 23: Clerk to follow up, ask who is responsible and raise an incident number.</p> <p>Feb/Apr 24: Clerk to arrange for the water to be tested along with the water leak opposite Meadow Cottage.</p> <p>June 24: A water sample has been taken and passed to Microtech Services for testing.</p> <p>July 24: The Clerk has contacted Bournemouth Water asking for the water leak to be looked at due to the presence of chlorine in the results from the water sample that was tested.</p> <p>Aug 24: An email has been sent to Bournemouth water with the Parish Councils water test results highlighting the chlorine found in the water. The Clerk requested on behalf of the Parish Council an independent water test.</p> <p>Oct 24: Clerk spoke to the operations team at South West Water. Case no. 0013998244. A works order has been raised to reattend the site and undertake another test.</p> <p>Nov 24: South West water attended and have liaised with DC. South West water listened to the AP box and there was no noise, no water and no leak.</p> <p>Jan 25 (06.01.25): The Clerk spoke to Alex at Bournemouth Water they are requesting a member of their team to contact the Clerk directly by 10 January 2025 to discuss the water leak and possibly arrange to meet up at the leak site with an inspector. ref: 0013998244. 07.01.25: Bournemouth Water are going to visit the site again on a dry day to retrieve several samples of water to test for main water.</p> <p>Jan 25: Bournemouth Water has not visited the site again due to several tests already undertaken and they are unable to find a leak. They advised that the Parish Council liaise with DC highways department.</p> <p>31.01.25: The Clerk met with DC Highways who confirmed that the leak is ground water. This water will continue to run even during the summer months due to the high saturation levels in the ground. If the Parish Council is considering digging up the verge they would need DC highways permission. The Highways officer checked the ditches along part of the road near to the leak and where water was running down the road and noted that the ditches required clearing to prevent the water running down the road.</p> <p>Feb 25: Members unanimously agreed to check the leak in a couple of months.</p> <p>Mar 25: Councillors to meet at the site of the leak to decide the plan for the leak going forward.</p> <p>Mar 25: The Clerk has contacted Southwest Water further to the other leak in woodlands being a</p>

				<p>Southwest Water leak. Southwest Water are going to send a team to investigate the leak further on 26 March and will update the Clerk on the outcome.</p> <p>Apr 25: Southwest Water have updated that it may be a leak from an old asbestos pipe. They are currently looking into this further.</p> <p>May 25: South West Water have listened to the AP box and are not able to hear a leak. They will retest the water and update the Parish Council.</p> <p>June 25: A spot leak was detected by South West Water. The leak has been repaired, and the verge has been reinstated.</p> <p>July 25: South West water has raised another works order to review the leak. Works order number 11810490 the Clerk will be meeting with South West water at the end of July.</p> <p>Aug 25: Meeting was cancelled by South West Water, Clerk has since tried contacting via phone with no response.</p> <p>Nov 25: The clerk emailed the DC Highways Officer with the necessary information. The officer will reach out to South West Water regarding the water leak.</p> <p>Dec 25: The Highways Officer continues to make contact with South West Water. The highways officer is planning to meet up with the water board when they are in the area.</p>
01/23	April 2023	1217124 Reported Water is draining from the field from the property Little Haythorne via a gully in the verge onto the highway - we would like to suggest the gully is filled and water is diverted along the line of an old ditch to a manhole cover. DC will inspect and report.	Clerk	<p>Mar 25: Clerk to follow up with DC the issue with the gully that was put in by the landowner. DC to replace or refill the gully.</p> <p>Mar 25: DC highways will check the pond water draining down the road the next time there is heavy rain. DC highways will also check to see what drainage there is in the area.</p>
04/23	Nov 2023	Pond is overflowing at Little Haythorne and going onto the road. Clerk to raise a report with Dorset Council.	Clerk	<p>The Clerk spoke DC highways, at the time of speaking the pond was not overflowing.</p> <p>Mar 25: The pond overflows and drains out through the gully and down the road. See update on action 01/23</p>
05/23	Dec 2023	Cllr Ian Potentier to contact Cllr Robin Cook in relation to applying for a grant from the Community and Culture Fund Project for the footpaths that lead onto the C2.	Cllr Ian Potentier	<p>May 24: An email has been sent to DC requesting availability for a site meeting to take place. An email has been received from DC requesting further information in relation to the site visit.</p> <p>July 24: Cllr Ian Potentier has been liaising via the Clerk with DC safer highways team to look at having a footpath alongside the C2.</p> <p>Sept 24: An email was sent to DC inquiring about the timescale for the additional signs along the C2.</p> <p>Oct 24: Clerk resent the email asking for an update.</p> <p>Jan 25: Cllr Ian Potentier noted that the additional signs are still not in place.</p>

				<p>Feb 25: Following a phone call and email to the Road Safety Technical Officer at DC, the following response has been received; no date has been given yet for the work for the signs as the sign shop colleagues are working through a significant backlog. The Road Safety technical Officer will provide a further update after the next meeting.</p> <p>July 25: The two new pedestrian road signs for the C2 is on DC sign shop list of jobs to complete. The signing team are currently working through a significant amount of work, including over 40 jobs from the road safety team alone. At this time, the Road Safety Technical Officer is unable to provide a date for this work to take place, however, regular meetings take place with our colleagues and updates will be provided when they have further information.</p> <p>Dec 25: DC Road Safety Technical Officer has spoken to their colleagues in the sign shop, and it is very much still on their list of outstanding work. A site visit has been undertaken, and drawings finalised. They are hopeful this work can be carried out in the new year.</p>
06/23	Dec 2023	Cllr Sam Keet to take forward the grant from the Community and Culture Fund Project for the bridleway project at Queens Copse.	Cllr Sam Keet	<p>July 24: Cllr Sam Keet and the Clerk have met with James Rose contractors and Cutler Bros to obtain quotes for the works on the bridleway at Queens Copse.</p> <p>Oct 24: Quotes have been received from both James Rose and Cutler Bros.</p> <p>Nov 24: A meeting took place with Cllr Sam Keet and Morris Construction and the Clerk is waiting for the quote.</p> <p>Dec 24: The final quote has been received from Morris Construction.</p> <p>June 25: The Clerk and Cllr Sam Keet have applied for grant funding towards the project.</p> <p>July 25: The application for the grant funding from DC for the Queen Copse Project was unsuccessful. The Clerk has asked for feedback and will pursue other funding routes.</p> <p>Jan 26: The Clerk has approached the British Horse Society for funding towards the bridleway through their 'Ride Out Fund Scheme'. An application form is being forwarded to the Clerk for completion.</p>
04/24	Feb 2024	Clerk to contact DC about the progress of the longer layby by Knowlton Church.	Clerk	<p>Mar 24: Clerk spoke to Cranborne Chase National Landscapes and they passed the query onto DC. Clerk to follow up with DC.</p> <p>Mar 25: The Clerk has emailed the DC highways officer and they will check who owns the verge by Knowlton Church.</p> <p>Apr 25: Cranborne Chase National Landscapes contacted DC in 2022 in wanting to pay to extend the layby using DEFRA funding, but DC haven't heard any more since. Ownership of the subsoil (highway overrides this ownership until such time if ever the highway rights are extinguished) then this would be up to the middle of the road (Ad Medium Filum HM Land Registry plans: boundaries (practice guide 40,</p>

				<p>supplement 3) - GOV.UK) this would be PROPRIETOR: THE SHAFTESBURY TRUSTEE and THE SHAFTESBURY TRUSTEE COMPANY NO.2 LIMITED.</p> <p>Feb 26: Cranborne Chase National Landscape previously looked at extending the layby with grass create block panels with holes to allow the grass to grow through. The space they were looking at creating was for five car spaces. DEFRA's access for all funding may be available to improve parking and Cranborne Chase National Landscapes will look into this. They would like to be part of the discussions with DC highways.</p> <p><i>Councillors agreed to consider funding the Knowlton Church Layby along with potential funding from Knowlton Community Benefit Fund and Defra funding via Cranborne Chase National Landscapes.</i></p>
08/24	April 2024	Clerk to request a quote for a new sign at Clump Hill Horton and ask if this sign can be moved further down the road.	Clerk	<p>July 24: The Clerk has been in contact with DC and waiting for a response.</p> <p>Sept 24: Another email has been sent to DC asking for an update on when the sign will be put in place.</p> <p>Sept 24: An email was received by DC. DC have a lot of safety critical signing to complete at the moment. DC will get to site as soon as possible and come back a quote.</p> <p>Nov 24: A quote has been received from DC and is on the November agenda for approval.</p> <p>Nov 24: Moved to the December agenda.</p> <p>Dec 24: Members resolved unanimously to the quote for the Clump Hill sign replacement. Members unanimously agreed to request that DC move the Horton Heath sign from its current location to a more visible location. A quote to be received from DC for this to take place.</p> <p>Jan 25: An email has been sent to DC asking for a quote for the relocation of the Horton Heath sign.</p> <p>Mar 25: Follow up email has been sent by the Clerk.</p> <p>April 25: The Parish Council is waiting for a quote from DC.</p> <p>July 25: A quote has been received to supply & erect a new sign and 2 new posts at the location provided by the Parish Council is £1137.73 including traffic management.</p> <p>Aug 25: An email has been sent to DC accepting the quote for the Clump Hill sign.</p> <p>Dec 25: DC Senior Technical Officer has booked the work to be completed on 20th January 2026.</p> <p>Feb 26: The new Horton Heath sign has been installed. Complete.</p>
13/24	June 2024	Clerk to contact the Speed Partnership Team to ask for their support with the speeding issues through Horton Village.	Clerk	<p>July 24: An email has been sent to Dorset Road Safe for support with the speeding issue through Horton Village, awaiting a response.</p> <p>Aug 24: Dorset Road Safe Team responded; due to the number of locations on the Camera Team enforcement list across Dorset and a small team to cover these, we are unable to guarantee how quickly this site will be visited. Clerk to contact Dorset Road</p>

				<p>Safe Team in November to check if they have any results from this visit.</p> <p>Nov 24: An email has been sent to the Dorset Road Safe Team to enquire if they have visited Horton Village.</p> <p>Dec 24: The location is on the Camera Team's list to visit, however there are nearly 1000 locations to cover across Dorset and limited resources to cover them so we can't guarantee when they will attend.</p> <p>May 25: A follow up email has been sent to the Dorset Road Safety Team asking for an update.</p> <p>June 25: The Camera Team have visited this location twice in the past year. The first was on 04/11/2024 at 16.30 and the second was on 30/05/2025 at 08.23, both sessions were of one hour duration and there were no activations. Due to the vans parking on a grass verge, visits are only possible in dry weather, which may account for the further delay. This location will be added to the next enforcement list for the Camera Team to visit.</p> <p>Dec 25: An email has been received from MP Vikki Slade highlighting the issues with speeding through Horton. The clerk has replied noting what actions KPC has taken to support reducing the speeding throughout Horton.</p> <p>Jan 26: Speed surveys for Horton are being considered on the January 2026 agenda.</p>
32/24	Oct 2024	Clerk to contact Mark Adams and CC Cllr David Tooke to ask if the road past Remedy Oak is going to be resurfaced and is there a plan to complete the road out of Woodlands and Horton.	Clerk	<p>Nov 24: An email was sent to DC. DC have forwarded the email to the relevant department to respond.</p> <p>Apr 25: A follow up email has been sent to DC Economic Growth and Infrastructure team at DC. These sections are due to be surfaced in quarter 4 of this financial year. There are no programmed dates at this moment but it is designed and ready to go.</p> <p>Nov 25: It has been confirmed by the Principal Project Engineer at Dorset Council that the road is being resurfaced on 1st-11th December 2025.</p> <p>Dec 25: Patching has taken place and the whole road will be resurfaced in 2026.</p>
43/25	Jan 2025	Clerk to report to DC the blocked culvert on Horton Road in Wimborne St Giles.	Clerk	<p>Jan 25: The Clerk and Cllr Morgan Antell met with the DC highways officer who has recommended that the Parish Council contact Shaftesbury Estate to clear the ditches alongside the road to ensure the water has an escape route into the ditch.</p> <p>Feb 25: DC highways are currently following the blocked ditches up with Shaftesbury Estate.</p> <p>Sept 25: DC are continuing to follow up the blocked culvert with Shaftesbury Estates.</p> <p>Jan 26: The work is currently sat at a 'works raised' status on the DC system but is yet to be scheduled.</p>
45/25	February 2025	Clerk to start to look at finding suitable funders for the queen Copse project.	Clerk	<p>May 25: Cllr Sam Keet and the Clerk are meeting up to discuss funding options.</p> <p>June 25: The Clerk and Cllr Sam Keet have applied for grant funding towards the project.</p> <p>Jan 26: The Clerk has approached the British Horse Society for funding towards the bridleway through</p>

				their 'Ride Out Fund Scheme'. An application form is being forwarded to the Clerk for completion.
49/25	February 2025	Clerk to ask Cutler Bros for a quote to tidy up the hedges around Woodland Playfield.	Clerk	<p>Apr 25: Clerk and Cllr Sam Keet to confirm if the ground near the hedge is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) before any hedges are cut.</p> <p>Jan 26: The Clerk has search magic maps and Dorset Explorer and neither show SSSI around Woodland playfields.</p>
50/25	March 2025	Councillors to liaise with Cllr David Tooke to find out what DC highways department are doing about the B3081 road and the dangerous conditions.	Cllrs	
51/25	March 2025	Cllr Paul Millett to discuss with DC other speed calming options throughout Chalbury.	Cllr Paul Millett	<p>Apr 25: Cllr Paul Millett has emailed DC Road Safety Officer.</p> <p>June 25: A meeting is being arranged to discuss road calming measures.</p> <p>July 25: A meeting has taken place between Cllr Paul Millett, Cllr Will Chakawhata and the DC Road Safety Officer. Cllr Paul Millett will write up the possible solutions to decide what the next steps are.</p>
52/25	March 2025	The Clerk and Cllr Paul Millett to arrange a date for a public meeting on a weekend where all residents are invited to attend to discuss the speeding issues through Chalbury.	Clerk/Cllr Paul Millett	
53/25	March 2025	Clerk to enquire about a grit bin being placed on Horton Road (near to the Remedy Oak Tree) for the use of the residents in the nearby houses.	Clerk	<p>Apr 25: An email has been sent to the relevant department in DC.</p> <p>May 25: Clerk has contacted DC Highways for an update.</p> <p>June 25: The delay on the salt bin process is currently due to location. DC are unable to determine a suitable and safe location on highway land for this salt bin, which is accessible to the local residents who may need to access it The initial location of being near or next to the remedy oak tree has been declined. Once this has been figured out it will then go to ranking and an assessment will take place to determine if it meets requirements.</p> <p>Sept 25: DC have confirmed they do want to place a salt bin put in the location, have not been able to find a site that meets the criteria which is safe for people to use the salt bin safely. DC are unable to place the bin next to the Remedy Oak tree due to it being a protected tree.</p> <p>Nov 25: The grit bin is continuing to be considered by Dorset Council Highways. DC need to confirm if this is a high priority gritting route and the liability for</p>

				<p>residents spreading grit on an icy road. The Parish Council could purchase a grit bin, however DC Highways Officer needs to confirm whose responsibility it would be to maintain the grit bin and where liability lies in relation to spreading the grit across the road. The Highways Officer has emailed the relevant department and is awaiting an update.</p> <p>Dec 25: DC Highways has confirmed that the grit bin liability /maintenance would be the Parish Council. The Grit Bins position would need to be authorised and assessed by DC Highways. DC Highways Officer has emailed, as a matter of urgency, the Community Highways Team Leader to arrange a site meeting.</p> <p>Jan 26: The Grit bin scoring has taken place and it will have to be a 'community bin'. This will be purchased and maintained by the parish. DC Highways are waiting on a cost and any further information.</p>
54/25	March 2025	Clerk to approach Dorset Council for a warning sign before the bend along the B3081 highlighting the bend from Verwood and a possible reduced speed limit (30 or 40mph on the bend).	Clerk	<p>Mar 25: Further to correspondence with DC highways it was agreed that the Clerk should contact DC to request a road safety review of the B3081. The Clerk has emailed the relevant department.</p> <p>May 25: DC Road Safety Technical Officer is about to run their latest route and cluster site analysis – the routes are defined as any route across the county (for example the B3081 in its entirety) that has recorded a high number of injury collisions per km, and our cluster sites are defined by 3 or more injury collisions within 100 metres in the last 3 years. The B3081 has previously flagged as a route analysis, however this has been swayed by the amount of injury collisions close to Ringwood near the A31 and the junction for Alderholt and not so much near Remedy Gate.</p> <p>If it doesn't flag as one of our top route analysis this year, following this request I will add it to our list, however, please be advised I do not have a timescale for this analysis. Once it's been completed, I will get back to you.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to liaise with DC Highways in relation to the previous higher quality finish, skid resistant road surface that was placed along the B3081.</p> <p>Nov 25: The Clerk has spoken to Dorset Council Highways Officer who has passed on the relevant contact details for the resurfacing team in relation to the skid resistant road surface for the B3081. The Clerk has emailed the resurfacing team and is awaiting a response.</p>
67/25	July 2025	Clerk to report the thin branch hanging across the B3081 road.	Clerk	<p>Sept 25: The branch has been reported on the DC portal.</p>
70/25	July 2025	Clerk to contact DC to confirm if the flashing signs at Horton Inn are working and being used.	Clerk	<p>Aug 25: The signs were removed by DC due to wiring concerns. Plans are in place for the signs to be reinstalled. DC Highways is currently coordinating and will provide updates regarding the timeline for</p>

				<p>replacement.</p> <p>Nov 25: Dorset Council Highways are waiting to hear from Team about flashing signs at Horton Inn.</p> <p>Jan 26: Update from DC: The previous sign was removed as it had reached the end of its maintainable life. Due to the high cost associated with replacing the sign in its original illuminated and loop-activated format, combined with ongoing challenges in maintaining the sign and safely parking adjacent to it, an alternative solution was considered.</p> <p>It was agreed to install a large, non-illuminated warning sign on a yellow background to ensure high visibility while reducing maintenance requirements and improving safety for operatives. The new sign will provide clear warning information similar to the example provided below, but without the horse symbol.</p> <p>This approach offers a cost-effective and practical solution while maintaining compliance with visibility and safety standards.</p>  <p>The sign shop will be able to survey the location shortly. Once the survey is complete, they should be able to progress with the installation of the new non-illuminated warning sign as planned.</p>
73/25	July 2025	Clerk to report the potholes in the road near the Remedy Oak.	Clerk	Aug 25: The potholes by Remedy Oak have been reported on the DC portal.
74/25	Sept 2025	Clerk to visit the area where the waste has been placed and report to the relevant department at DC.	Clerk	Oct 25: The waste/rubbish has been reported to DC environmental health. Dec 25: Dorset Council waste enforcement team have received numerous reports on this matter. It has been passed over to their partners at the Environment Agency as it is a waste site on private land. A visit has been carried out and they are continuing to investigate.
75/25	Sept 2025	Clerk to liaise with DC Highways Department to gain their views on traffic calming measures at Parsonage Way, Wimborne St Giles.	Clerk	Oct 25: An email has been sent to DC Highways asking for them to review the traffic calming measures. Nov 25: Dorset Council Highways Officer will raise this again with Community Highways Team Leader. It is likely there is not enough fronting properties for a speed reduction. An accident data and speed survey

				<p>reduction may need to be completed.</p> <p>Dec 25: Due to illness the DC Community Team Leader has not been able to undertake a site visit, the site visit will take place in the New Year.</p> <p>Jan 26: Update from DC: Requests for 20mph speed limits must come from the Parish Council via the form here: 20mph Limits and Zones - Dorset Council and then go through the appropriate assessment by our Road Safety Team.</p> <p>The record of collision data shows that in the last five years there have been no injury collisions in this section of road, and therefore according to the department of transport guidance, the speed limit appears to be set correctly, The current signing could be improved by the insertion of a slow road marking next to the concealed entrance sign (general or unspecified hazard Diagram 562) and DC highways are happy to fund this from their capital signs and lines budget, although it will likely be in the new financial year now rather than before due to the likely weather conditions.</p>
81/25	Oct 2025	Clerk to report the missing road sign at the bottom of Keepers Hill, B3078.	Clerk	Nov 25: A job has been raised through DC previously for a replacement. DC are waiting for sign shop to complete.
82/25	Nov 2025	Clerk to send all DC reported damaged roads signs to Cllr Tooke.	Clerk	Jan 26: An email was sent to Cllr David Tooke today, 13 th January, with the DC portal reference numbers for the damaged road signs.
84/25	Nov 2025	Cllr Butler and Cllr Antell to report on their findings after a visit to Woodlands Green to assess the damage on the field from the cars parked during the football on Saturdays.	Cllr Butler Cllr Antell	
85/25	Dec 2025	Clerk to report the rubbish that has been fly tipped in Bagmans Lane, Woodlands. Clerk to contact Dorset Council to enquire if a gate and or camera/sign can be placed on Bagman's Lane to prevent further rubbish being fly tipped.	Clerk	<p>Feb 26: The fly tipping has been reported to DC SR00835377. Signage can be put up providing it is to the side of the track, it maybe a good idea to check with landowners first. Unless there is a need for livestock no gates can be put in place due to it being a byway.</p> <p><i>Clerk to contact DC Ranger to discuss the options of having cameras on the byway. Clerk to obtain a quote for the cameras.</i></p>
86/25	Dec 2025	Clerk to get advice from DC Highways on the Horton speeding issues.	Clerk	Jan 26: DC Highways Dept response; the Councils collision data records doesn't show that there is a history of injury collisions on the section of road from the 30mph to the junction opposite the Horton Inn. There is just one collision shown by the 30mph speed

				<p>limit signs as you enter Horton, where a large van driver was likely distracted and lost control of their vehicle and went into the ditch, no other vehicles were involved.</p> <p>According to the Department of Transport`s guidance to setting speed limits on rural roads, currently the 30mph speed limit starts at the village entry sign, and the guidance states that unless there are good reasons too, for example a history of collisions, then the current speed limit would be the appropriate speed limit for this section of road, especially as there are very few properties that abut this section of road.</p> <p>Chicanes would be deemed to be a highway improvement, and the Parish Council will need to request this to our LTP team, however, bear in mind that there is no history of collisions, so such a request is likely to be ranked very lowly.</p> <p>It may be that some of the road markings can be refreshed.</p> <p>DC Road Safety Manager noted that the speed survey conducted in 2016 showed good compliance, with average speeds recorded at 30.2 mph.</p> <p>The cost of a traffic survey is £295 + VAT for the first site, and £200 + VAT for each additional location monitored at the same time in the same area. The number of surveys required will depend on the size of the area being assessed.</p>
87/25	Dec 2025	Clerk to inform DC highways about the flooding at Pump House Corner.	Clerk	<p>Jan 26: The flooding issues at the pump house corner has been reported to DC Highways and COULD potentially be a location that is targeted once their capital budget becomes available from April. There is already a long list of works that need doing it is a case of where it ranks.</p> <p>Gullies have been cleared at this location on multiple occasions however asking landowners to clear ditching is an ongoing issue.</p>
89/25	Dec 2025	Clerk to apply to KPCBF for a grant for the Woodlands Green goal nets.	Clerk	
90/25	Dec 2025	Cllr Brown to email Cllr Chakawhata in relation to the dog barking logs that have been kept by the local resident.	Cllr Brown	
91/25	Dec 2025	Clerk to follow up the HGV sign at Haythornes, Horton Road	Clerk	Dec 25: The sign has been ordered and is awaiting DC sign shop to make and install.
92/26	Jan 2026	Clerk to contact DC SID	Clerk	Feb 26: SIDs are not data collection tools, they are

		Team to enquire whether data can be extracted from the Horton SID.		<p>signs placed on the highway for the education of drivers on speed awareness. They are setup face onto to oncoming traffic and record the information coming towards it. The results they record are prone to inaccuracy because they record multiple “hits” from a single vehicle. In addition there has shown to be some sporadically high and low readings within the data set, skewing the figures.</p> <p>Even if data was collected, it would never be accepted it as evidence of an issue on the highway due to its inconsistencies. Some communities will use it to look at general trends, but its not “evidence”.</p> <p>SIDs are a fantastic tool for education and speed reduction, they are not a survey tool.</p> <p>Traffic surveys cost £295+VAT for the first site and then £200+VAT for each additional site monitored at the same time, in the same area.</p>
93/26	Jan 2026	Clerk to contact DC Highways and Bournemouth Water in relation to the potholes and the water leak through Haythornes.	Clerk	Feb 26: The pothole and leak were reported to DC/Bournemouth Water on 20 th December. DC Highways Officer contacted Bournemouth Water on 7 th January, who reported that there were not enough people to deal with the leak at that moment. A works order was raised by DC Highways to fix the potholes, although this cannot be completed until the water leak has been fixed.
94/26	Jan 2026	Clerk to complete to relevant form for DC.	Clerk	Feb 26: The precept form has been completed and confirmed as received by DC. Complete.
95/26	Feb 2026	Cllr Steve Butler to contact DC and Planning to discuss the routes in and out for the solar farm at Woodlands.	Cllr Butler	
96/26	Feb 2026	Cllr Colin Davidson to bring back to the March meeting what funding KPC will receive from both solar farms and the number of panels that are being installed on both solar farms.	Cllr Davidson	

Annex C

260211 Dorset Councillor Report for Knowlton Parish Council

1) Dorset Council Flooding Response

A) Immediate Operational Response

Dorset Council's frontline crews have been working day and night to manage the effects of severe groundwater flooding. Their actions include:

- Clearing drains and watercourses where safe to do so.
- Deploying road signs and barriers to manage flooded or unsafe routes.
- Coordinating closely with partners, including the Environment Agency and town/parish councils, to reduce risk.

B) Situation Overview

- Groundwater levels are at historic highs, with continued rainfall expected.
- Residents are experiencing flooded roads, disrupted travel, damage to homes and businesses, and significant anxiety over rising water levels.

C) Longer-Term Planning & Climate Adaptation

Dorset Council highlighted that extreme weather events are becoming more common, noting that floods once considered "once-in-a-century" are now familiar.

- The council began developing the Dorset Climate Adaptation Strategy last year to help communities prepare for future extreme weather.
- This strategy aims to guide infrastructure resilience, community protection, and long-term environmental planning.

D) Investment and Infrastructure Measures

- Targeted investment in areas that experience repeated flooding.
- A review of highways resources, with plans to increase capacity for:
 - Clearing gullies
 - Managing debris and road damage left by floodwaters

These measures aim to address both urgent repairs and longer-term upgrading of local infrastructure.

E) Support for Residents

The council stressed that resident safety, homes, and wellbeing remain the top priority.

- Those affected are encouraged to reach out for support, with the council reassuring communities that help is available.

2) Housing Allocation Policy

Dorset Council has completed a scheduled five-year review of its Housing Allocation Policy, following a public consultation in the summer of 2025, resulting in a series of proposed changes aimed at making the system fairer, more transparent, and more consistent. The revised policy is progressing through Cabinet and Full Council, with a decision expected by April 2026, and implementation later in the year.

A) Stronger Local Connection Requirements

One of the most significant updates is a tightened local connection rule:

- Applicants without a proven local connection to Dorset will no longer be eligible to join the housing register.
- Exemptions apply for groups such as:

- Armed Forces personnel and their families
- People fleeing domestic abuse
- Those needing urgent medical, welfare or safety-related moves
- Households owed a statutory homelessness duty

This change aims to ensure that the limited supply of social housing prioritises residents with established ties to Dorset.

B) Simplified Four-Band Priority System

The council is replacing its existing system with a clearer four-band structure based on housing need:

- Band 1 – Priority Housing Need
- Band 2 – High Housing Need
- Band 3 – Medium Housing Need
- Band 4 – Low Housing Need

Band placement will be determined by factors such as medical needs, welfare considerations, homelessness, overcrowding, and special circumstances. This aims to make the process easier to understand for residents and ensures applicants with the most urgent needs are prioritised.

C) Enhanced Support for Armed Forces Community

The updated policy improves support for current and former UK Armed Forces personnel, including introducing dedicated banding considerations to recognise their service and specific housing challenges.

Annex D

Financial position

- The proposed 2026 to 2027 budget is £482.6m, funded through £18m of savings and £18.9m of extra income mainly from council tax.
- Government funding changes increase reliance on council tax, now over 70% of total resources.

Flooding

- I visited the village several times and I understand that some houses were flooded. It appears that ground water was a key cause and heavy floods on the C2, Wigbeth and Horton Heath. I shared the details from the council updates on ground water flooding
- I visited the residents who whose land and property was heavily flooded at Nuts Landing and shared the above with them. The residents request for larger pipes in the culvert was turned down by officers as there was an upgrade in 2024. Mark Adams and Harry Bessant visited the site to undertake an evaluation

Assets and property

- Asset rationalisation continues, with town and parish councils being asked to take on local assets.

Service reviews

- Leisure services review proposes a single provider and major new facilities in Ferndown and Weymouth costing £75m to £80m plus £6m interest. Details expected further in the year.

Community governance

- Boundary review work continues with a formal paper due February 2026. Local councillors have been invited to visit Parliament.

Parliament

- Vikki Slade invites councillors and families to Parliament
- There is a planning enforcement which Cllr Potentier and I are dealing with and he will provide further details

Road safety

- The MP and I have been asking the Dorset officers to review the speeds on Cranborne Rd after the last fatalities but they are saying the incidents
- Replacement signs being ordered for Horton Inn, but not replacing like for like.

