

## ADOPTED

Minutes of the Meeting of West Monkton Parish Council held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.00pm.

**Present:** Cllrs Besley, Cavill, Chapman, C. Cronshaw, D. Cronshaw, Ellis, Gage, Haskins and Munson.

**In attendance:** Amy Shepherd, Clerk, Kate Welsh, Assistant Clerk Community, Candy Sully, Volunteer Coordinator, Cllr David Fothergill, Somerset Council, Mr K Perry, Bathpool Flood Warden and Tony Laurence, COWMS.

### **271/25 To receive any apologies (with reasons), introductions with responsibilities.**

No apologies were received.

### **272/25 To note.**

- a) Declarations of Interest: No change.
- b) Dispensation Requests: None
- c) Amendments to the Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest: None had been notified to the Clerk.

### **273/25 To adopt the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

The minutes from the Meeting of the Parish Council on 10<sup>th</sup> March, having been previously circulated, were taken as read. It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March, proposed by Cllr D. Cronshaw, seconded by Cllr Chapman and agreed by show of hands.

### **274/25 To note Clerk's reports.**

Clerk's Report:

General Admin:

- AI summaries of PC minutes prior to publication.
- Approved Strategic Plan published on website.
- Finalised Annual Report for 2025/26 (on agenda for approval).
- Appraisals carried out (points for consideration to be added to the next PC meeting for consideration)
- Liaising with Youth Café volunteers in Kate's absence.
- Clothing bank to be replaced with Air Ambulance one in around 4 weeks. The PC won't receive an income but 33% of profits will go to the Air Ambulance.
- Cuppa with a copper information passed to Assistant Clerk to investigate.
- Flood drop in session arranged for 30<sup>th</sup> April and monthly drop in sessions will take place at the BACH in May, June and July whilst the Community Café is taking place.
- Finalised and submitted PSPO consultation response.
- Annual Parish Meeting preparation including slides.

Highways

- Reported pot holes and blocked gullies.
- Pedestrian priority Mead Way /Monkton Heathfield Road crossing point – liaised with Traffic Control and Traffic Management at Somerset Council response: 'Such crossings are set to operate and change in response to the push button being pressed and present a green man within a maximum of 30 seconds as a standard setting. The change to making traffic signals pedestrian priority is being looked at in some areas of the country but isn't something that we have currently been able to assess within Somerset yet. As you will appreciate any such significant change would need to be properly assessed, planned and managed to ensure any changes were appropriate and safe. Currently our focus is on maintaining the current network, making appropriate upgrades to oldest and most obsolete sites, and ensuring the traffic signals are efficient and safe. We are not currently able to plan for looking at such a change to pedestrian priority at traffic signals, but it is something we would like to examine in the future.
- Footpath at end of School Road – replacement of gates for bollards – liaised with Persimmon to ascertain if it is on the land transferred as part of the POS – response received - 'Redrow S38 drawing indicated that tactile paving slabs and a bollard symbol, but no words that would indicate what the bollard is in that location. There are other bollards on the

drawings that are specified. The gate and pedestrian walk through appear to be removed in the design'. This indicates that it is for Redrow to complete this work. Following it up with them.

- Zebra crossing on Monkton Heathfield Road – requested update from Persimmon – work likely to be scheduled after the resurfacing work on Monkton Heathfield Road in April is complete.
- 20 mph speed limit extension – liaised with Traffic Management – any extension to the 20mph speed limit will need to be funded by the PC. Kate Brown from Traffic Management is going to look at the proposed extension this month and report back with an indicative cost for consideration.
- Developed and sent a PC supporting statement to Taunton Town Council in respect of the Tudor Parking Crossing point proposal.
- Reported further vehicles to Hinkley; parking on Mead Way.
- Liaising with gully sucking company about arranging a further day of gully sucking to do School Road gullies.

#### Finance / Payroll:

- Making payments / placing orders.
- Managing / inputting Accounts using Scribe and updating paper account files.
- April payroll and finance reports
- 2026/27 budget added to scribe.
- End of year accounts including; organising paper files for internal audit, creating agreed reserves at year end, updating CIL report, bank reconciliation, asset register update, VAT return, AGAR paperwork, HMRC / Basic Paye Tools end of year submissions and Scribe year end adjustments. Preparing for internal and external audit.
- Gathering quotations for inclusion in the April Finance Report.
- Completed and returned signed / approved grant agreements.
- Meeting with David Stripp re LCN Youth Project finances.
- Ordered POH wristbands
- Audit Working Party meeting scheduled to take place on 24th April to review end of year information.

#### Planning:

- Jess supporting with the updating of the Planning Log with planning decisions / conditions weekly.
- Preparation of PowerPoint presentation in respect of planning applications received for PC meetings and submission of agreed response to planning applications.
- Organised public session in respect of care home proposal, developed draft PC comments from feedback received (on agenda for discussion / approval)

#### Environment

- Hedge plants delivered and planted by Lengthsman in Thornash Close layby.
- Bins for installation next to the bus shelters on Bridgwater Road delivered.
- Blundells Lane Flood Alleviation Project – end of grant report.

#### Country Park and Somerset Wood

- Lottery project evaluation report updates.
- Collected further jackets for volunteers.
- Met pathway contractor on start date - 24th March – work progressing well.
- Research / review of Country Park Vision.
- Reported broken heater to container company – replacement delivered.

#### Sports Pitches

- Completing grant applications (including One Stop) and looking into lottery funding.
- Liaised with utility connection contractors.
- Liaising with Persimmon re design for sewerage connection.
- Pavilion options research.
- Sports Pitch Committee meeting on 17th March 2026, further meeting on 21st April at 9.30am.

#### MH2

- Joint letter developed to send to Simon Fox, confirming both PCs position in relation to CIL / S106.

#### MH1

- Further bins for Heathfield Gardens delivered – to be installed by Lengthsman.
- Bins for installation next to the bus shelters on Bridgwater Road delivered.

#### BACH:

- Jess supporting with invoices.
- Accounts / scribe updates.
- Welcome screen kept up to date and monthly condition checks completed.
- Privacy film for Activity Hall external door ordered and delivered. Awaiting installation.

- Automatic Door repair scheduled to take place on 24th April.
- Warm Hub end of grant report.
- Next BACH Committee meeting scheduled to take place on 5th June at 10am

Meetings last month:

2nd March – Meeting electrician at BACH for external lighting installation  
 2nd March PM – Level 5 Training session  
 3rd March – PAT testing at the BACH.  
 3rd March – Agenda run through meeting.  
 3rd March – Meeting with David Stripp re LCN Youth Project  
 4th March – Scribe booking software demonstration session.  
 5th March – Automatic door contractor meeting at the BACH  
 5th March – Team Meeting  
 5th March – HMRC Webinar  
 6th March – AM – Level 5 Training Session.  
 10th March – PC meeting  
 12th March – Team Meeting  
 13th March – SLCC Branch meeting  
 16th March – Local Plan workshop  
 17th March – Sports Pitch Committee Meeting  
 17th March – Appraisal with Volunteer Coordinator  
 18th March – LGR session  
 19th March – Team Meeting  
 20th March – Annual Leave  
 23rd March – site meeting with CP pathways contractor.  
 24th March – Care Home proposal open public session.  
 24th March - Annual Parish Meeting  
 25th March – Appraisal with Admin and Events Assistant  
 26th March – Team meeting  
 26th March – Events meeting  
 27th – 31st March – Annual Leave

Meetings this month:

1st – 2nd April – Annual Leave  
 3rd April – Bank holiday  
 4th April – Easter Egg Hunt  
 6th April – Bank Holiday  
 7th April – Agenda run through meeting  
 7th April – Appraisal with Assistant Clerk Community  
 9th April – Team Meeting  
 10th April – Annual Leave  
 13th April – CSM PC meeting – Langaller Farm development presentation  
 14th April – PC meeting  
 16th April – Team Meeting  
 16th April – Lemon Booking demo.  
 17th April – Annual Leave  
 21st April – Agenda run through meeting  
 21st April – Sports Pitch meeting  
 22nd – 23rd April – Study Days for L5 Qualification  
 24th April – Audit Working Party Meeting  
 24th April – Taunton Garden Town Advisory Board meeting  
 28th April – PC meeting  
 29th April – Cuppa with a Copper as part of the Community Café.  
 30th April – Multi agency flood drop in session at the BACH from 2pm onwards.

Clerk to include 20mph speed limit extension to a future agenda for discussion.

Assistant Clerk's Report:

Community - General

- Responding to emails/messages
- Updating Communications Report

- Assistant Clerk's Report
- Arranged for First Aid Training to be delivered on the 10/4/26
- Village New Article submitted
- Contacted Youth Alliance re: Introduction to Youth Work course – awaiting dates
- Shared CCTV footage with Monkton Wood – they plan to raise issue with students before the end of term

#### Grant Funding

- Successful grant applications for HYPE Funding from HPC and Awards for All (Lottery)

#### Community Cafe

- Weekly Community Café at the BACH
- Meeting with community residents about starting a Women's Group at the Community Café – proposal to follow
- Initiated 'Cuppa with a Copper' sessions at the Community Café – awaiting reply

#### Youth Work

##### HYPE

- Meetings for HYPE/LCN Working Group
- Creating and amending schedule for youth work provision across LCN
- Organising sessions at the 3 Youth Hubs in the LCN for January to March; liaising with providers
- Liaising with 'On Your Bike' about sessions for 2026
- Responding to actions from meetings
- Confirm and plan for Easter Boombox sessions

##### Youth Café

- Supported Go Create and TYCA at Youth Café sessions
- Managing volunteers and staff at Youth Café
- Continued development of x 2 Young Leaders
- Initial ideas/planning regarding detached Youth Work/sports sessions in the community – proposal to follow

##### Other Volunteering

- Dealing with queries and concerns from volunteers as they arise.
- Contacting any new potential volunteers
- Added volunteer opportunities on Spark a Change webpage
- Submitted nominations for the BBC Make a Difference Awards 2026

#### Events

- Events meeting
- Agenda/Minutes for event meeting
- Actions from Meeting:
  - Prepare costings spreadsheet for events
  - Emailed Norman to organise telehandler for Beacon
  - Norman to run walking tours for Shindig
  - Emailed Sonic Fireworks to organise drop off of detonator for Beacon to arrive on or before the 6/5/26
  - Put together schedule for run up to Shindig
  - Prepared banner and poster for advertising Shindig – awaiting QR code before ordering
  - Jess to organise signs for Shindig to include under 25 checks for bar
  - Obtained prices for beer from a few breweries – need to place order soon once we decide whether we need to hire equipment or if Josh's equipment will be sufficient
  - Contacted Somerset Live Lounge re: Compere for Shindig
  - Contacted Kev Stratton re stage and audio support for Shindig
  - Booked toilets for Shindig and Funfest with Travis Perkins
  - Jess contacting Fridge Trailer and meeting with Kev Smith to organise tickets for Shindig
  - Contacted Organisation with Donkeys – confirmed attendance at Funfest at a cost of £375 – we will be able to charge for donkey rides to recuperate cost.
  - Contacted St Giles – confirmation for Shindig Dog Show but not able to attend Funfest this year, confirmed 23/8/26 for their Annual Dog Show
  - TENS submitted for FunFest

#### Forthcoming Events 2025/26

- 4th April – Easter egg hunt
- 18th April – SWISH event (Clothes Swap)
- 9th May - Somerset/Shindig (possibly combining spring dog show as well)
- 12th May – Annual Parish Council Meeting

6th June – Share event  
11th July – Funfest  
1st August – Flower Show  
23rd August - Summer Dog Show

#### Meetings, Events and Groups

23/3/26 Back to work meeting with Amy  
24/3/26 Annual Parish Meeting  
25/3/26 Community Café/Youth Café  
26/3/26 Team Meeting/Events Meeting  
30/3/26 Meeting with Kate Darlington from Somerset Council re: Youth Parliament  
30/3/26 Phone Meeting with Sophie Knapp re: Women's Group at Community Café

#### 27/5/25 Somerset Council report from Cllrs Fothergill and Cavill

Cllr Fothergill reported on the following:

**Somerset Council Sets 2026/27 Budget & Council Tax:** Somerset Council has set its 2026/27 budget following the Government's decision to reject proposals for a council tax increase above the 4.99% referendum threshold, with the authority having previously considered a rise of up to 11% to address a £25 million funding gap. The Government also raised concerns about the Council's financial management and pace of transformation in response to a request for £30 million of Exceptional Financial Support, of which £25 million will support the budget gap and £5 million ongoing service transformation. The average Somerset council tax bill will increase by nearly £122 a year.

**Somerset Rivers Authority Agrees Work Plans for 2026/27:** Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) has approved its enhanced programme of works for 2026/27, backed by several million pounds of investment in flood prevention and resilience measures across the county. This includes £775,000 for River Parrett dredging and maintenance, £425,000 for natural flood management through the Hills to Levels programme, and £350,000 for enhanced gully clearing, alongside £150,000 for drain jetting.

**Somerset Council Amalgamates Housing Models:** Somerset Council has approved plans to bring its two housing management models into a single system, transferring all landlord functions into its arm's length company, Homes in Somerset. The change will see around 9,700 council homes managed under one structure, with the council retaining ownership of the housing stock and responsibility for the Housing Revenue Account. The move is intended to reduce duplication, improve consistency for tenants and deliver financial efficiencies, with early estimates suggesting potential savings of around £3.5 million per year over time.

**Somerset Council Officer Response to NPPF Consultation:** Somerset Council has submitted an officer response to the Government's consultation on proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework. The response supports elements such as a clearer plan-led system, increased housing delivery and the introduction of spatial development strategies, while also identifying a number of areas where amendments are sought. These include concerns about the deliverability of the proposed 30-month timetable for local plans, the capacity required to produce supporting evidence, and the application of national policies in large rural areas. The submission also raises points relating to housing delivery, climate and flood risk policy, and the role of local decision-making within the planning system.

**New phonenumber for residents struggling to afford the increasing cost of oil:** Somerset Council has launched a dedicated phonenumber to support residents struggling with the rising cost of heating oil, delivered in partnership with Citizens Advice Somerset. The service allows residents in need of financial assistance to call a freephone number, 0808 278 7842, and request support from the Household Support team. The initiative is funded through the Household Support Fund as part of the Help Through Winter programme, with additional support also available through the council's Help4All scheme and community hubs network.

**Crisis and Resilience Fund:** Somerset Council has approved plans to deliver the Government's new Crisis and Resilience Fund, a three-year programme running from April 2026 to March 2029 aimed at supporting households facing financial hardship. The council will receive £21.5 million over the period, with £7.2 million allocated in each of the first two years and £7.1 million in the final year. The fund will provide immediate financial support for essentials such as food, energy and housing costs, alongside longer-term measures including debt advice, benefit checks and employment support. Delivery will be carried out in partnership with voluntary and community organisations, with a focus on both crisis response and building long-term financial resilience.

**New Electoral Boundaries Agreed for Somerset:** The Local Government Boundary Commission has published its final recommendations for new electoral arrangements in Somerset, reducing the number of councillors from 110 to 96. The new structure will include 90 single-councillor divisions and three two-councillor divisions, designed to ensure each councillor represents a similar number of electors and that the council can operate effectively. The recommendations will take effect once approved by Parliament and are expected to be in place for the May 2027 elections.

**Somerset Health & Wellbeing Survey:** Somerset Council's Public Health team has launched a new survey to gather residents' views on health and wellbeing priorities across the county. The survey aims to inform future service planning, building on previous feedback which has shaped areas such as smoking cessation and healthy eating support. You can take part in the consultation by **27<sup>th</sup> April** here : <https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/public-health/somerset-health-wellbeing-survey/>

Cllr Cavill had nothing to add to Cllr Fothergill's report.

## **276/25 Reports, including recent developments, matters to consider and decisions to be made:**

### **a) Bathpool Flood Warden: Mr Kevin Perry.**

Mr Perry updated on the following:

March was a drier month and there is therefore not much to report. Water is still lying behind Bridgwater Road - too low for the discharge point. Safety barriers have been put in place at 5 Yew Tree Lane where the bank has fallen into river. Insurance claim has been agreed and work will take place to reinstate the bank. It isn't clear if a permit from the EA will be needed; confirmation awaited.

The SRA have agreed £150k for pump installation at Bathpool to hopefully speed up the delivery of the pumps.

Flood Drop In Session, organised as part of the section 19 flood investigation will take place at the BACH on 30th April. The SRA, EA and Wessex Water will be in attendance. Clerk to arrange for flyers to be printed for Mr Perry to deliver. Information is already available on the website and social media about the event.

Flood Cafes are also scheduled to take place in May, June and July at the BACH for people to come along and chat.

Clerk to request an update from the EA on the permanent pump installation.

### **b) GDPR update:**

No update

### **c) Communications Report**

Parish Council Website

- Regular updates to Highways (including road closures), Planning, Finance and Parish Council carried out.

Parish Council Facebook Page:

- Page likes/followers now at 1,622
- 92.8K views
- Posts added sharing news items that are added to the website.

Monkton Matters

- Page likes / followers now at 635
- 13 new articles added in January
- Articles on Monkton Matters being shared on Monkton Matters Facebook page to pull users to the website.
- 25.4K views
- Business directory has details of 27 businesses so far.

Community Fridge/Community Garden Facebook Page:

- Page likes /followers 1443
- 10.2K views

Maidenbrook Country Park Facebook Page

- Page likes/followers now at 1112
- 37K views

HYPE

- Page likes/followers – 36
- 118 views

Village News Contribution

- Developed by the Clerk's

Noticeboard Updates

- Noticeboards are updated by Jess on a regular basis

### **d) West Monkton Village Hall Management Committee**

In Ian Pitchfork's absence, Clerk relayed an update provided in advance of the meeting.

Update price for the refurbishment of the Village Hall noticeboards has been obtained, this includes the cork board interior and the toughened glass for the doors. Total cost for both noticeboards now £415.00.

At the last meeting Ian mentioned that RNID and NHS were looking to set up a drop-in centre for issues with hearing/hearing aids.

Unfortunately, they have decided not to go ahead at this time and stick with the centre at Priorswood. Somerset Council have finally agreed formally to sell the over-flow carpark to the hall. Contract and conveyancing are being worked on by our/their solicitors. There has still been no volunteers come forward for the Committee. Assistant Clerk Community to arrange another Facebook post to attract volunteers.

### **e) The Spital Trust: Cllr Ellis to report.**

Cllr Ellis reported an issue with the chain link fence adjacent to the allotments. Chair and Clerk to take a look.

**f) Any other events at which WMPC was represented;**

Assistant Clerk Community reported that she attended the Youth Alliance Day. Information about funding for capital projects from the National Youth Agency was outlined which may be useful for future PC projects.

**g) Consultations;**

No consultations

**Public Question Time**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

**277/25 Planning**

**a) To consider any planning applications (listed on Somerset Council website)**

Cllr Cavill, as a member of the Somerset West Planning Committee did not take part in discussions of the planning applications to avoid fettering his discretion.

48/26/0008/CQI: Application for Prior Approval for proposed change of use from agricultural building to 1 No. dwelling house (Class C3) and associated building operations at Barn A Hyde Farmhouse, Hyde Lane, Bathpool  
Application for prior approval refused prior to PC meeting.

38/26/0070: Installation of 24 No. marker plinths along the Taunton and Bridgwater Canal, Taunton  
The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

48/26/0007 Erection of care home (use Class C2) with car parking, landscaping and associated works at Heathfield Park, Coker Close, Bathpool;

Comments approved:

Upon receiving information and plans about this proposal, the Parish Council held an open public session to share details of the proposal and gather feedback. The feedback received has informed the Parish Council comments below.

The Parish Council strongly objects to the granting of permission for the following reasons:

Notification of planning application

- No site notices have been displayed at the site of the proposal.
- Insufficient opportunity has been given for people impacted by the proposal to make comments / observations. In addition to no site notices being displayed, some properties in Roys Place, with gardens backing onto the proposed site, have not received notification of the application.

Parking

- Insufficient parking is proposed for the number of staff, visitors and residents.
- Insufficient disabled parking spaces are proposed.
- Supporting information suggests that the care home will provide 75 full time equivalent members of staff across 24 hours of operation, it is possible that there will be 25 members of staff on site at any time. If a travel plan is put in place and staff are not permitted to park on site, it is likely that the staff members will park on nearby streets.
- There is a local issue of insufficient parking being available in the Heathfield Gardens estate that is adjacent to the proposal. The proposed care home will exacerbate these issues.
- Consideration could be given to the provision of an underground car park to enable the provision of more parking spaces on site.

Travel Plan / Transport Links

- It is stated in the supporting information that there are good transport links and bus routes in the area. The number 12 bus is the only service that operates in the area and it only runs until lunchtime each day and not 7 days a week.
- Clarification of the traffic count included in the supporting information is also requested. The low numbers would suggest that the data is from Coker Close, and not from Hardys Road from where all access to the Care Home will be provided. The data indicates that the road has low traffic volumes; this is not the case.

Highway Safety

- Insufficient parking onsite will lead to vehicles being parked on Coker Close, Hardys Road and other estate roads, reducing visibility and impacting on highway safety.
- Increased parking on estate roads will make it difficult or not possible for refuse and emergency vehicles to access / drive through the estate.

Style / Design

- The proposed design is not in keeping with the local area – no buildings of a similar design exist in proximity to the proposal.

- The proposed flat roof is not in keeping with other buildings in the area. A pitched roof would be more in keeping and provide the opportunity for climate initiatives like solar panels.
- The proposed building is too high and not sympathetic to the houses located on the other side of the Coker Close or the wider area. The proposal is much bigger than the previously proposed building and will block natural light and views for properties in Coker Close, Bishops Close and Roys Place.
- The proposed building will be located in a prominent position on the entrance to the Heathfield Gardens estate, the design should therefore be sympathetic to the existing development.
- Further land is allocated for employment use off of the next A38 roundabout, the Parish Council suggests that this proposal would be better suited to that location where it isn't immediately adjacent to houses.
- The size of the proposed garden / outdoor space for care home residents isn't sufficient for the number of residents.
- The proposed position of the sub-station on site should be re-considered so that it is more sympathetic to neighbouring properties.

#### Infrastructure

- Following the flood and sewerage issues experienced locally in Bathpool in January 2026, it is clear that there isn't currently capacity in the local sewerage network for the existing properties, this proposal will exacerbate these issues. The planned upgrade to this infrastructure should take place prior to this proposal is built / operational.
- The A38 adjacent to the proposed site of the care home often becomes overwhelmed during rush hour and when the motorway is closed. This will make access to the care home difficult for staff, emergency vehicles and residents.
- It isn't clear from the application if a doctor will be based at the care home or if a local doctor will be called upon when required. The local doctors' surgeries are oversubscribed and may not have the capacity to attend.

In summary, the Parish Council objects to the granting of permission for the reasons outlined above. The Parish Council welcomes proposals that enable local employment opportunities but not at a detriment to the local area and that impacts the local community so greatly.

The Parish Council and local community would be supportive of a proposal that is smaller with a design that is more in keeping with the local area, similar to the design previously submitted for the site.

*Cllr Cavill declared a prejudicial interest and left meeting at 7.28pm*

48/26/0009: Erection of 2 No. replacement dwellings utilising fallback position (1 No. self-build) at buildings A and E, Hill Farm, Hill Farm Road, West Monkton.

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission and made the following comments:

- To comply with the WM & CF Neighbourhood Plan policies, measures for rainwater capture should be included and any lighting should be downlit and LED.
- The proposal should incorporate bird and bat boxes and bee bricks where possible.

*Cllr Cavill returned to the meeting.*

48/26/0014/T: Notification to carry out management works (crown-reduction) to one yew tree and one cherry plum within West Monkton Conservation Area at St Augustines Church, Church Hill, West Monkton

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

**b) To note that Planning decisions made are available on Somerset Council website filed under the application number.**

Noted

#### **278/25 Proposed New Development**

**a) Land East of Dosters Lane; consider request from COWMS to support commissioning of consultant to review proposed access to the development prior to a planning application being submitted (R)**

Tony Laurence, Chair of COWMS attended the meeting and outlined a request for support from the Parish Council with commissioning a consultant to review the proposed access to the Dosters Lane development prior to the submission of a planning application.

A discussion followed about the request, the extent of the proposed review, the timing of it and the links with the MH2 proposal. Although the Parish Council supported the view of COWMS that an alternative access point to the proposed Dosters Lane development is preferred, consideration of any financial support would be deferred until the initial response from the consultant is received.

Clerk to request a copy of the consultation feedback from Alder King.

Item to be added an agenda for a future PC meeting when the initial advice is received from the consultant.

**b) Langaller Farmhouse; to receive feedback from vision presentation given at CSM PC meeting on 13th April.**

A copy of the slides presented at the CSM PC meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> April were shared on screen.

It was noted that the proposed development is for entirely employment including light industrial units, office units and a petrol / service station.

A planning application is expected to be submitted in the coming months and the PC will consider and make comments when a notification is received.

## **279/25 Finance / End of Year**

### **a) Finance Report**

#### **i. Quotations and Updates:**

Cllr Cavill provided an update on the pitch and handover from the Developers to Somerset Council which is progressing.

Concern was raised about the security of the pitch. Clerk to liaise with the developer about installing a retractable bollard.

Cllr Chapman to obtain a price from the MH1 public open space contractors to cut the pitch and collect the grass. Cllr Gage to then cut the grass on a regular basis thereafter using the PC ride on lawn mower.

#### Football Posts @ Bridgwater Road Pitch

9 v 9 size pitch – recommended size of goals – 16 x 7ft.

Net World Sports: £809.99 for pair

16 x 7 FORZA Steel76 Socketed Football Goal | Net World Sports

Forza: £809.99 for pair

16 x 7 FORZA Steel76 Socketed Football Goal | FORZA UK

It was resolved to purchase a pair of goals from Forza. Payment from Public Open Space maintenance cost code. Proposed by Cllr Munson, seconded by Cllr Gage and agreed with all in favour.

#### Bus shelter repairs

Quote delayed - to follow at the next meeting.

#### Booking system for Sports Pitches

Scribe booking software: £279.00 initial fee and then £34.00 per month (links with accounting system / invoicing)

Lemon Booking software: £595.00 per year (doesn't link with accounting system to link invoicing).

Resolution to proceed with booking system from Scribe. Proposed by Cllr C Cronshaw, seconded by Cllr Munson and agreed with all in favour.

#### Car Park at Sports Pitches

As per specification.

Forte Trailscapes (Pump Track contractor): £43,184.08 + VAT

Monkton Building and Developments: £47,393.66 + VAT

Brian Keal: £18,625.49 (Labour only (includes drainage below)). Materials in region of £31k. Total for car park and drainage (below): £49,625.49.

Ian Webber: To follow

Drainage at Sports Pitches

As per specification

Monkton Building and Development: £8280.77 + VAT

Forte Trailscapes (Pump track contractor): £8746.67 +VAT

Brian Keal: See above.

Resolution to delegate agreement of quotation to Clerk, Chair and Vice Chair. Brian Keal to be appointed unless quotation from Ian Webber is lower. Proposed by Cllr Besley, seconded by Cllr C Cronshaw and agreed with all in favour.

#### Rugby Post installation at Sports Pitches

Consideration of quotations deferred.

#### Container for pump track

Lions Containers (company used for the prompt delivery of the other container at the sports pitches)

40' Used Container - \*\*Complete with 2 year guarantee and guaranteed buyback\*\* £2,350.00 + VAT

40' Crane Lorry Delivery & Off-Load - Deliveries can take place Monday - Friday, 8am - 6pm

20' Used Container - £1995.00 + VAT

Cleveland Containers (company used for 30ft containers at the CP)

40' Used container: £1550.00 Transport: £795.00 Total: £2345.00 + VAT

20' Used container: £1295.00 Transport: £795.00 Total: £2090.00 + VAT

CFS Shipping Containers  
Quote awaited.

Resolution to proceed with 40ft container from Lions Containers. Proposed by Cllr Munson, seconded by Cllr Besley and agreed with all in favour. Site meeting to take place to agree position of container.

#### Community Garden Picnic Bench (grant funded)

Option 1 – Futurform £175.00 + VAT

<https://www.futurform.co.uk/8-seat-picnic-bench-pressure-treated-green-timber>

Option 2: Oakworld £279.00

[https://www.oakworld.co.uk/shop/outdoor/rattan-planters-accessories/picnic-benches/timber-deluxe-picnic-table-large/?gad\\_source=1&gad\\_campaignid=12618202513&gbraid=0AAAAAD6tWvww67Lj0O15pH8cupSib4Cny&gclid=Cj0KCCQjwj470BhCmARIsAF5wUEHbTcWp\\_yX1hV9jW\\_TL3PHnDplluXspDZZPhTekJQvhHpQoE\\_2GTOMaAnaGEALw\\_wcB](https://www.oakworld.co.uk/shop/outdoor/rattan-planters-accessories/picnic-benches/timber-deluxe-picnic-table-large/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=12618202513&gbraid=0AAAAAD6tWvww67Lj0O15pH8cupSib4Cny&gclid=Cj0KCCQjwj470BhCmARIsAF5wUEHbTcWp_yX1hV9jW_TL3PHnDplluXspDZZPhTekJQvhHpQoE_2GTOMaAnaGEALw_wcB)

Resolution to proceed with purchase of one bench from Oakworld. Proposed by Cllr C Cronshaw, seconded by Cllr Chapman and agreed with all in favour.

#### Access to Work Equipment for Assistant Clerk

Department of Work and Pensions have agreed an access to work grant to fund equipment for Kate to support her return to work including Electric Standing Desk, Stand Up Stool, 2 x chairs (one for home and one for work). Total cost of equipment is £3708.89. Parish Council to purchase equipment to this value and then be reimbursed.

Resolution to purchase equipment to the value of £3708.89. Proposed by Cllr C Cronshaw, seconded by Cllr Ellis and agreed with all in favour.

## **ii. Receipts and Payments**

Information relating to named, or otherwise identifiable, individuals is confidential and has been redacted in documents placed in the public domain.

### **Receipts**

#### Interest

Lloyds (Monthly)	£4.45
Nationwide (Monthly)	£99.17
PSDF (Monthly)	£1993.74
Somerset West Lottery (Community Fridge grant)	£12.50
Lottery (Year 2 50% Revenue)	£19266.50
Somerset Community Foundation (Stronger Communities Sports Pitch grant)	£3000.00
Funfest stalls x 5	£125.00
Somerset Rivers Authority (Blundells Lane Flood Alleviation Project grant)	£1000.00
Bingo event proceeds	
(Repay float)	£70.00
(Poppy of Honour donations)	£37.65
National Lottery Awards For All (HYPE grant funding)	£20000.00

## Payments

Payee	Net	Vat	Total	How paid	Cost Centre	Cost Code
<b>To authorise payment of:</b>						
Employee pension contributions	240.18	No vat	240.18	d-d	Salaries and expenses	Pension
	50.67	No vat	50.67	d-d	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer Coordinator
Employer pension contributions	180.14	No vat	180.14	d-d	Salaries and expenses	Pension
	38.01	No vat	38.01	d-d	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer Coordinator
A Shepherd Clerks salary SCP37		No vat		bacs	Salaries and expenses	Salaries
		No vat		Bacs	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Administration
K Welsh assistant clerk-community salary SCP 29		No vat		Bacs	Salaries and expenses	Salaries
J Cox Admin and Events Assistant salary SCP 3		No vat		Bacs	Salaries and expenses	Salaries
C Sully Volunteer Coordinator salary SCP 21		No Vat		Bacs	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer Coordinator
S Rolls Parish Lengthsman salary SCP 29 (37.75 hours)		No Vat		Bacs	Salaries and expenses	Salaries
HMRC Tax and NI Contributions	6120.65	No vat	6120.65	bacs	Salaries and expenses	Salaries
A Shepherd homeworkers allowance	27.00	No vat	27.00	Bacs	Salaries and expenses	Expenses
K Welsh homeworkers allowance	27.00	No vat	27.00	Bacs	Salaries and expenses	Expenses
Business all about you Climate Initiative PR WMPC 64	275.00	No vat	275.00	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	Environment / Community
QSSIT regular maintenance / monthly sub	8.51	1.70	10.21	bacs	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
Expenses claim A Shepherd (Travel)	44.35	No vat	44.35	Bacs	Salary and expenses	Expenses
Expenses claim K Welsh (Travel)	43.20	No vat	43.20	Bacs	Salary and expenses	Expenses
Expenses claim S Rolls (Fertiliser)	16.99	No vat	16.99	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	POS maintenance
(Travel)	25.43		25.43		Salaries and Expenses	Expenses
SLCC (Year 1 Level 5 Comm Governance Training)	3000.00	No vat	3000.00	Bacs	General Administration	Training
Expenses Claim A Hall (Travel)	67.50	No vat	67.50	Bacs	Salaries and expenses	Expenses
Expenses Claim J Cox (Milk for Youth Café)	4.95	No vat	4.95	Bacs	Youth and Community	Youth provision
	4.95		4.95			
Expenses Claim M Cooper (Youth café sundries)	1.98	No vat	1.98	Bacs	Youth and Community	Youth provision
Expenses Claim C Sully (Padlock / key cutting)	22.86	No vat	22.86	Bacs	Country Park	Country Park
(Refreshments for lottery open week)	5.00		5.00		MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer costs

Payee	Net	Vat	Total	How paid	Cost Centre	Cost Code
Bridgwater Mowers (Ride on lawn mower repair / callout)	48.00	9.60	57.60	Bacs	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Servicing Costs
Somerset Council (Dog bin emptying Q4)	929.50	185.90	1115.40	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	POS maintenance
Wybone Limited (7 dual waste bins for MH1)	3364.93	672.99	4037.92	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	MH1
Scribe (2026 renewal)	948.00	189.60	1137.60	Bacs	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
The Wristband Company (POH wristbands)	260.00	52.00	312.00	Bacs	Country Park	Poppy of Honour
Travis Perkins (Geotextile for Country Park pathways)	255.00	51.00	306.00	Bacs		
Optev (Sports pitch grass cutting equipment)	2000.00	400.00	2400.00	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	Stronger Communities Grant
Griffin Toilet Hire (Gully sucking)	1000.00	200.00	1200.00	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	Off carriageway maintenance
Travis Perkins (Sports pitch toilet hire)	290.00	58.00	348.00	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	Sports Pitches
Somerset Timber Services Limited (CP benches)	700.00	140.00	840.00	Bacs		
NPower (Electric supply telephone box)	90.09	4.50	94.59	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	POS maintenance
Expenses Claim A Chapman (Community Garden expenses)	36.55	No vat	36.55	Bacs	Youth and Community	Community Garden
Sonic Fireworks (Shindig fireworks balance)	2296.88	459.37	2756.25	Bacs	Youth and Community	Community Events
Cutting Edge Coaching (Youth café support)	270.00	No vat	270.00	Bacs	Youth and Community	Youth Provision
Castle Hill Quarry Co Ltd (Stone for CP Pathways)	1221.73	244.34	1466.07	Bacs	MCP Lottery Project	Pathways
Castle Hill Quarry Co Ltd (Stone for CP Pathways)	1251.83	250.37	1502.20	Bacs	MCP Lottery Project	Pathways
Castle Hill Quarry Co Ltd (Stone for CP Pathways)	936.92	187.38	1124.30	Bacs	MCP Lottery Project	Pathways
Castle Hill Quarry Co Ltd (Stone for PC Pathways)	396.01	79.20	475.21	Bacs	MCP Lottery Project	Pathways
Parc Ponies Limited (Deposit for Donkeys for Funfest)	50.00	10.00	60.00	Bacs	Youth and Community	Funfest
Weetree Wholesale Nurseries (Tree stakes for Sports Pitches)	147.00	29.40	176.40	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	Sports Pitches
Travis Perkins (Post crete for bin installation)	183.00	36.60	219.60	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	POS maintenance
Travis Perkins (Geotextile for CP pathways)	220.65	44.13	264.78	Bacs	MCP Lottery Project	Pathways
Forte Trailscapes (Invoice 2 - 40% of total Pump Track)	24000.00	4800.00	28800.00	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	Sports Pitches
Somerset Council (Premises licence annual fee for BACH)	180.00	No vat	180.00	Bacs	BACH	Licenses / subscription
Expenses Claim B Gage (Grass cutting)	100.00	No vat	100.00	Bacs	Environmental / Open Spaces	POS Maintenance
(Travel)	31.95		31.95		Salaries and Expenses	Expenses
SALC (Affiliation Fee)	1812.05	No vat	1812.05	Bacs	General Administration	Subscriptions and Affiliations

Payee	Net	Vat	Total	How paid	Cost Centre	Cost Code
Expenses Claim S Haskins	28.75	No vat	28.75	Bacs	Salaries and Expenses	Expenses
<b>To note payment of:</b>						
<b>Direct Debit</b>						
Invoice Tailored Auto Enrolment 28/3/2026 (Pension administration)	16.80	3.36	20.16	DD PAID	Salary and Expenses	Pension
Invoice SWS 118833 2/4/2026 maintain gsuite	133.00	26.60	159.60	DD PAID	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
Invoice SWS 118888 20/3/2026 MCP website. Hosting monthly plan	70.00	14.00	84.00	DD PAID	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
Invoice SWS 118941 web-lite hosting (MM) and standard mailbox 20/3/2026	33.00	6.60	39.60	DD PAID	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
EMS (Card Payment System)	5.99	1.20	7.19	DD PAID	Youth and Community	Community Events
Somerset Web Services Inv 118942 (PC website hosting)	65.00	13.00	78.00	DD PAID	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
Somerset Web Services (Domain name renewal)	20.00	4.00	24.00	DD Paid	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
Crown Gas and Power (Electric CP)	89.71	4.49	94.20	DD PAID	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer Office Costs
Somerset Web Services (Wordfence premium (annual charge) PC website.	300.00	60.00	360.00	DD Paid	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
<b>Debit Card</b>						
Canva (Subscription)	27.00 27.00	No vat	27.00 27.00	Deb Cd Paid	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
More and Co (Volunteer Refreshments)	5.86 5.86 5.86 5.86 5.86	No vat	5.86 5.86 5.86 5.86 5.86	Deb Cd Paid	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer costs
Three (Mobile phone contract)	46.68	9.34	56.02	Deb Cd Paid	IT and Communications	IT and Communications
Amazon (Stationery)	17.48	3.50	20.98	Deb Cd Paid	General Administration	Sundry Admin
Amazon (MCP Tools and Equipment)	29.16	5.83	34.99	Deb Cd Paid	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Tools and Equipment
Amazon (Youth café items)	33.32	6.67	39.99	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Café
Amazon (Country Park office costs) (BACH Sundries)	55.82 7.48	11.16 1.50	66.98 8.98	Deb Cd Paid	MCP Lottery Funded Project BACH	Office costs Warm Hub Grant
(CP Tools and Equipment)	33.17	6.63	39.80		MCP Lottery Funded Project	Tools and Equipment

Payee	Net	Vat	Total	How paid	Cost Centre	Cost Code
(CP Volunteer office costs)	11.07	2.22	13.29		MCP Lottery Funded Project	Office costs
(Event items)	14.28	2.86	17.14		Youth and Community	Youth and Community General
Amazon (BACH sundries)	24.17	4.83	29.00	Deb Cd Paid	BACH	Warm Hub Grant
Aldi (Milk for BACH)	3.30	No vat	3.30	Deb Cd Paid	BACH	Warm Hub Grant
Booker (Sundries for Warm Hub)	148.61	4.23	152.84	Deb Cd Paid	BACH	Warm Hub Grant
Sign Trade Supplies (POS sign fixings)	67.88	13.57	81.45	Deb Cd Paid	Environmental / Open Spaces	POS maintenance
Co-Op Food (Youth café sundries)	1.25	No vat	1.25	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Café
Asda (Lottery open week refreshments)	13.04	No vat	13.04	Deb Cd Paid	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer Costs
Amazon (BACH sundries)	8.97	1.80	10.77	Deb Cd Paid	BACH	Warm Hub Grant
Amazon (Community Garden sundries)	10.82	2.17	12.99	Deb Cd Paid	BACH	Warm Hub Grant
Asda (Youth Café items)	19.50	0.00	19.50	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Café
(APM refreshments)	83.14		83.14		Youth and Community	Youth and Community General
(Community Event items)	119.10		119.10		Youth and Community	Community Events
Somerset Conference (Volunteer coordinator)	20.00	No vat	20.00	Deb Cd Paid	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Training
TLS Security (Sports Pitch padlocks)	121.41	22.28	145.69	Deb Cd Paid	Environmental / Open Spaces	Sports Pitches
Amazon (Stationery)	40.02	8.00	48.02	Deb Cd Paid	General Administration	Sundry Admin
Amazon (No dog signs)	6.08	1.22	7.30	Deb Cd Paid	Environmental / Open Spaces	POS Maintenance
Showing Scene (POH stand)	176.00	No vat	176.00	Deb Cd Paid	Country Park	Poppy of Honour
Ebay (Community Event benches)	458.52	No vat	458.52	Deb Cd Paid	Environmental / Open Spaces	Environment / Community
Amazon (Youth café equipment)	6.24	1.25	7.49	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Café
Amazon (Youth café equipment)	13.32	2.67	15.99	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Café
Amazon (Litter Picking)	46.50	9.30	55.80	Deb Cd Paid	Environmental / Open Spaces	POS Maintenance
Ecology Training UK Limited (Volunteer Coordinator Training)	150.00	30.00	180.00	Deb Cd Paid	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Training
Big Bear promo (Community event giveaway)	285.00	57.00	342.00	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth and Community General
Amazon (Community Garden compost)	11.48	2.30	13.78	Deb Cd Paid	BACH	Warm Hub Grant
Amazon (Stationery)	16.24	3.25	19.49	Deb Cd Paid	General Administration	Sundry Admin
Amazon (BACH sundries)	4.16	0.83	4.99	Deb Cd Paid	BACH	Warm Hub Grant
(Stationery)	8.32	1.67	9.99		General Administration	Sundry Admin
(Stationery)	6.24	1.25	7.49		General Administration	Sundry Admin
Amazon (Youth café equipment)	38.88	7.79	46.67	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Cafe
Plants for Ponds (Pond bank plants)	150.79	30.16	180.95	Deb Cd Paid	Country Park	Wessex Water Grant

Payee	Net	Vat	Total	How paid	Cost Centre	Cost Code
Naturescape Wildflowers LLP (Pond bank plants)	216.67	43.32	259.99	Deb Cd Paid	Country Park	Wessex Water Grant
Amazon (Community Garden compost)	8.82	1.77	10.59	Deb Cd Paid	BACH	Warm Hub Grant
Amazon (Community Garden compost)	10.97	2.19	13.16	Deb Cd Paid	BACH	Warm Hub Grant
Amazon (Litter picking hoops)	58.20	11.70	69.90	Deb Cd Paid	Environmental / Open Spaces	POS Maintenance
Asda (Easter egg hunt items)	74.50	No vat	74.50	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Community Events
Ebay (Community event bench)	124.06	No vat	124.06	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Community Events
Sainsburys Petrol (Mower fuel)	23.80	4.76	28.56	Deb Cd Paid	Country Park	Country Park
Monkton Elm Garden Centre (Community Garden compost)	22.48	4.49	26.97	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Community Garden
Co-Op Food (Youth Café milk)	6.30	No vat	6.30	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Cafe
Co-Op Food (Youth Café milk)	4.95	No vat	4.95	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Cafe
Imprints Taunton (Volunteer jackets)	620.20	124.04	744.24	Deb Cd Paid	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer jackets / uniforms
Amazon (CP tools and equipment)	8.29	1.66	9.95	Deb Cd Paid	MCP Lottery funded project	Tools and Equipment
Asda (Community Event items)	7.35	0.00	7.35	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Community Events
(Youth café items)	26.02		26.02		Youth and Community	Youth Cafe
Amazon (Youth café items)	12.65	2.53	15.18	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Café
(Stationery)	1.60	0.32	1.92		General Administration	Sundry Admin
(CP Signage)	23.72	4.74	28.46		MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer Office Costs
TLS Security (CP key cutting)	29.30	5.86	35.16	Deb Cd Paid	Country Park	Country Park
Co-Op Food (Youth Café milk)	4.95	No vat	4.95	Deb Cd Paid	Youth and Community	Youth Cafe
<b>BACS</b>						
Event Insurance	180.00	No vat	180.00	Bacs Paid	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Insurance
Arts Taunton (HYPE sessions)	703.50	No vat	703.50	Bacs paid	Youth and Community	LCN Youth SALC funding
KS Cleaning Services (CP Cleaning)	54.00	No vat	54.00	Bacs Paid	MCP Lottery Funded Project	Volunteer Office Costs
The Oak Partnership (Solar Panels grant part payment)	4872.60	No vat	4872.60	Bacs Paid	BACH	Solar Panels
KS Cleaning Services (BACH Cleaning)	171.00	No vat	171.00	Bacs Paid	BACH	Cleaning Services
Somerset Youth Theatre CIC (Hype workshops)	692.15	No vat	692.15	Bacs Paid	Youth and Community	LCN Youth SALC funding
Cabot Learning Federation (Young Person Grant (2 <sup>nd</sup> part of payment)	316.00	No vat	316.00	Bacs Paid	BACH	Young Person Sponsorship

Any other invoices received before the next meeting will be added. Payments by bacs wherever possible.

Resolution: to authorise payments and note payments made during the month described above and resolution to pay final invoice for CP Pathways when received from Brian Keal.

Proposed by Cllr Cavill, seconded by Cllr Chapman and agreed with all in favour.

### **Transfer between accounts / budget lines**

£726.45 from BACH to PC Treasurer Account (Warm hub grant spend)

### **b) Budgeting and Summary Report to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026**

The budgeting report to 31<sup>st</sup> March was shared in advance of the meeting and the contents of the reports were noted. Clerk provided a brief summary of the year end position and confirmed that the Audit Working Party will review the year end accounts in detail at its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> April. The files / accounts are being prepared for Internal Audit.

### **c) Approval of Asset Register to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.**

The updated Asset Register to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 was circulated in advance of the meeting and shared on screen. It was resolved to approve the Asset Register. Proposed by Cllr Chapman, seconded by Cllr D Cronshaw and agreed with all in favour.

### **d) Approval of reserves balances at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026**

A report confirming the reserves balances at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 was circulated in advance of the meeting and shared on screen. Clerk provided a summary of the reserves. The reserves balances were approved.

### **e) Consider application for grant funding for young person**

An application for grant funding for a young person for school uniform was circulated in advance of the meeting. Clerk provided a summary. It was resolved to approve the application for £89.80 for school uniform. Proposed by Cllr Chapman, seconded by Cllr D Cronshaw and agreed with all in favour.

### **f) Approval of 2025/26 Annual Report**

The final version of the 2025/26 Annual Report was circulated in advance of the meeting. It was resolved to approve the 2025/26 Annual Report. Proposed by Cllr Ellis, seconded by Cllr D Cronshaw and agreed with all in favour.

### **280/25 Projects**

#### **a) Hyde Park Sports Ground; feedback from Sports Pitch Committee meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March, update on works on site, consider movement of rugby pitch (and lighting column positions)**

The draft minutes from the Sports Pitch Committee Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March were circulated with the papers.

It was noted that tree planting at the pitches had taken place last week and at the weekend. A watering schedule is now needed for watering twice a week. Assistant Clerk Community to arrange a WhatsApp group. Cllr Besley confirmed that he is happy for the water bowser to be refilled from Prockters Farm. Cllr Haskins to set up submersible pump with electric generator to aid watering. Cllr Gage provided an update on the pump track works. Works are progressing well with tarmac taking place this week and once this is complete work will commence on the track through the dog walking area. Landscaping around the pump track is also needed and the fencing needs to be erected. It is expected that the track will be open in around 6-7 weeks.

Replacement of the gate into the dog walking area was discussed. The option of a kissing gate with a space for bikes / scooters to go through. Cllr Gage to look at options.

Clerk raised the sign that will be placed in the pump track. The sign needs a name for the track. It was agreed that the track would be called "Hyde Park Pump Track".

The future ground maintenance of the pump track was discussed. Clerk to research lawnmowers for consideration at a future meeting.

Clerk outlined a quotation received for two handrails across the culvert walls. The £590.00 quotation was accepted. Proposed by Cllr Besley, seconded by Cllr C Cronshaw and agreed with all in favour.

The possible movement of the rugby pitch now that bund has been removed was discussed. It was agreed to keep the rugby pitch and the lighting column positions in the current proposed / agreed position.

It was noted that a tidy on site, particularly along the track is needed once the floodlighting and pump track works are complete.

Cllr C Cronshaw asked if a grand opening of the sports pitches was planned. Clerk to add an item to the Sports Pitch Committee meeting agenda for discussion.

**b) Poppy of Honour; to consider and approve Memorandum of Understanding between the Parish Council and the Poppy of Honour Memorial Group**

The proposed Memorandum of Understanding was circulated in advance of the meeting and shared on screen. Subject to two identified amendments in section 2.2 the Memorandum of Understanding was approved. Proposed by Cllr C Cronshaw, seconded by Cllr Cavill and agreed with all in favour.

Cllr C Cronshaw confirmed that the Poppy of Honour will be going to the National Armed Forces Day at Aldershot. The updated schedule of events in 2026 will be shared at the next meeting. Clerk to add an item to the agenda.

Cllr C Cronshaw also reported that storage has been agreed for short periods in between events. Storage for longer gaps and after September needs to be confirmed.

**281/25 Community**

**a) Feedback from and to consider recommendations of the Events Working Group meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Assistant Clerk Community provided feedback from the Events Working Group meeting and updates on activity / arrangements that have been made since the meeting.

The focus is on the Shindig at the moment. A compere is still needed for the event.

It was agreed that limited parking would be made available at a charge of £3.00 per car and that the price for the cake / tea would be reduced from £5.00 to £4.00

**282/25 Assets**

**a) Country Park and Somerset Wood; update**

Candy Sully, CP Volunteer Coordinator provided an update including:

- Mowing at the Park is back on track – no issues are currently being experienced with the mower.
- Wildflower strips sown today.
- Willow tunnel resurrected.
- Pond plants planted.
- CCTV signs to be displayed around the pond and forest school areas.
- More signage needed regarding swimming / dogs in the pond.
- Spare trees from the sports pitches are being added to the nursery.
- Anti-social behaviour being experienced in the pond and forest school areas. Higher resolution cameras needed to identify individuals responsible.
- Mains water tap needs fixing.
- Silver birch needs replacing
- Disabled toilet needs to go back to the Sports Pitches
- Pathways work finishing on Sunday, some areas need tidying.
- The gilet jackets have been gratefully received by the volunteers, remainder to be collected.
- Benches will be delivered tomorrow.
- Noticeboard adaptations still needed.
- Hestercombe – activities, tag on and promote some of their events on website and Dyers Brook campsite working with activities at the park.
- A further Gazette article is coming up.

Cllr Cavill asked if up to £200.00 could be spend on a replacement silver birch tree of 10-12ft height. The expenditure was approved.

**283/25 Environment**

**a) Church Hill improvements**

Cllr Besley reported that he had requested comments from COWMS on any possible improvements, but a full response is awaited. Cllr Besley to follow up and Clerk to add an item to the agenda for the next PC meeting.

**284/25 Other matters for report only – items for discussion – no decision**

Cllr Chapman reported that further bird mouth fencing was down and needed to be repaired in Heathfield Gardens. One in Brittons Ash Green and one at Hob Close. POS maintenance contractor can repair, PC only required to fund the materials. Cllr Besley suggested the use of the retractable bollards delivered to the Country Park at the Bridgwater Road Football pitch.

**a) Items for next meeting agenda - by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April or Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Noted

**b) Dates to note over the next 14 days**

Noted

**285/25 Dates of forthcoming meetings:**

Parish Council:

Second Tuesday in the month (Business focused meeting)

2026: 12th May (Annual PC Meeting), 9th Jun, 14th Jul, 11th Aug, 8th Sept, 13th Oct, 10th Nov, 8th Dec.

Fourth Tuesday in the month (Community / project focused meeting)

2026: 28th Apr, 26th May, 23rd Jun, 28th Jul, 22nd Sept, 27th Oct, 24th Nov.

Audit Working Party: 24th April 2026 at 9.30am

Annual Parish Meeting: TBC March 2027 at 7pm

BACH Committee 5th June 2026 at 10am

Budget and Precept Working Group: November 2026 at 7pm

Sports Pitch Committee 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026 at 9.30am

Somerset Wood Joint Committee TBC

There being no further business to discussed, the meeting ended at 9.33pm



Signed Chairman:

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026