



FoPR Minutes of the Committee Meeting of 14 January 2026

LE in the Chair

Present: Linnet Evams, Garth Long, Louise Anderson (from 8.30pm), Bev Pearce, Tony Ridley, Denise Long.

1. **Apologies:** May Lindsey

2. **For Approval:**

The Minutes of the Public Meeting of 3 December 2025 were approved. Any matters arising were dealt with as part of the agenda.

3. **FoPR Kids**

TL had reached out to the previous organising group but there had been few offers of help and with TR going to be in France for extended periods the viability of regular sessions next year appeared to be in doubt. If activities were to be possible these would be pop up sessions. To canvas for help, GL had requested a meeting with Portwood School but they had not replied. Cllr Bunday was approaching Swaythling School and TR was going to contact Highfield School and Church Group. BP suggested contacting Cantell regarding Junior Neighbourhood Guardians. She would also put a request for help out on Facebook. LA and ML would be asked if they could put out a request on their school WhatsApp Groups? The Committee agreed that if the sessions go ahead there must be someone designated as responsible for attending and managing each session and that Safeguarding needed to be taken into account. Although sessions could coincide with the Gardening Group the gardeners could not take responsibility. If help became available then boxes of pre planned activities could be created ahead of each event. TR to keep this under review.

4. **Membership/ Finance**

ML was unavailable but LA reported that members subscriptions had continued to come in over the year and that there was a healthy bank balance overall.

5. **Gardening**

It was agreed that the £45 surplus in the gardening budget should roll over. £350 would be set for next years budget in addition to specific grant monies set aside for gardening activities. SCC has planted a number of trees as agreed. DL will look to purchase two further types of tree/shrub and will discuss this with SCC. Plans for 2026 will be discussed at the Gardening Group meeting on the 25 January and proposals shared with the committee.

6. Fundraising

BP was thanked for revising estimates of planned expenditure associated with the two recent grants, this had been forwarded ahead of the Committee.

UK Prosperity Fund £1935 that included money for:

- Certified Activity First Aid courses for 4 volunteers – BP explained that the intended supplier would now need a minimum of 6 participants. GL would explore alternative suppliers and feedback to BP prior to further action.
- Year's meeting fees including the AGM and tea/coffee
- Insurance,
- 12 litter pickers and hoops, GL would check to see whether we already had sufficient to see if the money needed to be reassigned?
- 12 FoPR printed Hi-Vis vests – the order needed to be progressed.
- Gazebo – GL had approached a manufacturer to see if a printed gazebo would come within budget.
- Garden games like Jenga, quoits, parachute, light balls etc. - On hold pending outcome of Kids Activities.

West Solent Solar Co-operative £2000 that included money for:

- Removable slat compost bins with lids – Paid. Delivery scheduled for end of January. Compost duvets will need to be sourced.
- Water bowser – Paid, delivered and stored with GL/LE, a replacement hose reel and hose connector for use with the bowser will be purchased from this grant money.
- Planter kit incorporating bee, butterfly, hedgehog houses, includes topsoil, reservoir clay and deadwood. – This was not acceptable to SCC but they had instead agreed to an accessible planter being sited at the back of the tennis courts. DL will look for suitable planter(s), infill and plants.
- RSPB cast stone birdbath and ground level saucer – A bird bath has been donated so money will need to be reassigned to a ground level saucer and planting. DL will look to source these.

7. Management Plan and Play Park Developments

BP reported that she had further contact with SCC about the price of future replacement of infant equipment, and changes to the existing surface including some additional grass areas and rubber crumb. It was wondered whether a public survey would be useful in identifying priorities to inform revisions to the Management Plan and to identify areas for future fundraising ? No decision was made but GL would contact Simon Buston to see if a meeting could be set up to discuss the Management Plan.

8. AGM and Meeting Dates

The AGM would be held on the 18 March at 7.45. Reports will be required please following the previous template by the 1 March. Unfortunately Wilder was unable to provide a guest speaker so GL was asked to invite HRA. Meeting dates for 2026/27 were agreed and will be circulated by LE.



9. **Committee Changes**

GL and LE had previously stated their intention to step back from the Co-Chair role from the March AGM although both would be prepared to take on other roles. If no replacement was immediately forthcoming GL would be prepared to be Acting Chair for a limited period although the scope of his activities would need to be considerably reduced. LA regrettably, due a change in her circumstances also confirmed her intention not to stand again for Treasurer. All Officer and Committee positions will be reviewed at the AGM. The Committee were asked to reach out to see if potential suitable replacements could be found ahead of the AGM.

10. **Any other business**

- Due to current uncertainty over available volunteers we will not be intending to run or participate in any events or outreach activities in the short term. The quiz will not be held this year as there was currently no agreed fundraising focus.
- An exception to events may be activities related to FoPR Kids and Saints Foundation which TR is exploring. A decision will be made in due course.
- The Gardening Group will continue as normal.
- We would hope to resume normal activities in 2027 if additional support is forthcoming.
- We are hosting an HRA Walk Around the Rec on Saturday 24 January at 1130. GL, LE and DL hope to be able to assist. TR will provide a Gazebo, refreshments will be available.
- It was agreed that we will remove ourselves from X, BP will explore alternatives.
- It was agreed that we should try and source 'fair trade' refreshments
- Thanks were expressed to Pete Statham for his help in sharpening the gardening tools and putting up the Wilder 'Highly Commended' plaque.

11. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

AGM 18 March 2026 at 19.45 in the Scout Hut, Brickfield Rd