

HUIISH CHAMPFLOWER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish held on :- Thursday 12th May 2026 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Stephen Kimsey (SK) (Chair), Mary Abel (MA), Dot Hayward (DH), Sarah Payne (SPa), Louise Cooke (LC) , Chris Chanter (CC).

Members of the public - None

Meeting started at 7:30 pm

Action

		Action
1	<p>Apologies Stephen Pugsley, Steve Powles (SPo), Marc Vyvyan-Jones (MVJ), Francis Nicholson</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting on 13th May 2025. Minutes were agreed as accurate. SPa proposed they were accepted and MA seconded, all voted in favour of accepting the minutes, which were signed off</p>	
3	<p>Matters arising- None</p>	
4	<p>Chairman’s Report to Parish Council – Year 2025/6</p> <p>Welcome and thank you all for attending. To follow is a brief report on the activities of your Parish Council over the last year.</p> <p>Our finances remain healthy, enabling us to support worthy causes and initiatives important to our community, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Replacement doors for the former Cricket Hut, providing a considerably more secure space for the Village Hall but now with the potential for broader community use than just simple storage ● Contributing toward the refurbishment of the St Peter’s church organ ● Charitable donations including to the British Heart Foundation – who provided one of our two defibrillators; the RNLI – in part remembrance of our dearly missed former resident Mathew Upham; and the Air Ambulance – whose services are critical, especially given our location. <p>Highways always seem to be an issue primarily as they are our lifeline. We continue to report potholes and other damage to the highways department but do encourage residents to do the same using the Somerset Council Highways website. The sooner these things are reported the sooner they are inspected and hopefully repaired.</p> <p>The repairs to the road by Watercombe which took around a year to complete after the council gritter caused the damage, are allegedly temporary and a permanent repair will happen once Openreach sorts their cabling. We have been told that these works will happen this financial year. We also understand that road markings will be renewed in the current year.</p> <p>One Highways-related initiative we are aiming to achieve this year, is the introduction of advisory 20mph signage through the village and to the village</p>	

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	<p>hall. This will hopefully improve safety for all road users and those who want to access the playing field and Village Hall.</p> <p>We will also be progressing our Emergency Plan, which is a high priority given the growing madness going on around the country and the wider world.</p> <p>On behalf of the Parish Council and all residents, I would like to yet again express our sincere gratitude to our two County Councillors – Francis Nicholson and Steven Pugsley. The advice and support they provide is invaluable and much appreciated.</p> <p>The Parish Council would also like to state our appreciation to the increasing number of residents who volunteer their time to maintain Parish facilities and to support the growing number of Parish activities and events, such as Quizzes, Film Nights and the Fete. Particular thanks go to those who continue to maintain the flowers by each of the Village Signs, to Mr Duffy, who repaired the cricket hut doors, to Sharon Varney and her team who do such a sterling job with the Village Hall and Playing Field, to Kevin Green (who has taken over from Gareth Varney) who keep the two defibrillators up to date and to Denise Broom and Julie Powles who keep St Peter’s running. Our community is strong.</p> <p>Finally - I recently noticed a lovely photograph of the village posted by one of our residents on the Huish Champflower Facebook page with an accompanying description of “Our little slice of heaven”.</p> <p>Thanks go to our Parish Clerk – Dorothy – who so often goes above and beyond, and whose diligence and hard work enables our small Parish Council to achieve so much. Thank you Dorothy.</p> <p>And thank you all!</p>	
5	<p>Other matters- A seat on Scotts Hill was mentioned and this will be reviewed and discussed at the Parish Council meeting in July.</p> <p>Traffic calming as mentioned above-DH to feedback to the resident who raised the issue. There will be a discussion and an open invitation for residents to come and discuss traffic calming proposals at the July meeting, DH to agenda and advertise this.</p> <p>The residents who maintain the planters do not wish to have any financial support, new planters have been built and will be put in place over the summer.</p>	DH
7	<p>Closed meeting at 7:44</p>	