

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on - 23rd September 2025 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Stephen Kimsey (SK) (Chair), Dot Hayward (DH), Mary Abel (MA), Marc Vyvyan-Jones (MVJ), Sarah Payne (SPa), Louise Cook (LC), Steve Powles (SPo), Chris Chanter (CC), Stephen Pugsley (SPu) and Francis Nicholson (FN).

No	Discussion	Action
1	Apologies - None. 100% attendance	
2	Declarations of Interest - none declared	
3	The Minutes were agreed as an accurate representation of the discussion	
4	<p>Matters arising-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scotts Hill - Highways and Kier are in dispute over who is repairing. Open Reach has an exposed cable and that needs co-ordinating in as well. Councillor Stephen Pugsley offered to express his extreme dissatisfaction in the light of a number of undertakings to get this done. It will be a year in January. People are driving through the road closure as there is no easy diversion. Gritting will be a problem in the winter and this is the main access to Clatworthy reservoir. ● Repainting finger posts, Louise to try Jos again for information, if not Jeremy Davies at Withypool might be able to advise. ● Tom Thurlow is on the case of repairing the broken fingerposts, he is waiting on a quote from Exmoor Welding-Councillor Stephen Pugsley offered to chase this up ● Emergency Plan Exmoor LCN organising a workshop just waiting for a date ● Village Hall's first option was to get good Broadband working. SK has fed back information to the Village Hall Chair. Paving around the edge of the hall is another possibility as is a sound system. Dot to feed back to VH meeting 	<p>SPu</p> <p>LC</p> <p>SPu</p> <p>DH</p>
5	<p>Somerset Council updates</p> <p>Planning is very difficult to contact and access to them has been restricted to help deal with the backlog. Councillor Stephen Pugsley contacted the chair of the planning committee. We need to complete a Planning Enforcement notice online re the woodland on the Cleeve. CPRE membership was suggested as they can be very helpful with these matters, the cost would be £5 per month.</p>	<p>DH</p>
6	<p>Highways</p> <p>Dot has done a survey of the grit bins most full. One in Chitcombe Lane overgrown and full of water and one at the end of Coombe Farm Lane also full of water-action needed to drain these. Huish Moor bin is half full. Dot to contact back around the grit bins.</p> <p>A consultation was carried out re road safety in the village in summary residents would like to see</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● more warning signs and speed limit signs ● Repainting of white lines ● Hedge cutting and debris clearing ● Reporting slippery Roads <p>Action Dot to discuss with Kate Brown at Highways when she is back from leave. If we add signs we would need landowners permission to do this. Ideally look at</p>	<p>DH</p> <p>DH</p>

	<p>existing posts. If landowners don't cut hedges, the parish council can write to them, if they still don't cut them the County Council can do the work and charge them. Important to know who all our absentee landowners are-Dot to start compiling a map with information from all parish councillors. SPa reported a broken fence along the stream on the Cleeve. Dot to log with Somerset Council SPo mentioned at Beulah Chapel there needs to be a Stop Sign not a Give Way. At the top of the Cleeve where the woodland development is taking place we need a "Passing Place" with "No Parking" sign as the developer is constantly parked and vehicles cannot pass. Local Transport Plan consultation has a number of issues that link to the above such as reducing speeding on rural lanes and lowering speed limits through rural settlements-Dot to feed back on this.</p>	<p>DH DH DH</p>
7	<p>Finance All Lloyds accounts now closed and all funds now in one account with Nat West. A second account to be opened for higher interest action Dot The current balance is £11,219.27 Since the last meeting on the 17th July the smaller Lloyds account was closed and transferred to Nat West £1093.73. Two test payments have been made totalling £3.50 both worked with different approvers. SPa still has access issues, to try and sort with DH next week. Monies due £955 6 months clerks wages, and rent for the village hall awaiting information from the Treasurer. Precept will be due in January-needs to be discussed in December.</p>	<p>DH DH DH</p>
8	<p>Planning Woodland on the Cleeve see section 5/ Wash Battle Cottage application going to appeal</p>	
9	<p>Cheddar 2 Consultation and environmental surveys currently underway. Construction is likely to start in 2030. There will be issues around road repairs, wayleaves, compensation and access for construction vehicles over and above the concerns of local residents immediately affected. At the moment the precise route is not determined. Feedback to the consultation should be made by Dot</p>	<p>DH</p>
10	<p>Emergency plan as discussed in matters arising we need information on absentee landowners. Could the land registry help us with plots? Also the Electoral roll may be a starting point.</p>	
11	<p>AOB Complaints have been made about the barbed wire put up by Potato Villa-Dot to resend reminder Louise offered to take the old payment machines back to LLOYds The fete raised £2756-a very well attended event-maybe a sound system could be helpful. Facebook pages, important things can't be pinned to the top and soon get lost by postings about things in Wivey. SK is to ask his daughter to look at this.</p>	<p>DH LC SK</p>
12	<p>Date of Next meeting 9th Dec 2025</p>	