

## RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN RODMARTON VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026

**Present:** Cllrs Paul Drake, Charlotte Smith, Emily Olsen, Sarah Biddulph, Claire Trehearne

**Clerk:** Roz Morton

**In attendance:** District Cllr Mike McKeown and 1 member of the public.

**130 25/26 To accept apologies for absence**  
Cllr Kinmont, Cllr Oldfield

**131 25/26 Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda**  
None

**132 25/26 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026.**  
It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 as a true and accurate record. Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Olsen, all in favour.

**133 25/26 To receive a report from the County and District Councillors.**  
Cllr McKeown reported on the licence application for Runway Festival – the hearing is on 1<sup>st</sup> April in Trowbridge. He is seeking advice from CDC officers regarding the most effective way to present at the hearing and will report back. CDC have submitted an objection based on noise management and environmental health concerns.  
A new application for a festival in Crudwell has been received by CDC – details have been circulated to local Councils.  
**C/26/00293/PRMA|New Premises Licence|Open for Consultation|Land East Of Boldridge Farm Crudwell Lane Long Newnton Gloucestershire.**  
Cllr McKeown suggested that the local Councils coordinate objections and share information.  
Local Plan – 400 additional sites were submitted in the call for sites and others were withdrawn. There will be a mini consultation on the new sites in June and the Reg 19 is still planned for July 2026  
Local Government Reorganisation – Central Gov't has confirmed that a decision will be made before the summer break. The public consultation runs until March 26<sup>th</sup>. All unitary authorities have to join a region under mayoral control. Gloucestershire (in whatever form it takes) will either join WECA or Hereford & Worcester. The decision rests with Government. Economically WECA is preferable, however culturally H & W are more similar.  
Cllr Drake thanked Cllr McKeown for his assistance with the Runway Festival objection.

**134 25/26 Matters arising from the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 (not included on the Agenda)**

- i. **Gigaclear** – the second meeting was cancelled and will be rearranged, potentially in April.

**ACTION: Cllr Drake to contact Roisin McGettigan at Gigaclear.**

- ii. **Update on land registry documentation for village greens.** The documentation will be posted 17/03/2026.
- iii. **Update on First Aid Training.** Two sessions have been booked (22<sup>nd</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> April). Both are fully booked with a waiting list. Thanks to Cllr Olsen for setting up the Eventbrite booking. A grant application is with GCC to cover the costs. If the training is well received, the Council can look to hold additional sessions.

**ACTION: Clerk to chase up the grant.**  
**ACTION: At least one Cllr to be in attendance at each session to host Gary – the trainer.**

135 – misnumbering – no Agenda item.

**136 25/26 To agree to adjourn the meeting for public participation. Agreed**

**137 25/26 To receive questions from members of the public (there is a 10 minute time limit).**  
 Cllr McKeown was asked for an update on the Tunnel House Planning applications – no update was available.

**ACTION: Cllr McKeown to follow this up with Mr Grimes.**

The Clerk reported that LGS designations were still being accepted by CDC.

**138 25/26 To agree to reconvene the meeting following public participation. Agreed.**

**139 25/26 To note correspondence received and agree any actions.**  
 Correspondence was received regarding the Runway Festival application and will be dealt with under planning matters.

**Finance & Procedures**

**140 25/26 To approve statement of accounts to end February 2026**  
 It was RESOLVED to approve the statement of accounts as presented. Proposed Cllr Trehearne, seconded Cllr Drake, all in favour.

**141 25/26 To consider and agree payments in the normal course of business.**  
 It was RESOLVED to approve the payments as presented. Proposed Cllr Biddulph, seconded Cllr Drake, all in favour.

**142 25/26 To receive bank reconciliations.**  
 Received without comment.

- 143 25/26 To consider and agree to appoint an internal auditor**  
 It was RESOLVED to appoint Caroline Ford to carry out the internal audit. Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Biddulph, all in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact Mrs Ford and arrange for the audit to be carried out.**

- 144 25/26 To consider and agree to pay a contribution to legal fees regarding objection to Runway Festival.**  
 Discussion took place. Mr Thompson generously shared the advice he had received from his solicitor regarding formulating an objection to the Runway Festival licence application. There was informal discussion regarding making a contribution to the legal costs incurred by Mr Thompson. Nothing has been agreed.  
 It was agreed to defer the item until costs are know so a decision can be made regarding making a contribution.

**ACTION: Cllr Drake to contact Mr Thompson to ascertain the total costs he has incurred.**  
**ACTION: Clerk to add to May Agenda for further discussion and decision.**

- 145 25/26 To adopt the following polices:**  
     **i. Code of Conduct**  
     **ii. IT Policy**  
     **iii. Data Protection Policy**  
 It was RESOLVED to adopt the policies detailed above. Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Olsen, all in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk to post the policies on the website.**

**Planning**

- 146 25/26 To note planning decisions:** Noted.  
**25/02639/LBC|** Conversion and alteration of vacant agricultural and residential buildings to create 8 no. tourist accommodation units| Bledisloe Barns Manor Farm Road Coates Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6NH - **REFUSED**

- 147 25/26 To consider planning applications and agree any comments.**  
 To note objection sent regarding: license application - PR202602-595736 Runway Festival Cotswold Airport Kemble GL7 6BA.  
 An objection was submitted by the deadline. The hearing is scheduled for 10.30am 1<sup>st</sup> April at Trowbridge. The deadline to confirm attendance is 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Cllr McKeown agreed to feedback advice from CDC regarding how to be most effective at the hearing.

**ACTION: Cllr McKeown to report back to Council asap.**

An application for a 4-day festival in Crudwell has been lodged with CDC. C/26/00293/PRMA|New Premises Licence|Open for Consultation|Land East Of Boldridge Farm Crudwell Lane Long Newnton Gloucestershire.

Local land owners are aware of it and will be lodging objections. The Council agreed to contact Long Newton Parish Council to offer to support any objection they are planning on submitting.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact neighbouring parishes to ensure they are aware of the application.**  
**ACTION: Council to lodge an objection.**  
**ACTION: Clerk to contact CDC to obtain additional details on the application.**

**Other matters**

**148 25/26 To receive an update on the phone box project and to agree any actions including: location, Cutting off the electricity (National Grid), building contractor, haulage contractor and to note date for refurbishment to start.**  
BT will be disconnecting the electricity supply – we are awaiting a date for that to go ahead. Cllr Drake has obtained one quote to move, re-site and reinstate the phone box. Additional quotes will be sought. The exact location of the phone box is still to be agreed.

**ACTION: Cllr Drake to look for additional quotes**  
**ACTION: Cllrs Drake & Olsen to arrange to meet the contractors on site to discuss the location for the phone box ensuring that lines of sight are maintained for drivers.**

**149 25/26 To receive an update on Highways Matters including**  
**i. Quote to re-site the bollards on the Village Green in Tarlton**  
Cllr Drake kindly offered to carry out this work.

**ACTION: Cllr Drake to move the bollard and install it to prevent cars from driving over the verge.**

**150 25/26 Any other business – to discuss minor matters not included on the Agenda or matters received after the publication of the Agenda. Not an opportunity for debate and decision making.**  
Cllr Drake would like Council to consider introducing a “Dark Skies” policy.

**ACTION: Clerk to add to May Agenda for discussion.**

The Council would like to thank the residents who carry out litter picking in the parish. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

**ACTION: Cllr Smith to organise a Spring litter pick and collect stickers for bags**

**151 25/26 Date of next meeting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm – please note Summer start time.**

There being for further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed:.....

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026