

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 8 JULY 2026 AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs. Pike, Mattick, Manley, Simmons and Newman. SCCllr Sam Phripp.

Apologies: Cllrs Sinclair, Bowhay, Moore, Terry, Holme. PCSO Natalie McIntosh

1. **Public participation:** Sean Hanley turned up but left before the meeting after a discussion about the removal of a car from the sports club. The PC's only involvement in this incident was to give approval, as site owner, to the sports club who has asked Somerset Council to remove it when they established it had been there for several weeks without tax or MOT. The Parish Council has no knowledge of who removed the vehicle and where it is now.
2. **Minutes of the Previous Ordinary Meeting:** The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly.
3. **CCllr Sam Phripp:** Said that he had reported overgrown vegetation and potholes. Apparently there were 165 potholes in the area, 25 of which were in Chilcompton. Cllr Manley said she would put The Street road closure on the website.
4. **Ongoing & Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Traffic Safety at Lynch Hill:** The full pavement all the way to the Old Down is unlikely to happen. There is now a gateway sign, phase 1. Pavement now up to the Mulberry. Phase 2. The PC agreed that this was an ongoing matter whilst waiting for phase 3. Questions still remain about a post-pavement meeting with Highways. Clerk has written again to Highways saying that the PC want a face-to-face meeting and SC can choose the date. Cllr Pike explained to SCCllr Phripp about how this has been going on for 2 years.
 - b) **Allotments:** Clerk reported that he had written to the charitable trust. Cllrs would need to have a look at access. Cllr Bowhay reported that they might have to look at something else – maybe buy some land. If the PC was thinking of allotments on S&D land, they would need ten pitches of 21x6metres.
 - c) **Co-op road:** It had been reported that the Co-op are on board with the idea of making it one way around the shop. Clerk has written to SCC Transport. Ongoing. Clerk reported that the Co-op were still behind the idea and he had written again to SC. Clerk has chased highways. Ongoing
 - d) **106 money:** Money is still due for the school from Pickford Fields and Brimscombe Meadow. £122,000 and £49,000. Clerk has contacted the SCCllrs about this
 - e) **Bowden Hill green:** Clerk has written to SC asking for strong bollards to protect the area. Clerk reported he had written again. Clerk has chased highways. Ongoing.
 - f) **Heritage asset list:** Cllr Sinclair reported that the parishioner's asset list was now on the website. However, he has also found another village list put together by a Somerset Heritage group. The ideal would be to merge the two and indicate location with 'what three words'. This is going to be a long task. Cllr Manley to contact resident who offered help.
 - g) **Cllrs in calligraphy:** Cllr Mattick said he would take away the existing document to show Hannah Smith, if she was up for it clerk would provide date details.
 - h) **Traffic feasibility study:** It was agreed that there was now some urgency as potential 106 funds request. Quotes were needed. Cllr Holme had produced a 3 page report on

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what was needed for the study, on what was expected of the prospective companies. Cllr Manley suggested there should be a comparative element with other villages. It was agreed to go ahead and contact companies. Cllr Holme has reported he had identified 5-6 local companies that might give competitive tenders.

- i) **Sports bin:** Ongoing, cllrs Mattick/Bowhay and Dave Travis dealing, will be by the main entrance.
- j) **Plaque on bench:** Ongoing. Cllr Sinclair dealing.
- k) **Broken post on The Street:** Cllr Mattick talking to Mathew Emery.
- l) **Signatories:** Application to get Cllr Sinclair added failed but clerk to try again using Cllr Bowhay.
- m) **New clerk:** Deadline for applications has been set for 27/7.

- 5. **Committee reports: Old Rec** – Re electricity provision, clerk to send photos of the inside of the box to British Gas as part of the installation process. **PEG** – Cllr Newman reported that the pop-up café was proving popular, so much so they had run out of bacon. Profit of £83 had been raised. Future events will include a tea dance and a village walk. See Autumn magazine for more details. Cllr Manley reported that the village Get Together event had gone to budget. Thanks were given to her and the PC agreed that they would continue to support similar events. **Footpaths** – Cllr Newman reported that CL5 off Bakers Lane was inaccessible. Re Jesson-Keer email about pavement to Wagon, clerk to contact Primrose to get it done. Re P.Overton email about path off Abbey Road, clerk to reply thanking him very much. Re email about pavement passing Emmaus hedge, clerk to reply saying that the PC is reviewing it.
- 6. **Grasscutting/repair/potholes:** Clerk to wish Ruth Llewellyn, handyperson, well.
- 7. **Skate park:** It was agreed that any attempt to create debate had just been met with confrontation and evasion. The equipment, whether safe or not, was generally considered not fit for purpose' and as the site owners the PC are not prepared to keep the skate park. The PC had already asked Sean Hanley to remove any equipment he considered to be his. It was agreed to now get quotes from contractors to remove whatever is left, put down hard surface and make into additional car park. Clerk to write to Sean Hanley saying that if he doesn't remove what he may consider to be his then contractors will come in and clear the site, cc the sports club.
- 8. **Multi-user path:** Re John Grimshaw email on the first stage of the path from Frys Well to Tunnel Lane. The PC gave approval but regretted that there wouldn't be wheelchair access through Bakers Lane. Clerk to contact Grimshaw.

9. Planning Applications: 2026/1130 Erection of carport. Carenza, Stockhill

Close. Recommend approval.

Subcommittee: None.

10. Accounts:

868 – OZBORNE Services	- maintenance	-	491.00
869 – First Rescue	- defib	-	954.00
870 – Sue Manley	- job advert	-	166.80
871 - M. Rigby	- reimbursements	-	79.81
872 – M.Rigby	- salary	-	701.50
873 – H.M.R.C.	- tax	-	175.40

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874 – Sue Manley	- event	- 8.70
875 – Marquee Hire Company	- event tent	- 31.50
876 – Primrose	- grasscutting	- 1548.00
877 - Youth Connect SW	- youth club	- 3132.40
878 – St John Ambulance	- event costs	- 221.40
879 – Maltings Audio	- event costs	- 275.00
880 – Mrs H.R. Softley	- event costs	- 200.00
881 – Partybench	- event costs	- 48.00
882 – Donna Simmons	- maintenance	- 44.12

Total 8077.63

- 11. Correspondence:** Re Highways email about grit bins, cllrs to check out the ones near them. Re R.Singh email about flags, clerk has responded about world cup deadline. Cllrs were reminded about magazine deadline of 7/8.
- 12. Police report:** In written email: one non-recordable, one theft, six violence against a person, one burglary, one misc crime against society.
- 13. Any Other Business:** Cllr Pike brought up the issue of 106 funding from the possible development on Chilcompton Road. It was agreed that though there needed to be more precision about what traffic calming measures would be needed, this might come from the traffic feasibility report when that happens. SCCllr Phripp reported that Somerset Council does not do virtual pavements.
- 14. Date of next meeting:** This was fixed for Wednesday 12th August 2026. Planning meeting Wednesday 22nd July.
- 15. Close:** The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.38pm.

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