



## Minutes of Lacock Parish Council Meeting of 9 March 2026

**Present:** Cllrs L Heren (Chair), A Bone, M Bowsher, P Chilton, J Durrant, J Parsons, P Shaw.  
Also present: T Edge (Clerk) S McMillan and A Webster (National Trust) and four members of the public.

### 1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs S Wise, P Fennell, and S Longo.

### 2 Declarations of Interest on Agenda items

No declarations of interest were received.

### 3 Public Question Time

The Applicant for PL/2026/01343 and their planning consultant made a statement about the application. The proposal seeks to demolish the timber outbuilding at the rear of the Burford Arms (formerly Carpenter's Arms) and replace it with an extension to the main building. Considerable discussion has been held with Wiltshire Council to inform the proposal. Several policies in Wiltshire Council's local plan and the National Policy Planning Framework apply but these don't prohibit changes within a conservation area, although they set a high standard for replacement buildings, especially where listed buildings are involved. The outbuilding is affected because it is within the curtilage of the listed building but the timber building is not included in the listed building description and the Applicant does not believe it to hold historical significance. A decision in the mid-1980s which re-modelled the building has subsequently become part of the street scene over the past 40 years but the building has not held historical significance since then except for the roof trusses, which can be reclaimed. In the Applicant's view, the timber outbuilding has low historical merit in planning terms. NPPF provisions around substantial harm need to be weighed with public benefit; the Applicant believes the proposal to bring an enhancement to the conservation area rather than substantial harm.

The project is important to the Applicant's business as the extra bedroom spaces created by the extension are needed for commercial viability and enables the pub to stay trading as a pub and restaurant. The Applicant needs to be able to utilise the area occupied by the timber clad outbuilding and has done extensive investigations to assess its historical value and develop sympathetic plans. Great effort has been made to make the extension subordinate to the main building and to align with the character of the main building. The Applicant circulated plans of the proposed development for councillors to view.

One member of the public left the meeting.

### 4 Co-option of new councillor

**Resolution:** The Parish Council unanimously resolved to co-opt Trevor Brown as councillor.

### 5 National Trust Update, including playground update and related Q&A

15 oak trees donated to the National Trust by a church in Chippenham are planned to be planted on 13 March. National Trust representatives took on notice a query about whether any constraints were applied by the local authority and agreed that planting would be deferred if constraints were applicable.

The ranger team will address the tree in the river spanning Abbey Bridge once lower water levels allow.

Following National Trust taking over responsibility for the Lacock playground, a RoSPA inspection was conducted and recommended immediate removal of the swings. Repairs have been conducted for some multi-play equipment and works are underway to level-up ground. Most equipment is at end of its life but National Trust does not currently have budget for new equipment, however, it recognises the importance of this equipment to residents and visitors. The estimated cost of new equipment represents a substantial proportion of its annual budget for maintenance of historical buildings. Current financial constraints and reduced resourcing means that new equipment will not be installed in the 2026-27 financial year. National Trust will install notices in the playground and produce a communication for the parish newsletter explaining the situation.

A Martin Parr exhibition community event is planned to be held in the museum on 25 June 2026, The Parish Council was consulted on timing and indicated a preference for the event to be held from 5 – 8pm. National Trust representatives took on notice a query about whether a planned letter drop would include the whole parish.

Cllr Bowsher joined the meeting.

## 6 Update from traffic management meeting

An action plan is in place and was reviewed at the meeting, with agreement reached on prioritisation. The impact of the 20,000 additional visitors recorded through the parking pay barrier in the year ending February 2026 were not viewed as having a negative impact on the village and parking. The impact of expected additional visitors to the upcoming Martin Parr exhibition is being considered. Planning application to change 28 day per annum usage for the extra park to year-round usage will be submitted in 2026. Overflow parking surface will be upgraded to tarmac with extra parking area to be upgrade to grass matting. Support has been provided to the school to provide parking permits for parents. Communications are planned to inform residents about access to electric charging points in the car park alongside a survey to understand levels of interest. Recent criminal damage in the carpark has been experienced in recent weeks with residents asked to report any incidents to the National Trust. A national effort is underway to manage members of the public misusing carparks or avoiding payment. National Trust will contact the new manager of the Red Lion to brief them on management of coach parking. LHFIC approved signage to direct road users to the National Trust car park. The Parish Council conducted a traffic survey on Cantax Hill. A question for the National Trust about the possibility of installing a bin or removing the layby at St Ann’s layby to address rubbish accumulation was taken on notice.

## 7 To consider planning applications received:

Consideration of the following applications was brought forward:

<a href="#">PL/2026/01343</a> - The Burford Brown, 22 Church Street, Lacock, Chippenham, SN15 2LB	Full planning permission - Construction of replacement outbuilding to create additional guest accommodation and restaurant dining area, window repairs and new surfacing to forecourt.
<a href="#">PL/2026/01528</a> - The Burford Brown, 22 Church Street, Lacock, Chippenham, SN15 2LB	Listed building consent (Alt/Ext) - Construction of replacement outbuilding to create additional guest accommodation and restaurant dining area, window repairs and new surfacing to forecourt.

Councillors queried the proposed elevation and protrusion of a section on East Street. The Applicant agreed to amend the plan. Councillors queried removal of the curved fronted stone apron. The Applicant responded that the plan would be corrected. Councillors queried the plan for parking at the Church Street frontage. The Applicant responded that the proposed terrace would protect the listed pavement and retain existing parking provision.

**Resolution:** The Parish Council resolved by 5 votes to 4, with Chair using their casting vote, to support planning applications PL/2026/01343 and PL/2026/01528.

The Applicant agreed to be collaborative with residents on communications and updates should works commence.

Two members of the public left the meeting.

## 8 Minutes of Previous Meeting (held on 9 February 2026)

**Resolution:** The Parish Council unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9 February 2026. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

## 9 Update from Minutes/Action Log

The review of policies agenda item was brought forward. Policy reviews remain in progress.

## 10 Peter Wragg, Unitary Councillor – Update

Apologies from P Wragg were noted.

Cllr Heren reported from the Corsham Area Board March meeting that Wiltshire Council agreed a 4.9% increase to council tax for FY 2026/27. Parish Stewards remain redeployed to pothole repairs, with no

timeframes provided for returning to parish duties. Servicing of the Corsham Road layby gully was completed on 9 March.

### 11 Consideration of auditor proposals for FY2025/26 internal audit

Councillors considered proposals to provide internal audit services for FY 2025/26.

**Resolution:** The Parish Council unanimously resolved to appoint Working the Greener Way Online as the Parish Council’s internal auditor for FY 2025-26 accepting fees of £295 for the audit, plus additional fees of £75 per hour where applicable, as proposed.

### 12 Consideration of rates for Lacock junior football club license to occupy

Councillors considered rates for Lacock junior football club for 2026/27. Councillors were supportive of setting rates at a level to support the club’s establishment in its initial year with a view to reviewing rates for subsequent periods towards the end of the first year.

**Resolution:** The Parish Council agreed to set the rate for Lacock junior football club’s licenc to occupy for 2026/27 at £200, billed per term, to be reviewed before the end of the first year.

### 13 Areas of Responsibility – Reports

IT – Assertion 10 actions have been completed, compliance training has been completed by all, new users are operational.

Highways – A metro count is in progress on West Street - a decision on the substantive bid for Cantax Hill and Bowden Hill traffic calming measures has been postponed to the end of March 2026. Parking on pavement issues were raised with the Wiltshire Police representative at Corsham Area Board.

Allotments – An updated constitution was signed at the Lacock & District Garden and Allotment Holders Association Annual General Meeting. The Association plans to encourage more children to participate in its upcoming flower show, the Committee continues work to select a replacement gate for the allotments adjacent to the cemetery.

School – Travel plan remains in progress. Preschool opening is pending Ofsted documentation.

Village hall –Painting has been completed,

Finance – An update on spending against the FY 2025-26 budget and account transfers was provided.

Events – Cllr Parsons will liaise with local groups regarding updated links for inclusion on the Parish Council website. Cllr Parsons will coordinate the parish’ spring clean litter pick. Cllr Parsons reported a strong community interest in reviving Lacock’s August bank holiday summer fair.

**Resolution:** The Parish Council unanimously resolved to consider its support for Lacock’s 2026 summer fair upon presentation of a financial and resourcing proposal by Cllr Parsons.

### 14 Correspondence

In response to a resident concern regarding water seepage on Bowden Hill water seepage and subsequent correspondence from Wiltshire Council Highways, National Trust was asked to look at overflow and ponds on Bowden Hill and provide an update for the April meeting.

### 15 Finance

- i) To pay the accounts – see Xero list supplied

**Resolution:** The Parish Council unanimously resolved to approve payment for March transactions.

- ii) To approve bank reconciliations - see Xero list supplied

**Resolution:** The Parish Council unanimously resolved to approve the March 2026 bank reconciliations.

### 16 Planning – To consider the following applications received:

<a href="#">PL/2026/01259</a> – Griffin Farm, Bowden Hill, Lacock, Chippenham, SN15 2PP	Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area - T1 - Beech tree - side prune to gain a 5m statutory safety clearance from overhead lines	No objection
<a href="#">PL/2025/07913</a> - Barleigh House, Showell, Chippenham, SN15 2NU	Full planning permission - Demolition of single dwelling and erection of 7no. residential dwellings, associated parking and landscaping.	No comment

<a href="#">PL/2026/00787</a> - Showell Farm, Showell, Chippenham, SN15 2NU	Conversion of The Old Granary to dwelling, including a glazed link to existing building and the demolition of former dairy building.	Support
<a href="#">PL/2026/00981</a> - Showell Farm, Showell, Chippenham, SN15 2NU	Conversion of The Old Granary to dwelling, including a glazed link to existing building and the demolition of former dairy building.	Support
<a href="#">PL/2026/01045</a> - The Beeches, Showell, Chippenham, SN15 2NU	Householder planning permission - Two-storey side extension to replace existing single-storey structures, a first-floor rear extension, associated internal remodelling, installation of an air-source heat pump and photovoltaic panels, replacement and alteration of fenestration throughout, and external works to unify the elevations and roofscape.	Support
<a href="#">PL/2026/01224</a> - 17 Bewley Crescent, Bowden Hill, Lacock, Chippenham, SN15 2PL	Householder planning permission - Single Storey Rear and Two Storey Side Extensions.	No comment
<a href="#">PL/2026/01327</a> - Red Lion, High Street, Lacock, Chippenham, SN15 2LQ	Deconstruction and rebuilding of the stone slate roof to the single-storey side extension.	Support
<a href="#">PL/2026/01300</a> - Wick Farm, Wick Lane, Lacock, Chippenham, SN15 2LU	Full planning permission - (retrospective) for the alteration and conversion of a former laundry / garden store to one 1-bed dwelling.	No comment
PL/2026/01303 - Wick Farm, Wick Lane, Lacock, Chippenham, SN15 2LU	Full planning permission - Full application (retrospective) for the partial rebuilding and conversion of agricultural buildings into 3 no dwellings.	No comment
<a href="#">PL/2026/00846</a> - Land At Wick Farm, Wick Lane, Lacock	Section 37 Notification - Overhead Lines Electricity Act Upgrade of existing PMT to a 500KVA substation with associated equipment. Upgrade of 5 spans of 2 wire HV cable to 3 phase with ASL switch on existing P11 pole	Noted

### 13 Any Other Matters for Info/Discussion

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:32.

**Date of Next Meeting – Monday 13 April 2026**

SIGNED:

DATED:

## **CORRESPONDENCE LIST**

- Tony Peacock – Parish council website local clubs links – email 1 March
- Stop Lime Down – Registration for Development Consent Order (DCO) application open hearing 21 April 2026 – email 2 March
- Peter Glen – Bowden Hill water seepage - email