

# West Monkton Parish Council

Strategic Plan 2024-2027

Updated 2025



# Summary

West Monkton Parish Council, your Parish Council, has developed this Strategic Plan which sets out what the Parish Council is doing to improve and enhance the social, recreational and environmental well-being of West Monkton.



## Our Vision

Our Vision is for West Monkton Parish Council and the local community to work together to protect and improve the social, recreational and environmental well-being of West Monkton and the lives of all who live, visit or work here.

## Our Priorities

-  a. Your Local Environment
-  b. Your Local Community
-  c. Your Parish Council
-  d. Delivering our projects
-  e. Delivering our Vision for our Assets
-  f. Delivering the Neighbourhood Plan Vision

The remainder of this document provides more detail about the objectives, initiatives and projects that the Parish Council will deliver to achieve the vision and these priorities.

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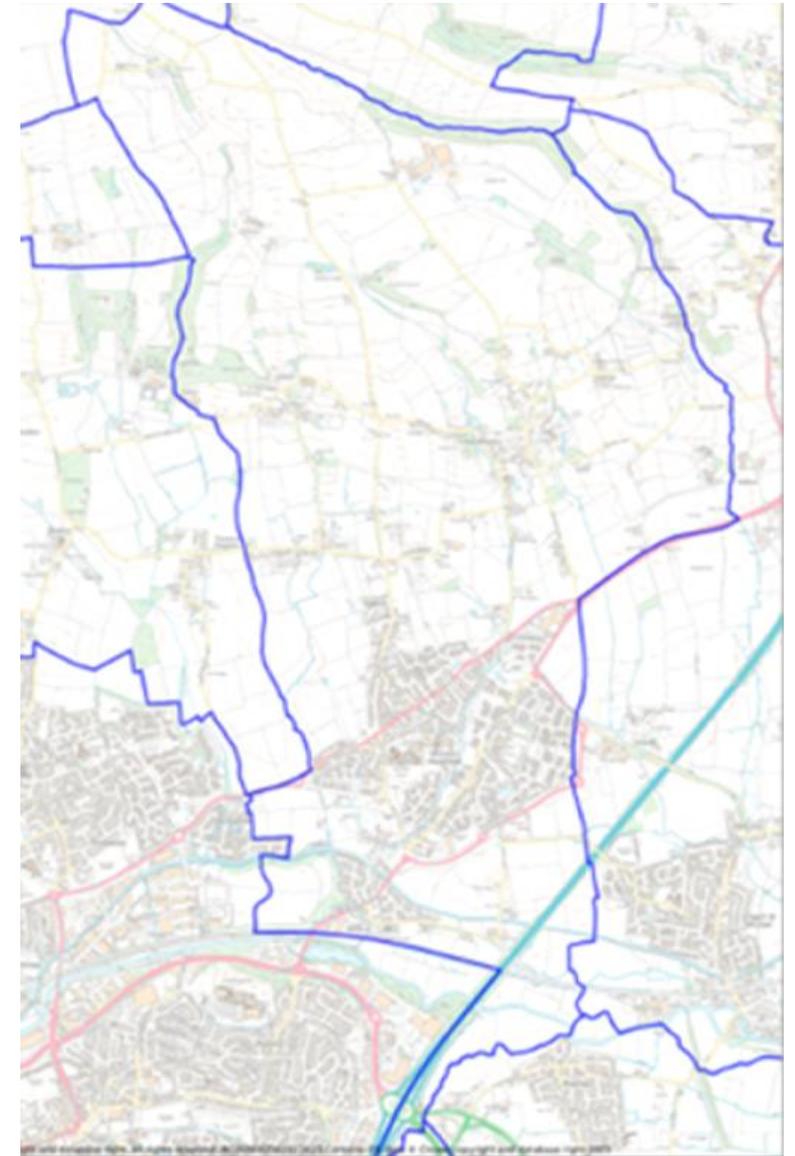


## 1. Your Parish

The Parish of West Monkton lies to the northeast of Taunton and contains a network of locally distinctive villages and hamlets surrounded by an ecologically rich and diverse farmed landscape. The historic and picturesque parishes include the villages and hamlets of Gotton, Goosenford, parts of Coombe, Overton, Bathpool, Monkton Heathfield and West Monkton.

This map illustrates the extent of West Monkton Parish.

The Parish has a population of 5900 people.



West Monkton Parish Council

## 2. Profile of our Parish

Here are some interesting facts about the profile of our Parish:



West Monkton Parish Council

### Number of households

**2,400**

households

**23,436,100** households in England

Rounded to the nearest 100 households

### Economic activity status

West Monkton | (England)

Economically active: In employment 68.7% (57.4%)

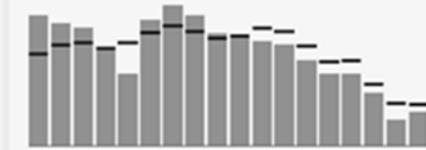
Economically active: Unemployed 2.0% (3.5%)

Economically inactive 29.3% (39.1%)

% of people aged 16 years and over

### Age profile

West Monkton | (England)



0 years

% of all people, 5 year age bands

85+

### Number of bedrooms

West Monkton | (England)

1 bedroom 4.9% (11.6%)

2 bedrooms 22.3% (27.3%)

3 bedrooms 39.5% (40.0%)

4 or more bedrooms 33.4% (21.1%)

% of all households

### Household size

West Monkton | (England)

1 person in household 23.0% (30.1%)

2 people in household 35.6% (34.0%)

3 people in household 18.2% (16.0%)

4 or more people in household 23.2% (19.9%)

% of all households

### General health

West Monkton | (England)

Very good health 55.7% (48.5%)

Good health 32.4% (33.7%)

Fair health 9.1% (12.7%)

Bad health 2.2% (4.0%)

Very bad health 0.6% (1.2%)

% of all people

### 3. Your Parish Council

The Parish Council is made up of nine Parish Councillors and a team of employees including the Clerk, Assistant Clerk Community, an Administrative and Events Assistant and the Maidenbrook Country Park Volunteer Coordinator (lottery funded) who are all passionate about our local area.

The Parish Council works collaboratively with members of the community and partners to deliver our vision, priorities and objectives for the Parish, going over and above what is expected from a Parish Council.

There are 279 parishes in the Somerset Council area. Parish and Town councils raise their money by adding an extra cost known as a “precept” to council tax bills in each parish.

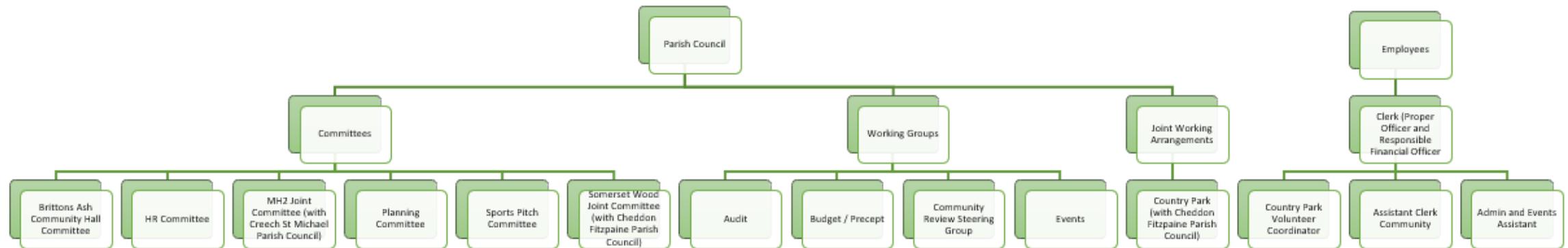
As a tier of local government Parish Councils are elected bodies, with discretionary powers and rights laid down by Parliament to represent their communities and provide services for them. All councils are constituted in the same way; Councillors are elected by the local government electorate and each council has a chairman, who must be one of the Elected Councillors.



## 4. How your Parish Council Operates

West Monkton Parish Council meets twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesday at 7pm at Brittons Ash Community Hall. Question time is usually reached by about 7.10pm when members of the public can ask questions or express an opinion. Meeting papers for Parish Council meetings are available on the Parish Council website ([www.westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk)).

The Parish Council has established Committees, Working Groups and Joint Working Arrangements. Committees have delegated authority to manage and oversee the Parish Councils assets, Working Groups discuss specific matters and make recommendations for the Parish Council to consider and Joint Working Arrangements are in place with neighbouring Parish Councils to work on specific projects. This diagram illustrates the Parish Councils structure including the Committees, Working Groups and Employees.



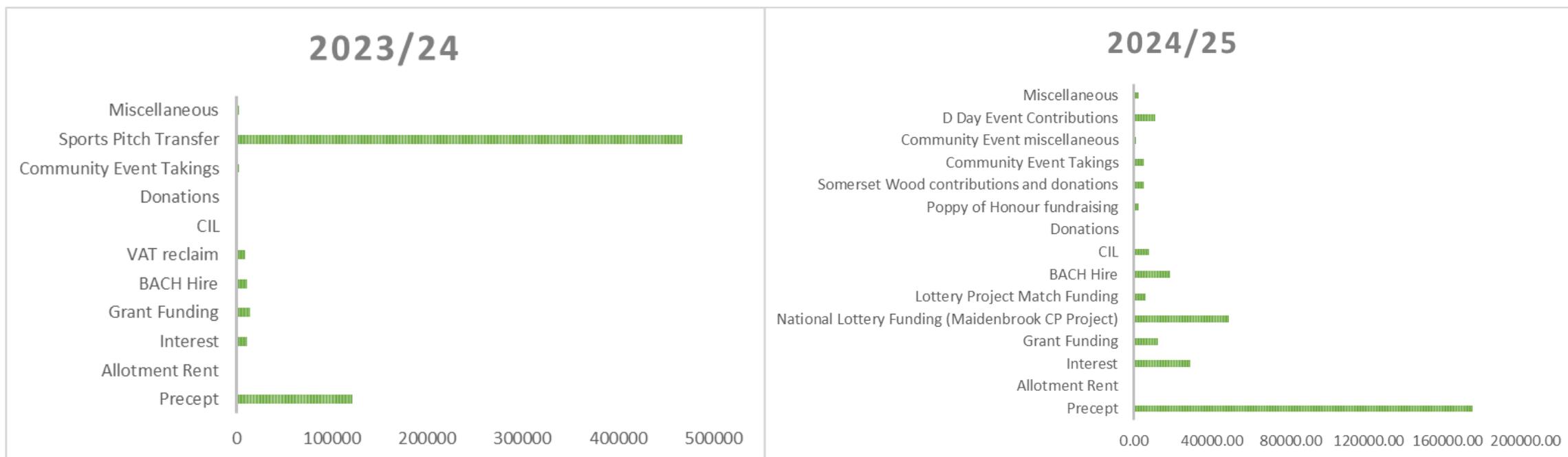


## 5. Resources

The financial resources that the Parish Council has available are a combination of precept (paid as part of your Council Tax) (£78.48 per Band D equivalent per year in 2024/25, rising to £95.32 in 2025/26), donations, grants and hire of the BACH. In addition, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is received from New Development. This can only be spent on Community Infrastructure (capital) to mitigate the impact of development in a local area and not on Parish Council general running costs (revenue).

The Parish Councils work is also helped greatly by a large and expanding group of volunteers who enable the successful delivery of projects like the Youth Café, Community Fridge, Community Garden, Litter Picking, Community Events and managing assets like the BACH and Country Park / Somerset Wood.

The charts below illustrate the financial resources received in 2023/24 and 2024/25.





## Our Vision

Our Vision is for West Monkton Parish Council and the local community to work together to protect and improve the social, recreational and environmental well-being of West Monkton and the lives of all who live, visit or work here.

# 7. Our Priorities



a. Your Local Environment



b. Your Local Community



c. Your Parish Council



d. Delivering our projects



e. Delivering our Vision for our Assets



f. Delivering the Neighbourhood Plan Vision



## Priority A: Your Local Environment

The Parish Council recognises the importance of the local environment, feeling connected with our local environment enables us to feel connected with each other and its enjoyment helps people to stay physically and mentally healthy. Looking after our environment also helps to combat climate change.

The following objectives have been identified for delivery by the Parish Council to help our local environment:

### **Objectives:**

- Work towards making the parish of West Monkton more carbon neutral by 2030 by:
  - Enabling the planting of trees in the parish in public areas and private gardens.
  - Promoting the use of public and sustainable transport.
  - Continuing to deliver the hi-vis initiative to encourage children to cycle and walk to school safely.
  - Promoting recycling and reusing and reducing waste.
  - Deliver share initiatives and events.
  - Provide grant funding for individuals and organisations for Climate Change projects based in the Parish, up to £500.00.
  - Require new developments to provide active bus routes through the development.
  - Provide bus shelters at all well used bus stops.
  - Support larger scale renewable energy projects in the Parish.
- Acquire ownership of Monkton Heathfield Phase 1 Development Public Open Space and provide the facilities needed to enable enjoyment by the Community.
- Take steps to reduce fly-tipping in the Parish and keep the Parish tidy.
- Continue to deliver the Community Fridge to reduce waste.



## Priority B: Your Local Community

The Parish Council recognises the importance of our local community. Being part of an engaged community gives us a sense of belonging. It enables us to share and support each other and feel connected with where we live.

The following objectives have been identified for delivery by the Parish Council to help our local community:

### **Objectives:**

- Increase usage of Community Website (Monkton Matters) and social media engagement.
- Improve existing and deliver new cycle and foot paths across the Parish.
- Provide grants to charitable, small and local groups to deliver goods or services for the benefit of members of the community of the Parish.
- Engage our Community by delivering community events throughout the year including a monthly quiz, Stay and Play Groups, Country Park events, youth cafe etc.
- Continue to deliver and expand the Community Garden.
- Work with local schools to engage young people, gather their ideas and needs and share what the Parish Council does and engage their support with Parish Projects and Priorities.
- Provide sponsorship for Duke of Edinburgh, Educational Programmes and events / activities for Young People using 25% of surplus generated from the hire of Brittons Ash Community Hall.
- Support local employment opportunities for young people.
- Publicise the local groups that operate for the benefit of the community.
- Support the delivery of Community Hubs / Squares in new developments and explore community markets / festivals / flower / produce shows / open mic / talent nights.



## Priority C: Your Parish Council

The Parish Council is a corporate body, which has been granted powers by Parliament including the authority to raise money through taxation (the precept) and a range of powers to spend public money. As an elected body, the Parish Council recognises that it must be effective and represent the interests of our community to enable its vision to be accomplished.

The following objectives have been identified for delivery by the Parish Council to help it be as effective as possible:

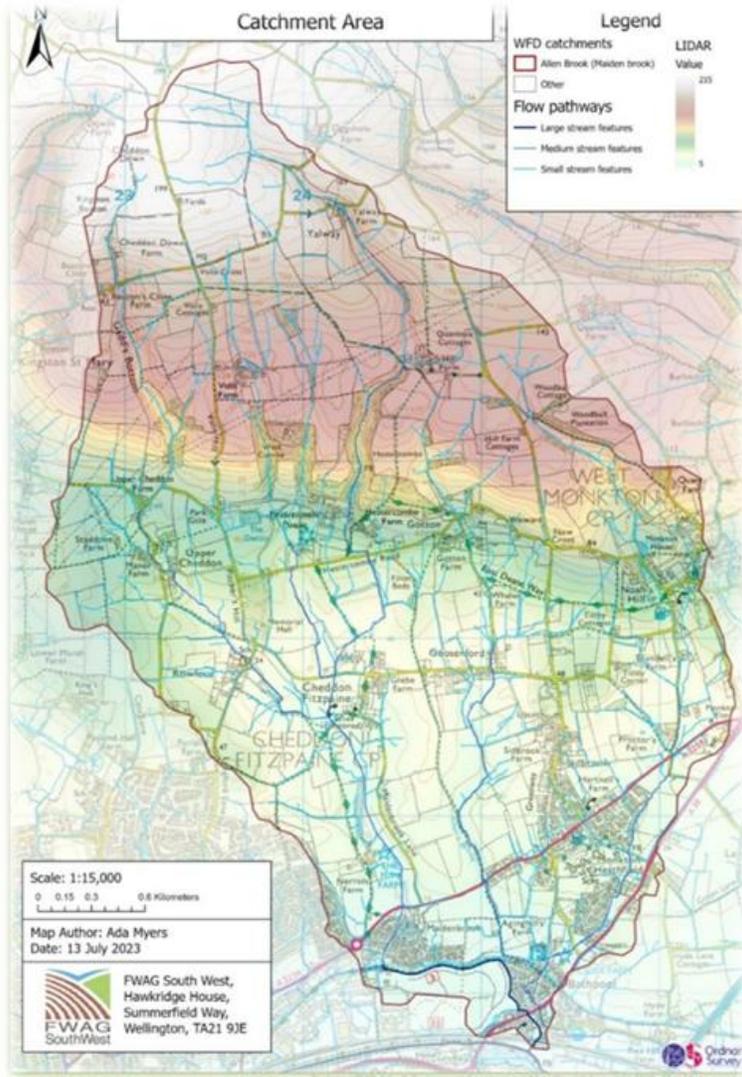
### **Objectives:**

- To be an open, transparent and proactive Parish Council.
- Raise the profile of the Parish Council to ensure that members of the community understand the work we do and the difference it makes.
- Be an active member of the Hestercombe Local Community Network.
- Use Community Infrastructure Levy receipts to support the delivery of the parish priorities.
- Apply for grant funding to support the delivery of the parish priorities.
- Ensure Value for Money.
- Publicise information about how the Parish Council spends money in an understandable format.
- Achieve Local Council Award Scheme ‘Quality Status’.
- Use a variety of communication methods to engage the community including:
  - Videos of Parish Council Projects, Events and Activities on Social Media.
  - Monthly updates about the work of the Parish Council for Monkton Matters, Noticeboards, Facebook Pages and the Village News.
  - ‘You said – We did’ articles.
  - Fund copies of ‘Village News’ editions to be available at key locations / businesses across the Parish.
  - Expand Social Media coverage to Instagram
- Actively engage in the Development of the ‘Somerset Local Plan’.





# Priority D: Delivering our Projects



Project Name:	Multi-Agency Approach to Reducing Flood Risk in the Parish
Project Summary:	<p>Bathpool has experienced flooding and is at risk of flooding in the future. Three key streams / water courses (Dyers Brook, Allens Brook and Maidenbrook) funnel from the Quantock Hills down to Bathpool into the Old River Tone. Under normal conditions the Old River Tone flows into the River Tone through flap gates. When the River Tone levels are high the flap gates cannot open and instead a pump is deployed to pump the water from the Old River Tone into the River Tone to prevent flooding of homes and businesses.</p> <p>A package of projects are proposed to install natural flood management measures and techniques on the Dyers Brook, Allens Brook and Maidenbrook catchment streams to slow the flow of water from the Quantock Hills to Bathpool.</p> <p>The projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stream enhancements</li> <li>• Scrape creations</li> <li>• Leaky dams</li> <li>• Clearance of block drains and ditches</li> <li>• Hedge planting</li> <li>• In field bunds and cross drains</li> <li>• Creation of wetland sites</li> </ul>
Project Aims:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce flood risk in Bathpool, reduce erosion, improve water quality and deliver wider environmental benefits.</li> </ul>
Funding:	Grant funding



## Priority D: Delivering our Projects

<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Poppy of Honour Memorial Delivery</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b>	<p>The Poppy of Honour was created in 2018 as a national memorial to honour British and Commonwealth Servicemen and Servicewomen listed as killed or missing in World War 1. The Poppy of Honour Memorial incorporates 1,117,635 individual remembrance poppies inside its encasement.</p> <p>On 9th November 2023, the ownership of the Poppy of Honour was assigned to ‘The People of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and all the other Realms and Territories of His Majesty King Charles III and all the Commonwealth Countries.’</p> <p>The certificate states ‘The Poppy of Honour Memorial Group are to be the Custodians of The Memorial in perpetuity and are responsible for its maintenance. The Custodians are entrusted to register The Memorial with the relevant authorities as a War Memorial. The Custodians are further to ensure that The Memorial is installed in the Somerset Wood within Maidenbrook Country Park, Maidenbrook Lane, Cheddon Fitzpaine, Taunton, Somerset TA2 8JT or an alternative location for The People to view free of charge.</p>
<b>Project Aims:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To deliver an open memorial pavilion at the Country Park to permanently house the Poppy of Honour, together with informative display boards.</li></ul>
<b>Funding:</b>	Community Infrastructure Levy Grant Funding Fundraising





# Priority D: Delivering our Projects

## Project Name: Acquisition of Public Open Space and Community Infrastructure from New Development

**Project Summary:** The MH2 / Langaller Park development will be required to deliver Public Open Space and Community Infrastructure. The Parish Council is committed to ensuring that the facilities are of the best standard and meet the needs of our Community.

**Project Aims:** Actively engage with Developers / LPA to ensure adequate community infrastructure / public open space is included in new development proposals.  
Work to acquire land allocated for public open space / community infrastructure from Developers with a contribution / CIL money to ensure the infrastructure is delivered to the highest standard for our community.

**Funding:** Developer contribution from Section 106 Agreement Commuted Sum  
New infrastructure: Community Infrastructure Levy



## Project Name: Waterleaze Pitch Provision

**Project Summary / aims:** Acquire playing pitch land currently in the ownership of the Developer at Waterleaze and provide facilities to enable use of the pitch as a junior football pitch for use by clubs and the community.

**Funding:** Delivery / Acquisition: Community Infrastructure Levy  
On-going maintenance: Precept





## Priority D: Delivering our Projects



<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Deliver New Allotments</b>
<b>Project Summary:</b>	Land between School Road and Farriers Green, Monkton Heathfield, currently in the ownership of Somerset Council to be acquired via a lease arrangement to enable additional allotment provision for the Community.
<b>Project Aims:</b>	To deliver additional allotment plots in the parish for our Community.
<b>Funding:</b>	Delivery: Community Infrastructure Levy On-going maintenance: Allotment fees and Precept



<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Junior Football Pitch Provision</b>
<b>Project Summary / aims:</b>	Land between Bridgwater Road and School Road, adjacent to the footpath, has been allocated for play pitches. The Parish Council plans to acquire the land / completed pitches (expected to be completed by September 2025) through a lease arrangement with Somerset Council. Parish Council to make the pitches available for the community and junior football clubs (using the facilities available at the BACH to support their use).
<b>Funding:</b>	Acquisition: Community Infrastructure Levy.



# Priority E: Delivering our Vision for our Assets

<b>Asset Name:</b>	<b>Maidenbrook Country Park and The Somerset Wood</b>
<b>Asset Summary:</b>	Maidenbrook Country Park is an area of open parkland, located adjacent to Maidenbrook Lane. The Somerset Wood is within the Country Park.
<b>Project Aims:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver the Vision for the Country Park and Somerset Wood: To create and maintain open parkland and paths in a tranquil environment; and provide a fitting permanent woodland memorial to the 11,281 people from Somerset who lost their lives in the First World War. This place is for the people, their future health, well-being and prosperity.</li> <li>To deliver the Maidenbrook Country Park and The Somerset Wood National Lottery Project. The projects aim is: To enable the much-loved community asset to become a well-used community space that is accessible to all of our community and that enables our community to come together and build strong relationships. The project will enable the recruitment, support and training of volunteers to manage and maintain the Country Park, make the park more accessible for members of our community and provide the facilities and amenities at the Country Park to fulfil the vision of it being a green open space and central hub for our community to volunteer, meet, visit and join with other community members at community events; building the sense of community whilst supporting the health and wellbeing of our community.</li> </ul>
<b>Funding:</b>	<p>Capital improvements / delivery: Community Infrastructure Levy</p> <p>On-going maintenance: Precept</p> <p>National Lottery Grant funding for 3 years achieved from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024.</p> <p>Match funding applications are being explored and submitted.</p>





# Priority E: Delivering our Vision for our Assets

<b>Asset Name:</b>	<b>Brittons Ash Community Hall</b>
<b>Asset Summary:</b>	The Brittons Ash Community Hall (BACH) is an asset of the Parish Council, a Committee comprising councillors and residents administers the day to day running of the BACH. The BACH is located on the West Monkton Primary School site. The address is Bridgwater Road, Bathpool, Taunton, TA2 8FT.
<b>Asset Aims:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the BACH to act as a community hub for the Parish.</li> <li>• To be available for hire to local businesses and the community and to be self—funded through hall hire revenue.</li> </ul>
<b>Funding:</b>	Self-funded from hire charges.



<b>Asset Name:</b>	<b>Community Fridge</b>
<b>Asset Summary:</b>	The Community Fridge opened in 2022 and is located next to the entrance to the BACH Car Park. The fridge is run by volunteers who collect food that would otherwise go to waste from local supermarkets. The food is then shared with the community via the open access shed. The shed also has a small library when adults and children can share books.
<b>Asset Aims:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce food waste.</li> <li>• To encourage re-use and sharing of books.</li> </ul>
<b>Funding:</b>	Grant funding Community Infrastructure Levy Ongoing maintenance: Precept / Grant Funding



## Priority E: Delivering our Vision for our Assets

<b>Asset Name:</b>	<b>Community Garden</b>
<b>Asset Summary:</b>	The Community Garden is located on the green space in front of the entrance to Brittons Ash Community Hall.
<b>Asset Aims:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Community Garden grows fresh, organic produce that is distributed through the Community Fridge to local residents, providing a further boost to nutrition as well as providing an opportunity for volunteers to enjoy the benefits of increased physical activity. The permaculture approach taken by the Garden also makes a small but important difference to the environment and climate change.</li> <li>Clearly, West Monkton Primary School has a focus on education and training across a number of wellbeing areas the young people of the parish, helping them to gain greater access to opportunities to improve their wellbeing both now and later in life. In addition to providing an education to children, the School also run 'Family Learning' sessions.</li> </ul>
<b>Funding:</b>	Grant Funding Community Infrastructure Levy Ongoing maintenance: Precept



<b>Asset Name:</b>	<b>Allotments</b>
<b>Asset Summary:</b>	Eleven allotments located next to the Spital Almshouses accessed via Monkton Heathfield Road.
<b>Asset Aims:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To rent the allotment plots to our community to enable them to grow fruit and vegetables.</li> </ul>
<b>Funding:</b>	. Allotment charges and Precept



## Priority E: Delivering our Vision for our Assets

<b>Asset Name:</b>	<b>Street Furniture (including Bus Shelters, Bins and Benches)</b>
<b>Asset Summary:</b>	The Parish Council has a number of 'street furniture' assets across the Parish including, bus shelters, grit bins, bins, dog waste bins, adult gym equipment, benches and noticeboards.
<b>Asset Aims:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Parish Council is committed to maintaining these and purchasing additional street furniture where a need is identified.</li></ul>
<b>Funding:</b>	Community Infrastructure Levy Ongoing maintenance: Precept





## Priority F: Delivering Our Neighbourhood Plan Vision

A Neighbourhood Plan (NP) allows the community to grow whilst protecting existing community assets. It also identifies and makes provision for the realisation of community aspirations for the future. The NP becomes part of the planning framework, influencing the form and content of any new development.

The advantages of having a NP are that community assets, such as conservation areas, remain protected and community aspirations, such as improved leisure access to parks, open spaces, sports areas and footpaths, become more achievable. The aspiration for the NP area is that it becomes a place where families and people can grow and thrive in a sustainable and ecologically sensitive community. Having made the NP 2017, the parishes of West Monkton (WM) and Cheddon Fitzpaine (CF) currently receive 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The CIL money can be used for community projects, such as the Country Park.

The original West Monkton and Cheddon Fitzpaine Neighbourhood Plan (NP) was made in 2017. Following the guidance provided by the 2019 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), West Monkton (WM) and Cheddon Fitzpaine (CF) Parish Councils undertook a limited revision of that Plan to bring it up to date.

The NP Vision is ‘To successfully accommodate the significant growth planned for the area; to ensure a high quality of design with the creation of sustainable places with excellent community facilities for local people to enjoy and during this period of growth, the historic settlements and surrounding countryside will be protected to maintain and enhance the locally distinctive characteristics of the area for future generations’.

West Monkton & Cheddon Fitzpaine Neighbourhood Plan  
2021-2028



West Monkton and Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Councils  
June 2021

## **8. Monitoring Our Plan**

Our Strategic Plan is the main way of telling you what we are doing to meet the needs of our Community and to deliver the Parish Council Vision.

An Action Plan that identifies the activity that will take place to achieve the objectives for each of the six priorities follows.

Monitoring progress of the delivery of the Action Plan will take place at our Parish Council meetings and an Annual Report is published each year to provide an annual summary of the performance of the Council.

The Strategic Plan itself will be subject to annual review and updated to keep the document relevant and up-to-date.

## **9. Action Plan**

An Action Plan, identifying the activities that are planned to deliver the objectives for each of the priorities is available on the following pages.



# Priority A: Your Local Environment – Action Plan

Objective / Project	Activity	Timescale	Resources Required
Enable the planting of trees in the parish in public areas and private gardens.	Plant 200 whips on sports pitch land	2025/26 and beyond.	Volunteers. Trees donated by Woodland Trust and Wee Trees.
	Plant further trees in the Somerset Wood	2025/26 and beyond.	Volunteers. Somerset Wood Donations.
Promoting the use of public and sustainable transport.	Share information regarding public transport on website and social media.	2025/26 and beyond.	PC budget.
Continuing to deliver the hi-vis initiative to encourage children to cycle and walk to school safely.	Give out hi-vis vests at Community Events	2025/26 and beyond	CIL money.
Promoting recycling and reusing and reducing waste.	Run monthly repair cafes	2025/26 and beyond	Volunteers. BACH.
	Run share events twice a year		
Continue to deliver the Community Fridge to reduce waste	Continue to provide the community fridge	2025/26 and beyond	Volunteers. Grant funding.
Continue to deliver clothes recycling bank to reduce waste	Continue to provide clothes recycling facility	2025/26 and beyond	PC budget.
Deliver swap initiatives and events	Run community swap events	2025/26 and beyond	Volunteers. BACH.
Provide grant funding for individuals and organisations for Climate Change projects based in the Parish up to £500.	Launch two grant funding windows in April and September.	2025/26 and beyond.	PC Budget.
Require new developments to provide active bus routes through developments.	Actively engage with Developers during the planning process in respect of MH2 / Langaller Park to ensure bus routes are provided.	2025/26 and beyond.	PC Budget.
Provide bus shelters at well used bus stops.	Provide a new bus shelter at Bridgwater Road near the Bawler Road junction.	2025/26 and beyond.	CIL Money.
Support larger scale renewable energy projects in the Parish.	Explore larger scale energy project by installing solar panels with West Monkton Primary School	2025/26 and beyond.	BACH Reserves.
Take steps to reduce fly-tipping in the Parish and keep the Parish tidy.	Promote and support volunteer litter pickers.	2025/26 and beyond.	Volunteers. PC budget.
Acquire ownership of Monkton Heathfield Phase 1 development public open space and provide facilities needed to enable enjoyment by the Community.	Complete acquisition of public open space.	2025/26 and beyond.	S106 agreement funding CIL Money
	Review facilities required.	2025/26 and beyond.	CIL Money



## Priority B: Your Local Community – Action Plan

Objective / Project	Activity	Timescale	Resources Required
Increase usage of Community website and social media engagement	Explore other techniques to increase social media engagement e.g. videos.	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
	Regular updates on the work of the Council on website and social media	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
Undertake a Community Review to understand the needs of the community.	Use the evidence from the Community Review carried out in 2024/25 to develop and deliver action plan.	2025/26 and beyond	PC budget
Improve existing and deliver new cycle and foot paths across the Parish.	Replace surface and drainage at pathway providing rear entrance to Farriers Green Park	2025/26	CIL Money
Provide grants to charitable, small and local groups to deliver goods or services for the benefit of members of the community of the Parish.	Launch two grant funding windows in April and September	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
Engage our Community by delivering community events throughout the year including a monthly quiz, stay and play groups, country park events etc.	Continue to provide a Stay and Play Group.	2025/26 and beyond	BACH / Volunteers
	Continue to provide a community quiz once a month	2025/26 and beyond	Tacchi Morris
	Continue to provide a Community Café once a week incorporating a bereavement group, knitting / crochet group and repair café.	2025/26 and beyond	BACH / Volunteers
	Deliver a schedule of events at the Country Park including Easter Egg Hunt, Party in the Park, Dog Show	2025/26 and beyond	Volunteers / PC Budget
	Deliver an event at the Country Park with neighbouring parishes	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
	Deliver a VE-Day event at the Country Park	2025/26	PC Budget
	Provision of a Youth Café.	2025/26 and beyond	Grant funding
	Carry out research to establish the wishes and needs of young people in the community.	2025/26	Grant funding



## Priority B: Your Local Community – Action Plan

Objective / Project	Activity	Timescale	Resources Required
Continue to deliver the community garden	Support volunteers to deliver and expand the community garden	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
Work with local schools to engage young people, gather their ideas and share what the Parish Council does and engage their support with Parish Project and Priorities	Build relationship with Monkton Wood Academy	2024/25 and beyond	PC Budget
	Continue to build relationship with West Monkton Primary School	2024/25 and beyond	PC Budget
Provide sponsorship for Duke of Edinburgh, Educational Programmes and events / activities for Young People.	Provide sponsorship for Young People	2025/26 and beyond	25% of surplus from BACH hire.
Publicise local events and activities that are taking place for the Community	Develop booklet twice a year and finance delivery of it in the village news twice a year.	2025/26 and beyond.	PC Budget
Support the delivery of community hubs / squares in new developments and explore community markets / festivals / flower / produce shows / open mic / talent nights.	Engage with Developers in relation to MH2 / Langaller Park proposals to ensure the delivery of a community hub / square	2025/26	PC Budget
	Explore opportunities for markets / festivals / events.	2025/26	PC Budget



## Priority C: Your Parish Council – Action Plan

Objective / Project	Activity	Timescale	Resources Required
To be an open, transparent and proactive Parish Council.	Publish information about the Parish Council as widely as possible.	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
	Publish information over and above what is required by legislation.	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
Raise profile of the Parish Council to ensure that members of the community understand the work we do and the difference it makes.	Regular updates on Monkton Matters and Social Media giving an overview of what the PC has achieved.	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
Be an active member of the Hestercombe Local Community Network.	Ensure PC attendance and engagement at all LCN meetings.	2025/26 and beyond.	PC Budget
Ensure Value for Money	Operate in accordance with Financial Regulations to ensure adequate quotations are received and ensure value for money	2025/26 and beyond.	PC Budget
Publicise information about how the Parish Council spends money in an understandable format.	Publish an annual report every year summarising how the Parish Council has spent money and what has been achieved.	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
Use Community Infrastructure Levy receipts to support the delivery of the Parish priorities and projects.		2025/26 and beyond	CIL Money
Apply for grant funding to support the delivery of the parish priorities and projects.		2024/25 and beyond.	CIL Money
Achieve Local Council Award Scheme 'Quality Status'.		2025/26	PC Budget
Use a variety of communication methods to engage the community	Videos of Parish Council projects, events and activities on social media.	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
	Monthly updates about the work of the Parish Council on Monkton Matters, Noticeboards, Facebook Pages and the Village News.	2025/26 and beyond	
	'You Said – We Did' articles	2025/26 and beyond	
	Fund copies of 'Village News' editions to be available at key locations / businesses across the Parish and available to every household in the parish twice a year.	2025/26 and beyond	
	Expand social media coverage to Instagram.	2025/26 and beyond	



## Priority D: Delivering our Projects – Action Plan

Objective / Project	Activity	Timescale	Resources Required
Sports Pitch Delivery	Obtain required planning permission for sports pitches.	2025/26	Developer contribution / budget/ CIL money
	Undertake ground / drainage / seeding works	2025/26	
	Apply for grant funding	2025/26	PC Budget
Multi-Agency Approach to Reducing Flood Risk in the Parish	Continue Multi-Agency approach	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
Poppy of Honour Memorial Delivery	Fundraise for construction of memorial.	2025/26	PC Budget
	Deliver Memorial at Country Park	2025/26	Fundraising
Public Open Space and Community Infrastructure from New Development Acquisition	Engage with Somerset Council / Developer to enable handover of land and infrastructure in legal agreements from developments.	2025/26	PC Budget
<u>Waterleaze</u> Pitch Provision	Engage with Somerset Council / Developer to enable handover of pitches.	2025/26	PC Budget
	Identify funding opportunities and submit applications to cover cost of changing facilities.	2025/26	Grant funding.
New Allotments	Engage with Somerset Council to enable handover of land between School Road and Farriers Green for new allotments.	2025/26	PC Budget
	Deliver allotments on land	2025/26	CIL Money
Junior Football Pitch Provision	Engage with Somerset Council / Developer to enable handover of completed pitches to Parish Council	2025/26	S106 contribution for future maintenance / improvement.
	Provide storage and grass cutting equipment for use by junior football team.	2025/26	CIL Money



## Priority E: Delivering our Vision for our Assets – Action Plan

Objective / Project	Activity	Timescale	Resources Required
Country Park and Somerset Wood	Deliver the vision for the Country Park and Somerset Wood.	2025/26 and beyond	Grant Funding CIL Money
	Deliver the <del>Maidenbrook</del> Country Park Lottery funded project	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2024 to 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2027	Lottery Grant Funding
Brittons Ash Community Hall	Continue to make the Hall available as widely as possible and to act as a hub for our community	2025/26 and beyond	<u>Self funded.</u>
Community Fridge	Continue to deliver the Community Fridge	2025/26 and beyond	Grant funding PC budget
Community Garden	Continue to deliver the Community Garden	2025/26 and beyond	Grant funding PC budget
Allotments	Continue to hire out eleven allotments at Spital, Monkton Heathfield Road	2025/26 and beyond	Allotment Charges
Street Furniture	Maintain existing street furniture	2025/26 and beyond	PC budget



## Priority F: Delivering Our Neighbourhood Plan Vision – Action Plan

<b>Objective / Project</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Resources Required</b>
Deliver our Neighbourhood Plan Vision	Deliver vision and ensure policy compliance when making comments on planning applications to the Local Planning Authority.	2025/26 and beyond	PC Budget
	Review Neighbourhood Plan following completion of development of Somerset Local Plan (by 2028).	2027/28	PC Budget
Actively engage with Somerset Council through the Somerset Local Plan review process.		2025/26-2027/28	PC Budget

## 10. Glossary

Term	Definition
Parish Councils	As a tier of local government Parish Councils are elected bodies, with discretionary powers and rights laid down by Parliament to represent their communities and provide services for them. All councils are constituted in the same way; councillors are elected by the local government electorate and each council has a chairman, who must be one of the elected councillors.
S106 Agreement	Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 allows a local planning authority, to enter into a legally-binding agreement or planning obligation with a landowner as part of the granting of planning permission. The obligation is termed a section 106 agreement
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge which can be levied by local authorities on new development in their area. It is an important tool for local authorities to use to help them deliver the infrastructure needed to support development in their area. The Parish Council receives 25% of the Levy charge from Somerset Council because it has a Neighbourhood Plan.
Precept	Town and Parish Councils issue a precept, which is the amount of money they require from Council Taxpayers in their area to deliver services.
Councillor	Parish Councillors are elected by those on the electoral roll for the Parish. The role of a Parish Councillor includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To represent the views and concerns of the residents of the parish to the parish council itself and, through it, to Somerset Council</li> <li>• They report back to residents on issues affecting the parish.</li> </ul>
Committee	A Committee can be established by the Parish Council and the Parish Council can delegate some of its statutory functions (responsibilities assigned to a Parish Council in legislation) to it.
Working Group	The purpose of Working Groups formed from both councillors and members of the public is to meet to discuss issues, explore options and develop plans and then report back to the Council with recommendations.
Joint Working Arrangement	An arrangement to work jointly and in partnership with another Parish Council regarding a common issue or project.

## Contact Us

If you would like to contact the Parish Council, please use the following details:

Website: [www.westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Maidenbrook Country Park: [www.maidenbrookcountrypark.org.uk](http://www.maidenbrookcountrypark.org.uk)

Community Website: [www.monktonmatters.co.uk](http://www.monktonmatters.co.uk)

Amy Shepherd, Clerk / RFO: [clerk@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk) / 07380 912775

Kate Welsh, Assistant Clerk Community: [community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk) / 07505984006

Candy Sully, Country Park Volunteer Coordinator: [maidenbrookcountrypark@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:maidenbrookcountrypark@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk) / 07888387525

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