

DURLEY PARISH COUNCIL SEPTEMBER, 2025 MEETING REPORT

Durley Parish Council held their Monthly Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 9th September, 2025 in the Ken Stainer Suite at Durley Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Cllr Delmege (Chairman) chaired the Meeting. Attending were Cllr Watts, Cllr Pitter, Cllr Rappini, Cllr Rutherford and Cllr Ellen along with the Clerk (Mrs Anne Collins). District Councillor Latham also attended, along with one resident.

Apologies for absence were received from County/District Councillor Williams and District Councillor Miller.

Clerk reported that she has asked for an update from Southern Water regarding the progress of investigation work in Durley and she was informed that our contact Jess Hanman no longer works in the same role and Nick Davis has taken over the liaison with Durley Parish Council. He is going to send us an update shortly after an internal planning meeting has been held regarding the next steps to be taken. Once the Clerk hears about the progress made a further Public Meeting will be held to update residents. Clerk will keep chasing for an update.

The selling of part of the buffer area at The Sawmills is progressing and it is hoped that this will now progress to a conclusion. The Land Agent and Parish Council Solicitor will be informed and a Change of Use for the land will be applied for to WCC.

2 residents put their names forward to be considered for the Co-option of a Parish Councillor. Councillors were pleased with the enthusiasm from both of the candidates and agreed that they would like to meet with them in person before making a decision. A date will be arranged to meet face to face.

The Clerk gave a report on the recent Southern Parishes Group Meeting which was held at the end of July. The main topic of discussion was the Local Government Review, but it does appear that Durley will be within a Winchester based Unitary Authority. Bus services in the Southern Parishes was discussed, and general updates on NALC, HALC and WDALC were given. The WCC Monitoring Officer will be attending the next Meeting in October.

Two replacement benches have been ordered – one for Parsonage Lane and one for The Sawmills Green. Both have kindly been donated by Cllr Rappini – one sponsored by Durley Strawberries and the other sponsored by Gabefest Music Festival. Cllr Rappini was thanked for this generous donation. These village seats will be enjoyed by residents and visitors to Durley for many years to come.

County Councillor Williams sent a Report giving an update from HCC on their proposal for the Local Government Review and also that there is no further update yet on the finger post repairs for the sign on the Robin Hood crossroads. The Clerk has also been chasing this up as it has been some time now since its removal.

District Councillor Latham gave a District Councillors' Report giving Councillors an update on the Local Government Review from the WCC proposals. The preferred option is a 4 unitary authority, but with 3 variations. Councillors were reminded of the food waste collection and will be commencing in October. Outstanding enforcement cases were discussed and the Clerk was asked to prioritise and send to DC Latham and the Enforcement Team. Cllr Delmege asked about the additional capacity at Bishops Waltham Doctors Surgery now that the portacabins are in use. DC Latham is going to investigate and get back to Councillors.

The Clerk has circulated to councillors a lot of information regarding the Consultations on the Local Government Review through the summer months. The Insurance Renewal was agreed for the 2025-26 year.

Cllr Watts gave a Recreation Ground Report saying that football matches have commenced again for the season, and everything is fine at the Ground. The new flooring has been laid in the Pavilion, and the guttering has been repaired by Durley Football Club. The Clerk reported that there has been an incident involving a child who had allegedly slipped off a piece of play equipment. This has been noted, and is being investigated. Cllr Rutherford gave a Report on The Sawmills and said that all was fine.

Cllr Watts gave a Neighbourhood Watch Report and said that there had not been any updates over the summer, however she did highlight some incidents that have occurred in Durley during this time.

Cllr Rappini gave a Highways report stating that some pot holes have been repaired in Durley and there is a new one appearing outside of White Owl Cottage in Parsonage Lane. Wintershill is getting very bad with cracks, and although this has been reported to HCC Highways Councillors agreed that this should be reported again. We appreciate that this will be a major repair, but the road is eroding badly. The Clerk has asked the Parish Lengthsman to cut back the fern which is falling over the footpath from the Hall to the School. Although this is not the responsibility of the Parish Council we are happy to do this as a good-will gesture. There are brambles overhanging the footpath outside of the Robin Hood at the end of Manor Road so the Clerk will also ask the owners of the Robin Hood if this could be cut back.

Cllr Pitter and the Clerk met with a Contractor at the Hall to discuss the 3rd section of car parking. It is hoped that a bund will be put in place so that the area can be cleared to allow for a base to be put down and then levelled. Clerk has asked a local builder if he would be able to brick up the areas where pipework has had to be taken out from the old heaters.

The Clerk presented the Financial transactions for August and September, 2025.

All Parish Council information can be found on the Durley Parish Council website, this includes Agendas, Minutes and Reports.

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