

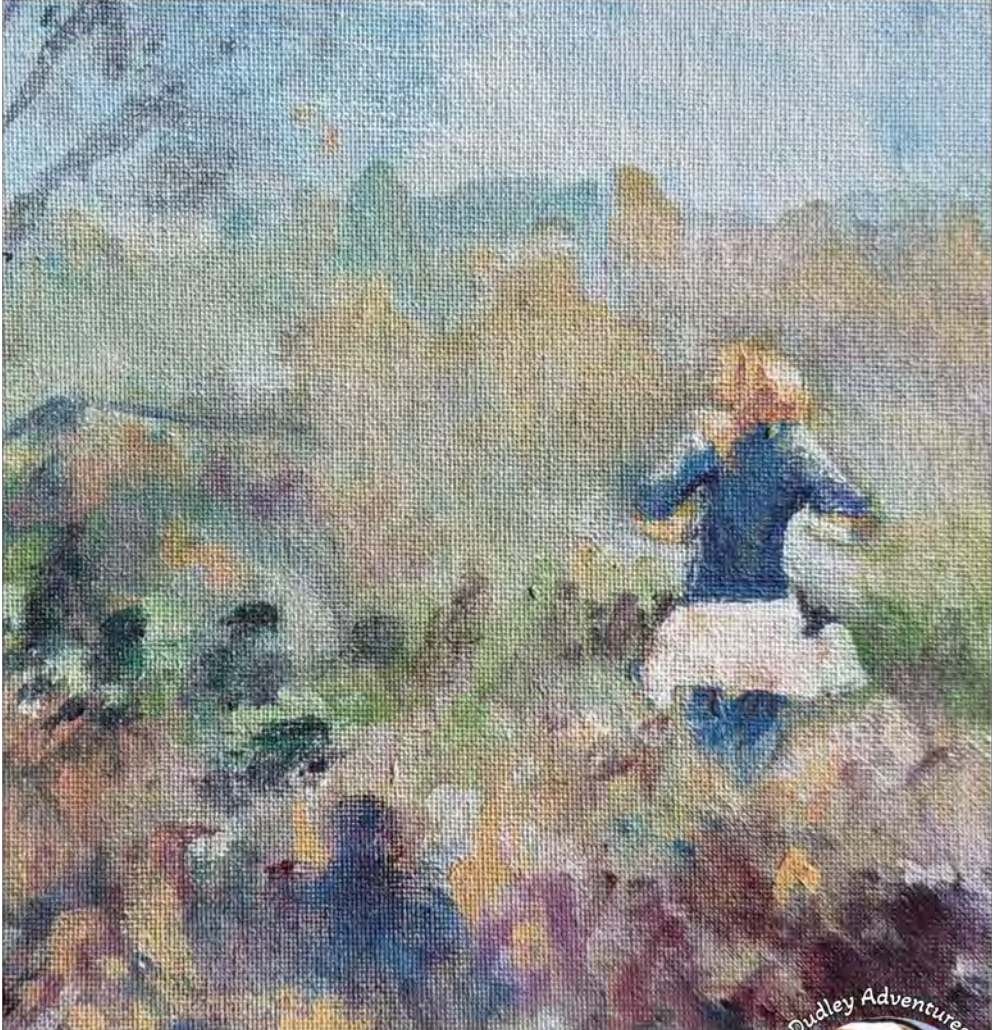
JUNE 2026

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HALE & WOODGREEN

Community & Parish Magazine

www.halevillagehall.co.uk/magazine



My girl: Sarah Orchard

*The Community Magazine for Hale and Woodgreen.
2 villages found in the New Forest, Hampshire. UK.
Published every month except January*

PLEASE RECYCLE.



PICNIC BARN DANCE

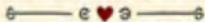
Hatchet Green – Sunday 26th July

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5:00PM – 8:00PM

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THERE!**

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME, PREFERABLY BY

EMAIL to: haleandwoodgreen@aol.com

or haleandwoodgreen@aim.com

We welcome your feedback and ideas for future issues

**The deadline for the July 2026 issue of the magazine is
Tuesday 16th June.
Please send all entries by end of 15th.**

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO
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Errors and Omissions are excluded and no responsibility is taken for submissions received for publication from third parties.

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Cover design by Sarah Orchard and David Keniston

“My girl” by Sarah Orchard (advert top of page 32)

If available, cover paintings are for sale as framed and mounted; some come as a print and also in cards format@ £2.50;

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Potted histories...Henry VIII (part 4).

We cannot continue with Henry's story without first introducing Thomas Cromwell. The commoner who rose to be Henry's chief minister, adviser and enforcer. A man of exceptional ability and enormous capacity for hard work, who dominated England's political and religious life for a decade.

He ruthlessly dispatched those who stood against him and his royal master; notably his rival Thomas More and Anne Boleyn, Henry's second wife.

Cromwell masterminded the seismic religious changes of the 1530s, orchestrating the split from Rome, the establishment of Henry as supreme head of the new protestant Church of England and the dissolution of the catholic monasteries in its wake. He also modernised the government of the realm from medieval to modern.

His start in life was so humble that we are not entirely sure where or when. Probably 1485 (curiously the year of Bosworth and the start of the Tudor dynasty) and probably the small country village of Putney, west of the City. His mother Katherine was over 50 when she gave birth to him. His father Walter was an ambitious rogue—a blacksmith, a brewer and a fuller (I had to look it up too). As a farrier he supported Henry VII at Bosworth. He also appeared on no less than 48 occasions before the magistrates for watering down his ales, and once for assault.

Hilary Mantel's must-read trilogy *Wolf Hall* begins with Walter literally kicking his son out of the family home, age 18, whence Thomas travelled to France. Later in life Thomas admitted that he may have "inherited some of his father's less admirable traits". He also confided to Archbishop Cranmer "what a ruffian I was in my earlier days". In contrast, those around him in Henry's court would have been from noble families; formally educated to impress the King and climb the slippery pole. He rose to dominate them all, learning everything from life.

After a brief spell in the French army (military) he joined the household of a rich Florentine merchant (business) where he would have met Michelangelo (arts and culture), and probably Machiavelli (politics). The French and Italian languages assimilated along the way. Law also. Some education!

He married Elizabeth and had three children. Sadly his wife and the two girls all died of the sweating sickness within a few months of one another. He somehow overcame this dreadful personal tragedy to move on and raise his son Gregory to the heights of an earldom. There are rumours of an illegitimate daughter in Europe.

By this time he was both a successful businessman , a lawyer and one of the most trusted servants of Cardinal Wolsey, Henry's then chief minister. When he failed to persuade the Pope to annul Henry's first marriage Wolsey was dismissed and his household collapsed. Nonetheless Cromwell's quick wittedness, irreverence and obvious intelligence attracted Henry to take him onto his own staff. More articulate than most, Crom gained a reputation as an orator, most useful in Parliament where he just happened to already have a seat. Is there no stopping this man? With a rough style of management he appealed to the king who was tired of being surrounded by sycophants and flatterers. Thus the infamous partnership was first forged and Thomas given his first official role— Master of the Jewels—in April 1532.

Many more jobs were to follow during his meteoric rise to power, and before his spectacular fall from grace 8 years later, on Tower Hill and after 3 blows of the axe by the " ragged and butcherly executioner"; handpicked by arch enemy, the Duke of Norfolk ,and plied with copious alcohol beforehand. Cromwell is buried there alongside More and Anne Boleyn. David Mussell.

As part of our 2026 Hale and Woodgreen organising our third **free Children's Sunday, 5th July** from 11.00 am – 4.00 pm.



Horticultural Society programme, we are **Workshop at Woodgreen Village Hall** on

It is an opportunity for children to enjoy arts recycling, upcycling and using natural planned to match our annual horticultural July. We would like to encourage more young people to enter these classes, but it is not a prerequisite to booking a place at the workshop sessions.

and crafts activities, focused on gardening, materials. The activities are carefully show children's classes, for Saturday 18th

Primary school aged children (Key Stage F, 1 & 2) and younger must be accompanied and supervised by an adult throughout the day. Older students (Key Stage 3) may participate independently, if their family/ emergency contact details have been given in advance. Pre-booked places only.

There will be 4 workshop activities run by 4 local artists/ crafters across four 1-hour carousel sessions.

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
11 am – 12 noon	12 noon- 1 pm	2 pm – 3 pm	3 pm – 4 pm

Lunchtime break 1 pm - 2 pm

If you would like to stay over the lunchtime break- please bring a packed lunch to be eaten outside, on the terrace. Refreshments will be available throughout the workshop sessions for a small donation.

<p>Activity 1 – to create a 3D felt flower.</p> <p>Sarah Waters is a local felt maker, using traditional and innovative techniques, to showcase the beauty and diversity of British wool. She currently runs her own textiles business teaching, exhibiting in the UK and internationally.</p> <p>Create a 3D felted flower with Sarah.</p> 	<p>Activity 2- to decorate a garden lantern.</p> <p>Andrea Finn, our HWHS president, is an experienced and true creative educator, specialising in painting, ceramics, and mixed media.</p>  <p>Decorate a glass jar, using patterns, shapes and your imagination.</p>
<p>Activity 3 – to design and make a greetings card using buttons.</p>  <p>Sue Harris, our HWHS secretary, makes and sells greetings cards using a variety of paper cutting, stamping and recycling techniques.</p> <p>With Sue's assistance, design and make a special greetings card.</p>	<p>Activity 4- to decorate an old pair of sunglasses for a festival.</p> <p>Tricia Goodfellow is a primary school teacher, enthusiastic gardener, and home crafter.</p> <p>Upcycle a pair of sunglasses into something amazing to wear at a festival.</p> 

All the materials for the activities will be provided and there is no cost to participate.

To book a place for the HWHS Children's Workshop 2026 please email tricia@cgclassics.co.uk by Monday 29th June providing-

- Parental contact details
- Child's/ children's names and ages
- Preferred session timings (AM, PM or all day) and which activity workshop/s your child/ children would like to do.



On Sunday, 21st June HWHS have arranged a coach outing to Cerne Abbas- 50th Open Gardens event in Dorset. They are planning to show around 25 private gardens from 2-6 pm. The village car park, refreshments/ teas, church flower display and plant stall all open from 1 pm onwards, and proceeds go to two charities (Squibb Garden Renovation and Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance).

Herrington Coaches will do pick-ups in Hale and Woodgreen, leaving from 11.30 am, returning around 7.30 pm.

We would like to invite HWHS members and village friends to prebook a seat asap. The total cost is £25.00 per person- including ticket admission with village map at a reduced price. We would kindly like to ask for a £5.00 deposit in advance.

Please contact David Mussell (chair) davidgmussell@icloud.com or Tricia Goodfellow (programme planner) tricia@cgclassics.co.uk to reserve your place!

SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE HALLS.

If you're planning a private event such as a party or a family get together, please think about hiring your local Village Hall. We need your support.

Hale and Woodgreen Horticultural Society



Annual Show Woodgreen Village Hall

Saturday 18th July

**Staging of entries from 9-10.30am
Opens at 2pm, prizegiving at 4pm**

The schedule for the show is now on our website and can be accessed through the links

https://haleandwoodgreenhorticulturalsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/Show-entry-Form-2026_SM1.pdf

https://haleandwoodgreenhorticulturalsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/HALE-AND-WOODGREEN-Show-Schedule-2026_SM4.pdf

Hale and Woodgreen Horticultural Society

Annual Show - Saturday 18th July 2026



HOME PRODUCE

Judged by Linda Wyatt

All food must be covered

- **Marmalade**, using fresh fruit, in a jar, not less than 225g / 8oz.
- **Peppermint creams**, 6 presented on a plate
- **Tartare sauce** in a jar, not less than 170g / 6oz
- **A loaf of Dutch crackle top (tiger) bread**
- **Summer couscous salad**, one portion, in a bowl
- **6 eggs** to be laid by exhibitor's own hens.
- **Iced ginger cake**, presented on a plate (*see recipe on next page*)

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AMERICAN IPA

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OPEN FROM 5PM - 7PM START
FOOD: GIGGLING GOURMETS

£1 ENTRY-MAX 6 PEOPLE PER TEAM

FOOD @ THE TAP BAR IN JUNE
5TH BAO BEAST

BEER FESTIVAL 3PM-10PM

12TH DAVID'S PIZZA

13TH LOAF

19TH 3 CUTS BURGERS

26TH INDRIYA KITCHEN

IBIZA SUMMER DISCO 6PM-11PM

27TH DEAD MEX

IBIZA SUMMER

DISCO

WITH DJ ALAN

GEORGE

27TH JUNE • 6PM - 11PM

FOOD FROM

DEAD MEX

FREE ENTRY



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13TH JUNE- LOAF

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Spring Production 2026 A touch of 70s nostalgia



After another successful sell-out run for our Spring production 'A Touch of 70s Nostalgia' we are starting to relax for our summer break. We had great fun rehearsing for this one as well as working hard on getting it just right for the performances – we lost count of the number of bananas and chips that were consumed in the process (If you weren't there, I will leave you intrigued!). Many thanks to all who came and shared in the evening as well as thanks to our dedicated backstage and front of house crew who helped us keep everything flowing smoothly. We couldn't do it without you!



We Are Award Winners!



We were honoured to be awarded the National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) District 12 Achievement winners for our productions! The am dram equivalent of a BAFTA! At the end of May a small contingent from the group went to a very glamorous award ceremony in Exeter to receive the award. More details will follow on the next magazine! We were also nominated for Best Comedy and Best Drama in the South West – at the time of writing we don't yet know the outcome, but we were very excited to be nominated!

Jeni Colton, NODA SW Regional Representative District 12 wrote: *'These nominations are a terrific achievement in a region as big as the South West, and I congratulate you and all the company for your continued successes. The winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on 23rd May 2026 at Sandy Park, Exeter.'*

And so, our thoughts turn to next year which will be our 70th! We are planning some rather exciting things, but will need some help to achieve them. If you would like to help out, please do get in touch via the contacts below. More specific information will be coming soon!

Want to know more?

Contact us via our email info@redlynchplayers.co.uk or message us on our Facebook or Instagram pages. We would love to have a chat with you! Information about us, reviews, photos, awards (we are excited!) and any other news can be found on our website: www.redlynchplayers.co.uk
Thank you for your continued support.

Ali Silver, Chair of Redlynch Players

Afternoon Tea
Bookswap
& Jigsaw
Exchange

Bring books and jigsaws,
 swap books and jigsaws,
 meet friends and have tea!

2.30 - 4pm
 The second Wednesday of
 every month.

£4
 Includes
 tea & cake

WOODGREEN
 VILLAGE HALL

Hosted by the Woodgreen Village Hall committee raising funds for the village hall. Registered charity number 1189784

New Forest for Ukraine

At every Woodgreen Village Hall book and jigsaw afternoon I will be collecting donations for the New Forest for Ukraine charity. These afternoons run from 2.30-4pm every second Wednesday of each month. Tea and cake is available to buy.

The New Forest for Ukraine charity are in desperate need of :

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Toiletries | Tins of food |
| Painkillers, etc | Socks |
| Torches and batteries | Candles |
| Hot water bottles | |

Please support this amazing group if you can. Every small donation makes a difference. I will be dropping it off to the collection point at Hockeys farm shop.

They are also collecting larger items, so visit their website for more information www.newforestforukraine.org

Many thanks, Sue Harris

Woodgreen model steam show 2026

We would like to thank everyone who supported this event. From bakers, to the behind-the-scenes team. We had a great two days, the sun shone and many happy visitors enjoyed the spectacles of steam engines, a steam car as well as a range of model layouts in the hall. We raised £1,440.00 for our chosen charities: Spires Smiles, Alzheimer's Society and St Mary's church, Hale. Thankyou. Lynda Warne



The New Forest Classic, Custom, Cherished and Supercar Owners Group

A club for locals owners of cherished and classic cars and we have a monthly meet at The Horse and Groom alongside ad hoc drives.

The Group can be found on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1135043020197592/> and is open to anyone who owns or has a love of classic, cherished or supercars.

We meet the second Thursday of each month at the Horse and Groom from 6:30 - 9:30, parking at the rear in the paddocks.

We'd love to see more local along who own some lovely cars.

Andy Entwistle
andy@motorshow.live

Graham John Hammond

(30/11/1935 – 20/04/2026)



It was only a few weeks ago that Graham was at his wife Jenny’s 90th birthday party in Hale Village Hall, surrounded by family and friends. He was his usual buoyant and entertaining self, delighted to be at a gathering and thoroughly enjoying the occasion.

As a young man, school life was difficult for Graham due to dyslexia, but he excelled at cricket and proudly earned the nickname “Wally Hammond” after the famous English cricketer. More than anything, he loved animals, horses and farming, happiest helping on his aunt and uncle’s Dorset farm.

After school he worked on farms before completing National Service with the Sherwood Foresters Royal Artillery in Benghazi and Tripoli, patrolling the desert with his dog, Bullet. Throughout his life he adored horses and rode regularly in the forest he loved so much. Whenever anyone asked how he was, his answer was always: “Never better!”

Although farming was his passion, Graham joined the family jewellery business in Southampton. He married his first wife Kay and together they had three children: Nicky, Simon and Peter. Their memories are filled with animals, boats, picnics at Hurst Castle and life outdoors in the New Forest.

Jenny and Graham met in 1978 and recently celebrated 46 years of marriage. Together they built a wonderful life at Hatchet Green and became a much-loved part of village life.

Graham loved the outdoors — sailing at Mudeford, walking the forest with dogs, gardening, chopping logs and tackling endless projects. He was practical and creative, making bird tables, repairing furniture and building things in his own distinctive rustic style.

Many will remember his enthusiastic dancing, legendary barbecues, battered bush hat decorated with corks and feathers, and cheerful willingness to help. Cricket remained a lifelong passion, with test matches constantly on the radio in the garden.

Above all, Graham loved his life with Jenny at Hatchet Green. He often said he lived “in paradise with an angel.”

Graham will be greatly missed by Jenny, his family and all who knew him, but remembered with affection for the laughter, kindness and wonderful memories he leaves behind.

As John Arlott might have said: “It was a good innings from Hammond.”

Ron Trevaskis. (1945—2026)

Ron Trevaskis was born in Falmouth, Cornwall: a distinctive man from a distinctive County. In Woodgreen his warm personality and positive outlook on life meant that he became a true friend to all, and a considerable influence on local life; a true believer in the concept of community, who was determined to make a major personal contribution — through his actions and not just words.

As a teenager he undertook that dream job, deckchair attendant, and soon became a favourite with half of the locals; his sun-bleached locks and handsome winning smile lighting up his world. Something that he never lost, to the very end.

His first proper job was in the Civil Service, over the border in Plymouth. He transferred further east to Her Majesty's Customs and Excise and rose rapidly to the heights of its drugs division. Working at Heathrow, investigating the movement of the hardest drugs, and catching some of the hardest criminals. The Kray twins, Bob Marley and Brinks-Mat all featured in his life on the Waterguard. Ron quickly earned a reputation within the wider community of drug-chasers, attending numerous international conferences and always sought after for his advice and leadership. Given a chance he would happily talk for hours about this to anyone who was prepared to listen. Believe me, it was hard to get away. Not that you wanted to.

Ron met his beloved Frances on a blind-date. It must have been love at first sight and Ron always said that it nearly bankrupted him, so great was his love for Fran. Children followed, Victoria and Charlotte. The house echoed with family games at the weekends; Dad inventing fun characters and impressions and Mum and the children in hysterics! Swimming, tennis and perfect Sunday roasts followed

Ron and Fran first visited Woodgreen to see Fran's sister Pam and her husband John. So happy were these occasions and so many were the new friends made that Rose Cottage was snapped up, first as a weekend retreat and later the perfect place to retire to. With Fran's experience of running a successful Retirement Home behind them, they set up a B&B which never rated at less than 5 Stars on Trip Advisor... and which was no less hospitable for the many friends invited around. Their friendship always as genuine as it was generous.

Ron also earned a considerable reputation as a "Jethro-tribute act". The two men from Cornwall hit it off, when Ron approached Jethro at The Lakeside. Ron's memory for detail meant that he could entertain with one authentic Jethro story after another. Close your eyes and it was Jethro speaking. Are they sitting together sharing a pint of Cornish Best and a tale right now? Let's hope so.

Perhaps Ron's greatest local achievement is the part he played in helping save the Community Shop. Joining the Committee in 2008 Ron effectively project managed the all important build, working closely with the architect and builder, meeting daily to iron out any snags and smoothing the way to the wonderful shop we have today. Ron then became its second Chairman and managed the transition to successful day to day retailing, retiring after 10 years of honourable service, not that this stopped him stocking the wine shelves and numerous other bits and pieces. Someone has to get down on their knees to read the water meter, which he often did. Needless to say we couldn't have asked for a better leader and co-worker.

How to end? Much has been left out. Ron can really claim to have been a great local man, not that he ever would. His innate modesty could not however hide the charm, the warmth, the energy and drive or the friendship to so many. A Proper Job!

Shirley Leary

Shirley was born on Friday 13th April 1932 in Leytonstone in Essex. She was one of four children. She was evacuated numerous times during the war years to different locations and it was during one evacuation to a farm in Buckinghamshire that her lifelong love for animals began. She met her beloved husband Bill through their mutual love of horses. They married in 1955 and lived on a smallholding near Brentwood in Essex where they kept Jersey cows, chickens and ponies.

In 1972 Shirley, Bill, their five children and various furry four legged and feathered friends moved into Langat House in Woodgreen. Shirley soon immersed herself in village life joining the WI, horticultural society, becoming a school governor and a parish councillor. She was an amazing flower arranger, winning many prizes for her floral art. Shirley organised the flower rota for St Boniface for many years. The family moved to Barns Farm in Woodgreen in 1984 and then Shirley and Bill downsized to a bungalow in Hale in 2006.



Shirley and Chubby

Shirley passed away peacefully at home on 5th May, after a short battle with cancer, with her family by her side. She was a kind, caring person who will be so sadly missed, not only by her family but by everyone who was lucky enough to call her a friend or neighbour.

Funeral service and celebration of Shirley's life will take place at St Boniface Church, Woodgreen on Wednesday 3rd June at 1pm.

Family flowers only please. Donations in Shirley's memory to Medical Detection Dogs c/o I N Newman

PRAYERS MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY WORLDWIDE. Are YOU willing to JOIN OTHERS to pray for the PERSECUTED CHURCH? A fellow Christian wrote: *"It feels crazy to try and change the world; but it is evil not to try."* Please get in touch with Pat Bloomfield swanbeck3@gmail.com or text 07985 938644, and we can decide together how to do so.

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of
WOODGREEN PARISH COUNCIL held in Woodgreen Reading Room
on Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 7.30pm.**

26/27.1 To Elect a Chair for 2026/27 It was proposed by JC, seconded by HB and unanimously agreed to elect Lance Benest as Chair of Woodgreen Parish Council.

26/27.2 To Elect a Vice-Chair for 2026/267 It was proposed by MF, seconded by SH and unanimously agreed to elect Guy Rafferty as Vice-Chair.

26/27.3 Members present: John Clarke (JC)(Chair), Helena Datta(HD), Mark Flannigan (MF), Stewart Hall (SH), Guy Rafferty (GR) and Pete Skinner (PS).

Also present: Amanda Johnson (Clerk),

Apologies for Absence: Lance Benest (LB), Janet Richards NFDC District Councillor,

26/27.4 Declarations of Interest: None

26/27.5 Minutes of previous meeting held on 14/04/2026.

26/27.5.1 Following a review of the minutes, it was then unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

26/27.5.2 Matters arising from previous minutes not appearing as agenda items.

Forestry England car parking charges- Following a request from Beaulieu Parish Council Woodgreen PC wrote to Forestry England regarding a reconsideration of the car parking charges. A response was received from Forestry England stating that the car parking charges would go ahead and they are now in force.

Pathway to Breamore- Woodgreen PC is still waiting for a response from HCC.

26/27.6 Public Participation: No members of the public were present

26/27.7 Planning

Case Number	26/00442CONS
Proposal	Pollard 1 x Sweet Chestnut tree, Fell 2 x Silver Birch trees, Prune 1 x Oak tree, Pune 2 x Beech trees, Fell 1 x Pine tree, Fell 1 x Sweet Chestnut tree.
Site	The Long House, Warren Copse, Woodgreen, Fordingbridge, SP6 2QY

HD and SH visited the site and had no issues with the proposed works and therefore recommended to accept the decision of the National Park Authority Tree Officer. This was unanimously agreed.

Case Number	26/00383FULL
Proposal	Sewage treatment plant (removal of existing septic tank)
Site	The Old Cottage, High Street, Woodgreen, Fordingbridge, SP6 2AR

The application was discussed and no issues were raised. It was **RESOLVED** to recommend Option 1 PERMISSION but would accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.

26/27.8 Report by New Forest District Councillor: Cllr Richards was unable to attend.

26/27.9 Meetings Attended:

North West Quadrant meeting 27th April - JC attended.

Local Plan Reviews- Both the NPA and NFDC will enter the next stage (Regulation 19) later this year.

The Dogs(Protection of Livestock)(Amendment Act) 2025 has come into force which introduces new powers, extends the law and permits higher fines.

The Yellow-legged hornet or Asian hornet, is an invasive species native to Asia that poses a significant threat to honey bees and local biodiversity in the New Forest.It is a highly efficient predator of honey bees, other pollinators, and beneficial insects

26/27.10 New Forest Together: Woodgreen PC agreed that more information was required to make an informed decision but it was agreed to advertise the petition on the Parish Council noticeboard.

26/27.11 Annual Parish Meeting: The Annual Parish meeting was held on 22nd April 2026 and was well attended by approx 40 parishioners. The Parish Council would like to thank Woodgreen Community Shop for supplying the cheese and to Woodgreen Hall Committee for free use of the hall and to all those who reported and attended.

26/27.12 General Power of Competence: Woodgreen PC re-affirmed that they meet the criteria to continue holding the General Power of Competence, that being a minimum of two thirds elected councillors and a qualified clerk.

26/27.13 Regulations: It was unanimously agreed to accept the Standing Orders (updated by NALC in 2025) and the Financial Orders (updated by NALC in 2025) including amendments to financial thresholds.

26/27.14 Parish Council Representatives and Responsibilities for 2026/27:

Finance - Stewart Hall

Planning - Mark Flanigan, Helena Datta, Lance Benest
Planning (Trees) - Pete Skinner, Helena Datta

Cemetery - Stewart Hall, Guy Raffety.

Lengthsman, hedges, ditches - Pete Skinner

Roads - Mark Flanigan

North West Quadrant Representatives - Helena Datta, John Clarke

IT - Guy Raffety

Consultative Panel Representatives - Lance Benest, John Clarke

Police and Neighbourhood Watch - Mark Flannigan

Repairs - Pete Skinner

Downton Link - Stewart Hall.

26/27.13 Woodgreen PC Assets: This was deferred to the next meeting.

26/27.14 Insurance policy: It was **RESOLVED** to renew the Insurance Policy for 2026/27 with Hiscox Insurance Company, through Arthur J. Gallagher Insurance Brokers Limited, for the sum of £570.14. This was unanimously agreed.

26/27.15 Village Maintenance and Parish Council Property (including the cemetery, roads, hedges, footpaths, ditches):

Cemetery - The Business Waste agreement with NFDC to collect waste from the cemetery has been terminated by NFDC. AJ will question NFDC to clarify the reason for this.

An application for an internment has been received which meets the criteria and will be held in June.

Lengthsman - The lengthsman will carry out jobs in the village on 15th June.

26/27.18 Financial report, Review of Ongoing Budget and approval of payments:

- a. The following balances were noted: -
 - Lloyds Treasurers Account £11,892.62 as at 07.05.2026;
 - Lloyds 32 Notice Account £81,879.38 as at 07.05.2026;
- b. **Expenditure:** The following payments were approved:

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	METHOD
A.Johnson	Salary - April	360.30		Bank Transfer
HMRC	Salary costs April	90.50		Bank Transfer
Woodgreen Community Shop	Refreshments for APA	190.74		Bank Transfer
Cutting Edge	Cemetery cut- April	180.00		Bank Transfer
British Gas	Reading Room supply	11.93		Bank Transfer

c. The following annual payments and subscriptions were approved :

HALC/NALC subscription	ICCM subscription
SLCC subscription (shared jointly with Hale PC)	ICO Data Protection fee
Cutting Edge - Cemetery maintenance	Bournemouth Water - Cemetery water costs
Hosting UK - website fees	TP Jones - payroll fees
British Gas - Reading room electricity costs	Clerks salary and associated costs.

26/27.19 Consultations and Correspondence up to 06/05/2026 and any urgent correspondence received after the agenda was finalised and not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

For information (previously circulated) -

16/04/26 New Forest Association - New Forest Car Parking Charges and Verge Watch.
16/04/26 Forestry England - Response from Mike Seddon regarding car parking charges
18/04/26 Beaulieu Parish Council - Response from Forestry England regarding car parking charges.
22/04/26 NPA -New Forest nature project uncovers 1,000 species.
22/04/26 New Forest Together - Request for Council Support
29/04/26 NPA - Community comes together to save Queens Oak.
Parishioner email
18/04/26 Parishioner email regarding proposed new path to Breamore and parking issues. *SH will respond.*

26/27.20 Any other business and matters to be raised on the next agenda.

Reading Room allotment- The allotment at the Reading Room is available for use, anyone interested should contact the clerk.

Wessex Internet- The installation of full fibre in Woodgreen is still on hold and no further information has been received.

Next meeting - Annual Governance and Accountability Return

SIDs - Update on installation and purchase of more posts.

Date of next meeting: Ordinary Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 10th June 2025 at 7.30pm in the Reading Room



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On the left a recent Donation given.
 We congratulate seven year old Isla for having her hair cut off to support the Little Princess Trust, who take hair tresses & turn them into wigs for children suffering cancer treatment. Dawn, our senior member presented her with £165 from RC funds & gifts.

Hitting the Ivories

Somebody must really have been playing in an athletic 'Jam Session' to cause this amount of damage to their electronic keyboard, but we will people who can fix it.



LATEST NEWS: -

1. We held our AGM last month and are pleased to report all is going well. We completed 1544 Jobs in year, allowing us to give £13,117 to various needy charities. This also meant a Landfill Saving of 5.32 tonnes of waste and a CO2 Reduction of 26.56 tonne.
2. This month we are now able to provide all our Helpers with their own Lover Repair Cafe Manuals, providing RC history and action details, also we can now obtain Shirts & Gilet's in our own livery.

DONATED GIFTS AVAILABLE (The cost is whatever you wish to pay)

Philips Mixing Wand	Double Cassette Desk	Mountfield Elect Mower	Mondo Vac Cleaner
Porcelain Dutch Girl	New Ext. Light Fitting	Bosch Leaf Blower	18" Matsui Television
Dawes Man's Bike	Elna Sewing Machine	Marantz Cassette Desk	Calor Gas Heater
Epsom Printer	Bosch Hedge Trimmer	Small LG Television	Artisan Food Mixer



What would you do with the 'Bits' on the left?

Well, our Team are the 'Ever Hopefuls' and with a lot of skill and a bit of magic we can usually turn things back to their former glory. In fact as recently reported at our AGM we recorded an exceptional 87.8% success rate and we are aware that the average from other Repair Cafe's is approx 63.5%



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Contact: loverrepaircafe@gmail.com or downtonrepaircafe@gmail.com or

Visit our Website <https://loverrepaircafe.org.uk>

Redlynch & Hale Cricket Club

As you read this piece, the Cricket Season is well underway and at the time of writing, all three Saturday sides were abandoned thanks to rain on the first week of the season, but then all 3 managed impressive wins on the second week! The Tanner brothers, Ian and Ewan are already in the runs and we've seen 50's for Ewan, Will Hewlett and James Taylor. The bowlers have made a good start too, with Five-fers for George Hayes and young Sam McKie. Some of our juniors are also playing in the Saturday sides and notably, Spike Goddard hit 44 on his debut in senior cricket!

The juniors and the ladies have all been practicing hard and it goes without saying that everyone at the club is looking forward to another great season of cricket - our national summer sport!

Just a short report this time folks and thanks for reading.

Yours in Cricket,

Andy Church

Forest Edge Flower Arranging Society (FEFAS)

Our May meeting held on 11th May was a mini demonstration by Martina entitled 'Showtime' which gave us all some useful hints and tips for competition work which will take place on 1st June!

Please do join us on 1st June and see various floral designs created by our members for a competition entitled 'Gateway to Summer'. Refreshments (and judging) from 7.30 pm followed by viewing. Do join us and bring your friend(s)! Non-members are welcome (£10 door fee including refreshments).

All meetings/events are held at Morgans Vale & Woodfalls Village Hall, Woodfalls (SP5 2LD). A full programme for 2026/27 is now available from the weblink <https://tinyurl.com/FEFAS2026a> and on the notice board in the hall, and on our facebook group.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Contact: Miyuki Griffin 07990 868351

Email: forestedgeflower@gmail.com

Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/forestedgeflower

View full programme for 2026/27: <https://tinyurl.com/FEFAS2026a>

Upcoming meetings:

1 June	Club competition and exhibition	7.00 pm staging 7.30 pm refreshments / judging followed by viewing
6 July	Cream Tea & Talk with Gill Pelton "Theatre of Plants"	7.30 pm (7 pm refreshments)

No August meeting

Interested in playing? Contact:

Ed Nash – League Captain – 07584 194441

Dave Naish – Chairman – 07709 798119

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Wilton House | Sunday 5th July



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Registered Charity: 1052284

TalkAbout

Thursday June 4th 2026

10:00 for 10:30 am

Finished by 12 noon

Once Again

You are the Stars!

Speaker: Dave Cates

Through the Stars Appeal, the amazing generosity of local people has provided so many good services and projects at Salisbury District Hospital. Come and hear about their exciting plans for the future.

**Woodfalls Methodist Hall, The Ridge, SP5 2LH.
Car park at rear.**

**Admission: £4, includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Call
07760 224990 for more information**

HALE PRIMARY SCHOOL - Poems For Spring and Summer

Spring is here !

The birds are singing with great joy,
So are all the boys,
When the church bells clang,
The band goes bang,
When the lambs are born,
There won't be any more storms,
All the chicks are born,
Now no people will ever be poor,
All is happy here,
With great cheer.

By Rudi, Year 4



Summer is here again

Summer is here ,
Give a cheer,
For all the red and yummy fruits,
The farmers are working just for you,
Growing fruits and the birds are singing, making a merry tune.

By Georgina, Year 4



POP UP BEER GARDEN

FRIDAY
JUNE 19TH
6pm

in Hale Village Hall Garden.

Enjoy a nice pint or a gin "n" tonic in our beautiful garden.
Please **follow** Hale Village Hall Facebook for future dates.

MAKE A DATE

What's coming up at Hale.



26th
JULY



Free Picnic Barn Dance.

Village Green from 4.30pm - 8pm with **Classic Car display** in car park. To celebrate 13 years of Village Hall refurbishment.

1st
SEPTEMBER



Scam Busting.

Talk from Hampshire Police .
Hale Cafe 2.30pm.
Hale Village Hall.



12th
SEPTEMBER



Curry and quiz night.

Hale Village Hall - from 7pm
£15 per person.



17th
OCTOBER



Talk on New Forest Commoning.

followed by cheese and biscuits and paying bar.
£5 per person. Hale Village Hall - from 7pm.



28th
NOVEMBER



Another funky Disco!

Get freaky on the dancefloor.
£10 per person. Hale Village Hall - from 7pm.

5th
DECEMBER



Xmas Wreath-making workshop.

followed by Pop-up Christmas Bar and decorating the Village Hall. Times and prices to be confirmed. Hale Village Hall.

£20 per person.



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18TH JULY

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What's going on

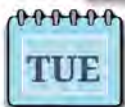
halevillagehall.co.uk

email; halevillagehall@btinternet.com

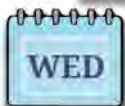
Bookings & enquiries call; 01725510050



Main Hall - Ballroom & Latin American Dance 5:45pm
Downstairs - Tai Chi class - 6pm & 7.15pm



Downstairs - Cafe & Library - 2pm
Main Hall - Dog Training - 6pm & 7pm



Downstairs - Tai Chi class - 10am
Main Hall - Table Tennis - 6:30pm



Saturday June 13 &
June 27

- Redlynch & Hale Cricket Club

Thursday June 18

- Mail Hall -Vegetable Club Meeting - 7.30pm

Saturday June 20

- Main Hall - Hale Local Produce Market
9am - 12 noon

at your Village Hall?

woodgreenvillagehall.org.uk

email; info@woodgreenvillagehall.org.uk

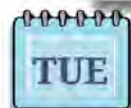
Bookings & enquiries call; 07367 158208



Yoga - 9.30am, 11am & 5.15pm

Craft Club - 1.30pm

Dog Training 7pm & 8.15pm

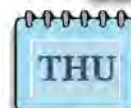


Yoga - 9.30am & 11am

Dog Training - 7pm & 8.15pm



Art Club - 10am



Pilates - 9.15am

Dog Training - 11am & 12.15pm

Yoga - 7pm



Wednesday June 10 - Afternoon Tea, book & jigsaw swap - 2.30 - 4pm
All welcome!

Wednesday June 17 - Women's Institute. Talk 'So Far So Good' - 7pm

CAMEO is now being held at St Boniface's Church, Woodgreen.
Call Ruth on 07855 210769 or Lynda on 07799 542707 for details.

Sarah Orchard - New Forest Artist



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This is my 'blog' <http://myartistsdiarybysarahorchard.blogspot.com>



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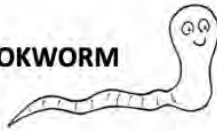
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“Riding in the Zone Rouge” by Tom Isitt

The Zone Rouge – after the Great War of 1914 to 1918, the French government designated an area of 450 square miles; about the size of Bedfordshire, as unfit for human habitation or cultivation. This was actually just a small portion of the 12,500 square miles scarred by the conflict – land containing 21 million tonnes of unexploded munitions, miles of open trenches, barbed wire, & all contaminated with rusting vehicles, toxic waste, and thousands of rotting horse and human corpses. Over the past century some has been reclaimed, but large areas are still uninhabitable and dangerously noxious. Even now, 200 tonnes of ordnance is cleared each year. Zone Rouge is a chilling reminder of the devastation wrought by War. A couple of months after the armistice, Paris rag, *Le Petit Journal*, proposed “Circuit des Champs de Bataille”, a 1230 mile cycle race through the Red Zone – madness! across battlefields in a bombed, blighted landscape. Roads, a churned morass of mud & shrapnel. If

LE CIRCUIT DES CHAMPS DE BATAILLE
Une course cycliste monstre : 1,981 kilom. en 7 étapes



you weren't blown up, you were likely to crash into a crater with the chance of contracting Tetanus. This was a seven stage race in Woollen Shorts on a two geared boneshaker in driving wind, rain and snow; not a bumble about on a full suspension mountain bike, clad in Lycra and Goretex, with a little

inclement weather. The map above is from the *Le Petit Journal*'s front page of 5th January 1919. The author attempts to cycle the route on his sleek, modern, multi-gearred Titanium road bike, and whilst recording his travails he recounts the story of the actual race, never to be held again and virtually unknown today. Along the way he recalls the great battles of the war and the terrible cost to life. At times harrowing, but written with great compassion, it's a fascinating story. I like history, but not necessarily history books which can be turgid fare – a good few would benefit from our own Mr Mussell's input. Tom Isitt recounts this historic event with a touch of verve and a bit of style. I enjoyed it very much.

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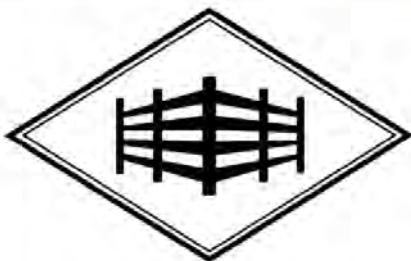


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The Herby Wordsearch

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B A A G Z I V D P T E Q A X Q
R G H L N D L B C A H A M X L
R E F I E S S C C P R Y V Q U
H O K N H J B A S I L S M J C
G G S F I B M C F X N M L E R
J O F E G G I D H E D T B E R
L O V M M B N I Q E N G C H Y
E F R C S A T L Z O R N S H U
T Q B E P Q R L C K H V E H A
V Z W O G T J Y Z H Y Y I L X
S M U V U A V T D F I G Z L I
J V F F T R N M M C C V O W B
I R C D C Q W O X T K B E B I
E B X K Z P P F P D Y G K S O

A few jokes to make you smile.

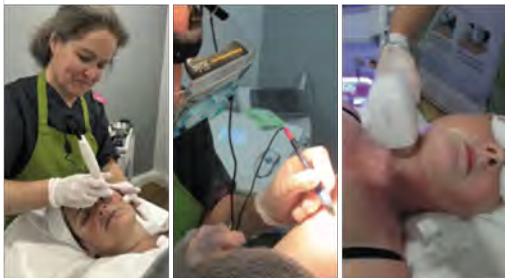
What is the most popular fish in the ocean? *The starfish.*

What do you call a boomerang that won't come back? *A stick.*

What do you call a fake noodle? *An impasta.*

What do you call a pig that does karate? *A pork chop.*

A cheese factory exploded in France. *Da brie was everywhere.*



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JUNE WORDSEARCH

The Answers

Coriander	Basil
Chervil	Parsley
Thyme	Chives
Oregano	Mint
Fennel	Dill
Rosemary	Sage



Joanna Bell

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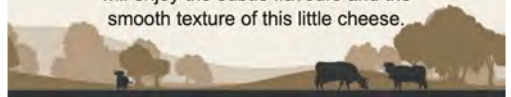
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St Mary's Church, Redlynch present

Tea and Tennis!

Sunday, 12th July

Watch the **Gentlemen's Singles Finals**
live on the big screen in Redlynch village
hall whilst enjoying a complimentary bowl
of strawberries and cream!

- Doors open from 3:45pm
- Unreserved seating
- Bar (including Pimms of course!)
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Tickets, costing £12 are available from
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Peter Bishop 01725 512779

A fundraising event for St Mary's, Redlynch

We the Fordingbridge Choral Society are pleased to announce details of our next forthcoming event. It is a Singing Workshop to be held on Saturday 13th June between 10am and 4pm at the Victoria Rooms in Bridge Street, Fordingbridge. There is plenty of parking close by. Tickets need to be obtained through ticketsource.co.uk/fordingbridgechoral & for non choir members the price is £20 if ticket is obtained by 31st May or £25 thereafter. Tea/coffee plus cake will be free on arrival and in the interval but please bring your own packed lunch. More information is available on 01425 656348 or on Facebook or our webpage. We are delighted to announce that the talented soprano/ music teacher/ choir master Suzzie Vango is attending to teach or enhance our singing techniques, also things like posture, breathing etc and hopefully give us all greater pleasure in performing. She is renowned in the world of music and her enthusiasm and dedication to achieving the best out of wonderful music is second to none. We will be singing excerpts from the ever enduring Mozart's Requiem. Our Musical Director Nigel Edwards will be conducting and we'll be accompanied by the versatile Simon Earl on the keyboard. At the end of the afternoon around 3.15pm we will have a run through of the Requiem and people wishing to listen to that are welcome and it is free. Please come along and take part, we'd love to welcome you. Thanks. Colin Burt (FCS member).

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Choral Society**

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Workshop*
with *Suzzie Vango*

including excerpts from Mozart's Requiem

**Victoria Rooms
Fordingbridge**

10am to 4pm • 13th June 2026

Non-members welcome

Tickets include tea, coffee and cake -

£20 early bird booking, £25 after May 31st

on [ticketsource.co.uk/fordingbridgechoral](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/fordingbridgechoral)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

01425 656348

[facebook.com/fordingbridgechoralsociety](https://www.facebook.com/fordingbridgechoralsociety)

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Minutes of the Hale Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 5th May 2026 at 7pm in Hale Village Hall (Downstairs)

Councillors Present: Cllr Donnell, Cllr Lavis, Cllr Gemmell (Chair), Cllr Kyle and Cllr Vickery.

In attendance: The clerk, NFDC Cllr Richards and three members of the public.

26.37 TO ELECT A CHAIR FOR 2026/27 Cllr Kyle proposed, Cllr Vickery seconded and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Gemmell as Chair for 2026/27. Cllr Gemmell signed a declaration to formally accept the role of Chair.

26.38 TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIR FOR 2025/26 Cllr Donnell proposed, Cllr Vickery seconded and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Lavis as Vice-Chair for 2026/27.

26.39 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: - Cllr Gillmon

26.40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - To receive declarations of interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda (in accordance with the Localism Act 2011). None received.

26.41 MINUTES

26.41.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2026.

26.42.2 Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.

Harry's Meadow - Hale PC compiled some question which were addressed at a meeting between the NPA and the Harry's Meadow operators, and a response was received. Cllr Lavis has compiled some further responses which will be sent to David Illsley (NPA)

Defib – The new defibrillator has now been installed at the village hall, is operational and registered on the circuit and is emergency ready.

26.42 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – Jacqui Hartas enquired as to some of the logistics of managing the new defib. Jacqui will continue to carry out the checks, aided by Cllr Lavis when required. The clerk will update all necessary information on The Circuit. Many thanks to Jacqui for her help with the new defibrillator
Two members of the public spoke regarding the planning application 26/00206FULL.

26.43 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Case Number	26/00206FULL
Proposal	Agricultural barn
Site	Land Adjacent To, Aubann House, Hatchet Green, Hale, SP6 2NE

Councillors discussed the application and also listened to the views of parishioners and **unanimously agreed to Option 4. REFUSAL.**

Councillors are very concerned about the proximity of this development to adjoining neighbours but also to the wider population of Hale. Aubann House has boundaries with 5 properties in Hatchet Close who have not been informed of this application.

Hale PC is very concerned about the scale of this venture; this proposal is associated with a large growing commercial business in a small village which would generate a level of activity which would be detrimental to the village and therefore the National Park. This activity includes an increased level of very large lorries which are not suitable for the roads into the area or the protected verges directly outside the site. It is very likely that lorries will damage Hatchet Green SSSI which contain notable rare plant species.

Such an increase in this commercial venture will also bring with it an increase in machinery noise (on all days of the week including weekends), increased foul odour, an increase in vermin and the increased threat of bird flu to the area.

Hale PC is very concerned about the amount of waste which will be produced and hence the amount of nitrate leaching which will find its way into the local water course and then into the River Avon which already shows high levels of nitrates.

The proposed new agricultural barn is very large and will have a significant impact on the surrounding distinctive area of Hatchet Green, particularly due to the height of the building. The addition of a separate access and driveway to the proposed barn is of concern and as this could in the future lead to proposals for a separate residence.

Hale PC believe that as the site borders the New Forest SSSI and is within the Western Escarpment Conservation Area it is not a suitable location for a large commercial venture which will have such a negative impact on the area and feel that this proposal does not comply with policies DP50, DP2, SP1 and SP6.

Case Number	26/00142FULL
Proposal	Side extension to garage; relocation of existing garage lean-to
Site	Stonecroft, Forest Road, Hale, Fordingbridge, SP6 2NR

Councillors discussed the application and it **was unanimously agreed to recommend option 5 - We are happy to accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.**

Case Number	26/00173FULL
Proposal	Outbuilding
Site	Mays Cottage, Forest Road, Hale, Fordingbridge, SP6 2NR

Councillors discussed the application and agreed that the new building sympathetically replaces the previous building and is similar in size and scale. **It was unanimously agreed to recommend option 3 Permission.**

Case Number	26/00172FULL
Proposal	Storage building for land management
Site	Land West of Mays Cottage, Forest Road, Hale, SP6 2NR
Case Number	26/00431VAR

Councillors discussed the application and agreed that the new building is a suitable replacement for the existing storage building. **It was unanimously agreed to recommend option 3 Permission.**

Case Number	26/00431VAR
Proposal	Application to vary condition 5 of planning permission 25/00024FULL for single-storey extension; demolition of single-storey extension
Site	Mays Cottage, Forest Road, Hale, Fordingbridge, SP6 2NR

Councillors discussed the application and agreed that the variation to the application was minor and therefore **it was unanimously agreed to recommend option 3 Permission.**

26.44 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM NFDC COUNCILLOR. Cllr Janet Richards updated councillors on NFDC's position regarding the decision of the local government reorganisation which sees a division of the current NFDC district. NFDC is considering whether there are grounds for a judicial review in which they would have to prove the government made this decision illegally. If this were found to be true the decision would be quashed and a different decision made which may involve another consultation.

26.45 EXTERNAL MEETINGS –

Hale Village Hall meeting 10th March – Cllr Kyle attended. The village hall agreed in principle to contribute to the defibrillator in future years but will confirm this in 2027.

North West Quadrant meeting 27th April – Cllr Gemmell attended.

NPA – has a new website but the planning portal remains the same. Currently there are 300 enforcement cases in the New Forest which is unusually high. Planning fees are set to increase.

Forestry England – Some car parks have been upgraded with new tarmac. The 2 Public Spaces Protection Orders - which prohibit fires/BBQs and animal petting/feeding - have been extended for another 3 years.

26.46 FORESTRY ENGLAND CAR PARKING CHARGES –

Beaulieu PC has now received a response from Forestry England who has stated that they have no plans to make any changes to the proposed parking charges which are now in effect. Hale PC will now monitor how these parking charges impact parking in the village, particularly along the protected verges

26.47 NEW FOREST TOGETHER – To discuss letter from New Forest Together regarding Local Government Reorganisation and agree any actions.

Councillors discussed this in relation to the information from Cllr Richards and felt that a change to the local reorganisation decision (a division of the current NFDC area) could result in a worse situation for Hale. It was agreed that more information was required to make an informed decision.

26.48 STANDARDS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – It was **RESOLVED** that The Standards and Personnel Committee will be represented by Cllrs Gemmell, Lavis and Vickery for 2026/27.

26.49 PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following representatives for 2026/27 –

Hale Village Hall – Cllr Kyle

North West Quadrant – Cllr Gemmell and Cllr Lavis

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – Cllr Vickery

Neighbourhood Tasking Group – Cllr Vickery

Downton Link - A councillor will aim to attend the AGM.

New Forest Association of Local Councils – A councillor will aim to attend the AGM.

26.50 PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following responsibilities for 2026/27.

Footpaths – Cllr Gemmell Trees – Cllr Gemmell Highways – Cllr Gemmell

Finance – Cllr Kyle

Commoning – Cllr Vickery

Planning – Cllr Lavis

Cemetery – Clerk will cover the cemetery.

Community and Resilience Planning – Cllr Donnell

26.51 TO RECONFIRM ELIGIBILITY TO CONTINUE THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Hale Parish Council confirms that it still meets the criteria (At least 2/3 elected members and a qualified clerk) to hold the General Power of Competence.

26.52 TO APPROVE THE ASSET REGISTER FOR 2026/27

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the updated Asset Register.

26.53 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS FOR 2025/26.

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts of 2025/26. The income for the year 2025/26 was £18,263.85 and expenditure was £17,008.81.

26.54 TO RECEIVE THE INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR 2025/26.

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the internal audit report, there were no recommendations

26.55 TO CERTIFY HALE PARISH COUNCIL AS EXEMPT FROM A LIMITED ASSURANCE REVIEW DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2025/26 (AS HALE PARISH COUNCILS GROSS INCOME FOR THE YEAR OR GROSS ANNUAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR DID NOT EXCEED £25,000.)

Councillors **RESOLVED** to certify Hale PC as exempt from a limited assurance review for 2025/26 and the certificate of exemption was signed by the Clerk/ RFO and the Chair.

26.56 TO APPROVE FORMS 1 AND 2 OF THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2025/26.

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve Forms 1 & 2 of the AGAR 2025/26 which was signed by the Clerk/ RFO and the Chair.

26.57 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE DATES FOR THE PERIOD FOR THE EXERCISE OF PUBLIC RIGHT

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the period for the exercise of public rights which will run from Monday 3rd June until Friday 14th July. The notice will be placed on the website and notice boards.

26.58 FINANCE

The Community Account balance is currently £8,344.23, the Commercial Instant Access Account balance is £1,533.95 and the 32 Notice Account is £20,660.67.

26.59.1 MONTHLY PAYMENTS - It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments.

2025/26 Accounts				
NFDC	Tree Survey	£60		Bank Transfer
Cutting Edge	Cemetery maintenance – March	£190		
2026/27 Accounts				
Amanda Johnson	Salary – April	N/A		Standing Order
Cutting Edge	Cemetery Maintenance – April	£190		Bank Transfer
Defib Machines	Defib – includes £250 deposit	£775.60	87.60	Bank Transfer
HALC	Annual Subscription	£313.00		Bank Transfer
Lloyd Bank	Account fees	£4.25 each month		Direct
Woodgreen Community Shop	Annual Parish Assembly costs	£57.67		Bank Transfer
J. Butt and Co.	Professional fees	£395.00		Bank Transfer

26.59.2 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following annual expenses :-

ICO Data Protection fee

Penon Water bills (Cemetery) Cutting Edge - Cemetery maintenance

Lengthsman expenses HALC/NALC subscription

SLCC subscription Friends of the New Forest Subscription

Website fees. Laptop virus protection

Hale Village Hall usage fees Payroll fees

Homeworking and office expenses

Lloyds Bank fees Office supplies

26.60 CORRESPONDENCE – The following correspondence was noted.

09/03/26 NPA- New spring events in the New Forest.

16/03/26 Forestry England – Researchers studying pine marten crossing points in the New Forest

19/03/26 Update from NFALC Cycling Rep David Orme

23/03/26 New Forest Association March Newsletter

25/03/26 NFDC – Local Government Reorganisation decision announced.

26/03/26 NPA – Spring takes root in the Forest – Latest News

27/03/26 NPA- Outstanding buildings celebrated in New Forest National Park Authority Building Design Awards 2025

31/03/26 Beaulieu Parish Council – Car parking proposals

31/03/26 Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – Newsletter March 2026

01/04/26 NFDC – Extension of New Forest protection rules extended by NFDC cabinet.

01/04/26 NPA - Iconic Sycamore Gap tree to live on opposite New Forest National Park's most famous tree

07/04/26 HCC – Update from Nick Adams-King

07/04/26 NFALC – Minutes from the meeting on 25/03/26

08/04/26 NPA - New Forest Marque brings the Forest together for the 'Great New Forest Marque Breakfast'

16/04/26 New Forest Association – Notice of AGM on 21st May / New forest Car Parking Charges and Verge Watch
21/04/26 New Forest Association – April Newsletter
22/04/26 NPA - New Forest nature project uncovers 1,100 species including pine martens, sand lizards and rare fungi
22/04/26 New Forest Together – Request for support.

Parishioner correspondence–

13/04/26 Correspondence regarding wood used for bench repairs.

26.61 ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Actions from Annual Parish Assembly : The parish council will contact the school to further discuss the proposed new fence. Hale PC will investigate procedure of proposing 20 mph in some parts of the village.

Next meeting agenda items – Risk assessments, Insurance policy renewal, new laptop.

26.62 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 2nd July 2025 in Hale Village Hall (Downstairs)

Hampshire County Council has been provided with funding through the Crisis and Resilience Fund to support low-income households that rely on heating oil and are struggling with rising costs.

The purpose of the Heating Oil payment scheme is to provide emergency financial assistance to low-income households in Hampshire who rely on heating oil, are close to running out, and cannot afford the minimum delivery volume.

If you are facing a heating oil crisis, for example, you cannot afford an urgent top-up and your tank is low, then you may be eligible for support.

Individuals can apply if they:

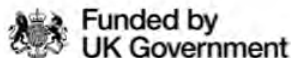
- Live full time in Hampshire (excluding those in the Southampton City, Portsmouth City and the Isle of Wight areas)
- Use heating oil as their main way of heating their home
- Are at risk of being unable to heat their home or access hot water
- Are in receipt of universal credit or pension credit **OR**
- Are not in receipt of any benefits but can evidence that they cannot afford the minimum order required for a delivery
- Have limited access to savings

The purpose of the money is to help you pay for the rising cost of heating oil, not pay for all of it and a set payment of £300 will be made if you meet the eligibility criteria and can provide the required evidence. Eligible residents will receive a payment directly into their bank account.

The scheme is being delivered in partnership with Citizens Advice and applications can be made to your local office in person, over the phone or by using their online contact form. To find out more information, please visit [Heating oil support | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council](#).

As well as help towards the cost of heating oil, Citizens Advice can also provide general advice on managing energy costs and wider finances and can also support those in crisis. Further details can be found on our website: [Crisis support | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council](#)

To find your local Citizens Advice to make an application, please visit: [Contact us - Citizens Advice](#)



A Painful Subject

I went to the dentist the other day to have a chipped tooth repaired. Despite the need for drilling, I had the filling without an injection and the whole procedure took about ten minutes. This was very different to my childhood visits to the dentist. I would invariably have to endure a painful injection or worse still an anaesthetic that involved a foul-smelling rubber face mask. These unpleasant memories reoccur every time I see a bowl of decayed teeth in a display in Fordingbridge Museum.

Dentistry has been practiced since early on in human existence. Very recently a single molar has been discovered in Siberia with evidence that a narrow stone tool had been used to carry out root canal treatment. This shows that Neanderthals used stone drills to create cavities nearly sixty thousand years ago. In early Egyptian and Greek Civilisations tooth extractions and attempts at fillings have been discovered.

In late medieval times, when dental decay was blamed on a tooth worm, the main dental activity was the use of extraction to cure toothache. This was often done by barber surgeons. In 1092 Pope Cyril II of Alexandria instituted a new grooming style for monks to be carried out by barbers who were also allowed to carry out minor operations involving blood. These would include pulling out of troublesome teeth. Barbers would advertise their services using a red and white pole representing a blood stained bandage. This survives today as a way of indicating hair cutting rather than surgical services.

It was not until the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries that dentistry became more scientific. In 1728 Pierre Fauchard produced a book entitled "The Surgeon Dentist" about caring for and treating the teeth. He wrote about the use of fillings to treat dental decay and the use of prosthesis. He also identified that tartaric acid from sugar caused dental decay. He encouraged the use of a range of dental instruments often adapted from those used by watch makers and jewellers. He also wrote about the use of gold wire braces to correct crooked teeth. All this has earned him the title of "The Father of Modern Dentistry."

Other dental landmarks include the development of dental drills. In 1790, John Greenwood converted his mother's spinning wheel to invent the first foot operated drill. In 1955a Swedish dentist invented a high-speed air driven drill. X rays were first used in 1896 in Germany. In 1844 the gas nitrous oxide was used as an anaesthetic in conjunction with ether and chloroform. Injectable Cocaine was first used as a local anaesthetic to dull pain in 1884. In 1929 Fluoride was identified as being linked to caries resistance and has since been added to the water as a preventative measure in many countries. The link between poor oral health and other illnesses has recently been established.

It was not until the Dentists Act of 1921 that anyone practicing dentistry in Britain had to be qualified and registered. Today dentists have to undergo at least six years intensive training.



If you visit Fordingbridge Museum you will see a bowl full of human teeth in various states of decay. When the dentist in Bridge Street closed in the 1940s, his premises were converted into a flat. The flat owner complained that the drains were blocked and on investigation several buckets of teeth were found to be blocking them. These had just been disposed of in the drains by the dentist and it is a sample of these that are in the bowl in the museum. The introduction of fluoride into the water and toothpaste and the understanding of gum disease combined with other improvements in dental care means that most children growing up today will hopefully not have the tooth problems exhibited by the museum's collection of teeth.



Julian Hewitt. Fordingbridge Museum

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The Church After the Confetti

You've seen the photos.

A forest clearing. A circle of driftwood. Someone in flowing linen holding a carefully arranged sheaf of papers while a violinist plays somewhere in the background. There may be lavender. There is almost certainly bunting, there could possibly be bubbles. Somebody is gently waving sage around with the concentration of a person trying to land an aircraft.

Meanwhile, back at the parish church, the boiler is making a noise like a walrus learning the trombone, the Verger is searching for the "good" service sheets, and the Vicar is trying to remember whether the baptism shell was last seen at the Harvest Festival or accidentally packed away with the nativity donkey.

And yet—there is something rather wonderful about it all.

In an increasingly secular world, more and more people are looking for ceremonies that feel personal, meaningful, and genuinely reflective of the people involved. Whether it's a wedding, a funeral, or a baptism, people want moments that feel warm, human, memorable, and real.

And honestly? So do we.

There is sometimes a misconception that church ceremonies are all formality and no personality. That, if you approach the church for a wedding or funeral you will immediately be handed a dusty leaflet from 1987 and told there are only three approved facial expressions available during the service.

But the truth is very different.

A good priest or lay minister is not there to perform a generic ceremony "at" you like a spiritual sat-nav. We are there to help tell your story.

That means choice. Choice of music. Choice of readings. Choice of tone. Moments of laughter alongside moments of reflection.

Yes, there will be prayer.

Yes, there will be God gently woven through it all like gold thread through fabric. But that does not make the ceremony less personal—it makes it deeper. Because the church has always dealt in the stuff that really matters: love, grief, hope, new beginnings, and the strange miracle of ordinary human life.

At weddings, we celebrate not just romance but commitment—the kind that survives flat-pack furniture assembly, burnt toast, and arguments about how the dishwasher should be loaded. The loneliness of when your partner's memory begins to fade or a catheter need changing.

At baptisms, we welcome tiny humans or awkward adults into a community that promises to walk beside them through every stage of life, while secretly praying they do not scream continuously through the final blessing.

And at funerals, we hold people gently in moments when words often fail entirely. We tell stories. We laugh. We cry. Occasionally someone's mobile phone goes off halfway through "Abide With Me," and somehow that also becomes part of the memory. That is the beauty of parish life. The church is not a venue that appears for one important day and then vanishes into the mist. We are the people who are still here afterwards.

We are here when the wedding photos have been framed. When the sympathy cards stop arriving. When the christening cake has finally been eaten three days later by one determined aunt in the kitchen.

We are here for the long haul.

And perhaps that is the thing the church has not always been very good at saying out loud: these moments are not transactions to us. They are relationships.

Of course, churches are gloriously imperfect places. But beneath all the chaos and creaking radiators and mysteriously disappearing teaspoons, there is something extraordinary: community. Not polished perfection. Just people.

People who pray for one another. People who show up.

People who make tea, carry flowers, stack chairs, sing too loudly, cry quietly, and somehow keep one another going through the great beautiful muddle of human life.

And that is perhaps the quiet gift the parish church still offers in a world full of temporary things. We stay. The church is not perfect. But it is present.

And in the end, that may matter more than perfectly folded linen, artisan bunting, or a violinist playing thoughtfully near a yurt.

We are here. We have always been here.

And, by the grace of God, we always will be.

Rev'd Vicky Semple

Church Services and events during June

Sunday 7th @ 10am Holy Communion @ St Mary's Church, Hale

Sunday 14th @ 10am Holy Communion @ St Boniface Church, Woodgreen

Sunday 21st @ 10am Morning Service @ St Mary's, Church, Hale

Sunday 28th @ 10am Morning Service @St Boniface Church, Woodgreen.



Other Church events



Friday June 26th Fairtrade Community Coffee Morning @
St Boniface Church, Woodgreen from 10.30-12noon.

Followed by

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other)- from 12-2pm in St Boniface Church, with our new improved heating, thanks to Woodgreen Village Trust amongst others.

Suggested donation of £3 for hot drinks, soup and a roll. Why not come along and join in the conversation, quizzing, jigsaws etc...

AND

We have now been able to source some new Fairtrade stock.

The new Fairtrade stock includes favourites like chocolate, socks, coffee etc and new items such as jewellery and many more items, look out for them both at Hale Farmer's Markets and at our Fairtrade Coffee mornings

AND FINALLY SAVE THE DATE....

Sunday July 26th-Our 'Pimm's in the Garden' event @ Woodgreen Village Hall

with Meraki Brass Band

(please bring chairs and flags!)

Tickets £12 to include a drink and a Cream Tea will be available

from 21st June from

Woodgreen Community Shop or from Lynda Warne 07799 542707

or

Rev Ruth Crosland 07855210769

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www.avonvalleychurches.org.uk

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C/O Woodgreen Community Shop, Hale Road, Woodgreen,
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07553 728121

Hale email: hpcclerk@gmail.com

Woodgreen email: parish.clerk@woodgreen-pc.gov.uk

www.haleparishcouncil.co.uk

www.woodgreen-pc.gov.uk

DOWNTON LINK

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Dudley & Ralph and the Gong Show





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