

ADOPTED

Minutes of the Meeting of West Monkton Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th September 2026 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Besley, Cavill, Chapman, C. Cronshaw, D. Cronshaw, Ellis, Gage, Haskins and Munson (from 7.05pm).

In attendance: Amy Shepherd, Clerk, Candy Sully, Volunteer Coordinator, Mr K Perry, Bathpool Flood Warden and one member of the public.

106/26 To receive any apologies (with reasons), introductions with responsibilities.

Apologies were received from David Fothergill, Somerset Council and Kate Welsh, Assistant Clerk Community.

107/26 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.

108/26 To adopt the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 11th August 2026

The minutes from the Meeting of the Parish Council on 11th August, having been previously circulated, were taken as read. It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 11th August, proposed by Cllr Gage, seconded by Cllr Chapman and agreed by show of hands.

109/26 To note Clerk's reports.

Clerk's Report:

Clerk highlighted that the a quotation has been received from Monkton Building for the installation of the Bridgwater Road Football pitch posts £2000 + VAT which has been approved by Clerk and Chair as agreed at the last meeting. Posts to be installed towards the end of the month and bollards. Position needs marking and bollards need moving from Country Park to the pitch. Cllr Haskins to arrange movement of bollards. Cllr Gage and Haskins to mark the position of the posts. Clerk to share dimensions.

General Admin:

- Reviewed AI summaries of PC minutes prior to publication.
- Liaised with Parish Lengthsman regarding required works.
- Developed NALC Council of the Year Nomination for approval.
- Wrote to Abri housing regarding anti-social behaviour in Beacon Close.
- Finalised SRA grant funding application for improvements on Gotton Lane, Hestercombe Road and Hob Lane.
- Reviewed overgrown hedges on Mead Way – all have been cut back but not all the way back.
- Hestercombe LCN Meeting on 16th September will be at the BACH, opportunity at the beginning of the meeting to showcase some of the PCs projects. Slides and display being prepared.

Finance / Payroll:

- Making payments / placing orders / accepting deliveries.
- Quotes for POH pavilion redesign / planning permission variation.
- Quotes for alternative Country Park mower.
- Managing / inputting Accounts using Scribe and updating paper account files.
- September payroll and finance reports.
- External audit enquiry.
- Risk Assessment updated to reflect new FSA compensation limit.
- Grant policy for young people updated to add £500 limit.

Highways:

- Reported potholes on Noahs Hill.
- Confirmed grit bin levels with Somerset Council for re-filling prior to winter.
- Liaised with Traffic Management regarding agreeing an additional SID location on Bridgwater Road. Indication that lighting column isn't adopted. Requested that this is double checked.
- Gully Sucking on School Road took place on 19th August. Gullies in bad condition / very blocked. Further day of gully sucking to be scheduled.
- Liaising with Redrow about the gate between the pathway and the end of School Road being replaced with bollards. Redrow have confirmed that a S38 audit has been instructed on all Redrow phases. As the replacement is shown on the plans the work will be carried out by Redrow – no indication of timescales given.

MH2

- Sought advice from Somerset Council on upcoming Parish boundary review.
- Followed up amended paperwork from August meeting with developers / planning officer.

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.

Country Park and Somerset Wood

- Lottery project evaluation report updates.
- Spend of remaining year 2 money.
- Year 2 Lottery Progress Report developed.

Sports Pitches

- Requested contractor to increase the height of the Hyde Lane gate.
- Liaised with Persimmon / utility contractors regarding utility and sewerage connections.
- Pump track routine inspections and log of inspections.
- Quote obtained for installation of bench anchors – locations to be marked for work to be carried out.
- Further sports pitch container ordered – delivery scheduled for 7th September.
- Toilet cleaning arrangements.
- Sports Pitch Committee meeting scheduled to take place on 15th September at 9.30am – focused on Pavilion design / requirements.
- Scaffolding poles delivered for CCTV.
- Successful grand opening on 9th August 2026 from 2pm.

BACH:

- Jess supporting with invoices.
- Accounts / scribe updates.
- Ant infestation – pest control services sought.
- Leak in men's toilets – emergency plumber attended.
- BACH Committee meeting scheduled to take place on 16th October at 10am.

Meetings last month:

1st August	Flower Show
2nd August	Flower Show tidy up
3rd August	Meeting re Tudor Park Crossing Point
4th August	Agenda run through meeting
5th August	MH2 Meeting
6th August	Team Meeting
9th August	Sports Ground Grand Opening
11th August	Meeting with the Environment Agency re Bathpool Pumps
	PC Meeting
12th August	Flood Cafe
13th August	Team Meeting
17th – 28th August	Annual Leave
31st August	Bank Holiday

Meetings this month:

1st September	Agenda run through meeting
3rd September	Team Meeting
4th September	Annual Leave
7th September	Container delivery at Sports Pitches
8th September	PC meeting
9th – 10th September	L5 Community Governance Study Days
11th September	Making AGAR digital training.
15th September	Sports Pitch Meeting
	Agenda run through meeting
16th September	Youth café support in Kate's absence
	Hestercombe LCN Meeting
17th September	Team Meeting
	Poppy of Honour Meeting
18th September	SLCC Branch Meeting in Minehead.
22nd September	PC Meeting
23rd September	NALC Climate Change event dry run
24th September	Team Meeting
	Events Meeting
27th September	Harvest Market
29th Sept – 2nd Oct	Annual Leave
30th September	NALC Rural Climate Change event (presenting).

Assistant Clerk's Report:

Community - General

- Responding to emails/messages
- Updating Communications Report
- Assistant Clerk's Report
- Creating AI Minute Overview/Checking full minutes
- Completing submission for NALC Award
- Contacting various contacts to look at using Heathfield Drive Hall as a Vaccination Clinic
- Supporting vulnerable elderly resident to attend Pain Café
- Contacted Jack Down re: Iron Anchor benches at Pump Track
- 2 x applications for Quantocks Partnership shared with Parish Council
- Submission of applications to Quantocks Partnership
- Reported broken drain on School Road to Somerset Council
- Liaised with Tony Brown (Volunteer) and Lengthsman re: removal of graffiti from areas in the parish and from the slide at Farriers Park.
- Discussion with Tony re: fencing near relief road (Hardy's Road)
- Reported issues to PCSOs and 101 re: Heavy traffic speeding on Greenway
- Email to QLP nominee to arrange meeting to complete nomination form
- Other applicant advised about new councillor roles in May 2027
- A resident in Furs Close emailed regarding concerns about the Brittons Ash Sports Pitch since a sign was erected. I spoke with the resident and reassured them that we will implement measures to prevent travellers from setting up camp there. She also questioned whose responsibility was it to replace the knee high fencing in her garden.

Grant Funding

- Applied for £10,000 grant from Somerset Community Foundation, Older Peoples Fund which will cover Seasonal Lunches/Health and Wellbeing Sessions/Equipment for Heathfield Hall/chair exercise classes/organised activities/plus funding for WMPC staff time
- Applied for funding for Mural Art Project from Hugo Burge Foundation

Community Groups

- Supporting Bereavement and Repair Cafes
- Weekly Community Café and supporting the Well-being Wednesday Sessions
- Planning of more structured Wellbeing Sessions in September with movement and meditation planned
- Supporting the Pain Café Sessions – pick up and drop off of new vulnerable attendee
- Contacted Somerset Council re: MORE (Nutrition Training and Support), one of our volunteers to attend training session in September
- Created new poster for pain cafe

Youth Work

- HYPE
 - Emailed Jackie, TYCA re: Sessions for HYPE (September to December)
 - Emailed Quantocks National Landscape re sessions at youth clubs
 - Contacted On Your Bike re: Sessions at NP
 - Contacted Go Create to organise September to December sessions for youth clubs
- Detached Youth Work
 - Organising/managing detached sessions at North Petherton, Creech and West Monkton (Summer Programme)
 - Brief Update on attendance at sessions
 - Hype Park Pump Track attendance between 14 to 20 young people at each session
 - CSM Rec Park attendance between 3 to 8 young people at each session
 - North Petherton Areas between 2 and 19 YP at each session
 - Contacted youth workers re: regular sessions at pump track from September until end October (Tuesdays 5.15pm to 7.15pm) starts 8th September
 - Reports received from detached youth workers
- Youth Café
 - Continuing to manage volunteers and staff at Youth Café
 - Summer Youth Café sessions every Wednesday between 12 and 4pm
 - Supporting young leader for the summer who is doing his hours for DofE
 - JUICE training session– Management Information System (free for one year)
 - Further set up of new management system
 - Creating new sessions/session plans using JUICE system
 - Meetings with JUICE system engineers to iron out teething issues
 - Met with Charlotte from 'She Skates' a local CIC company who has funding to provide sessions to the community and is putting together some ideas around offering free sessions at our Youth Café.

Other Volunteering

- Dealing with queries and concerns from volunteers as they arise.
- Contacted Margaret re: new volunteer driver (to discuss)
- New volunteer driver /companion application received/DBS
- Contact young person (NEET) re: volunteering, arranged to meet twice but didn't turn up
- Created Awards Evening letter and nomination forms

Events

- With Jess – created posters for Flower Show/Opening boards
- Ensuring all equipment was available for events
- Met with Josh to discuss Harvest Market
- Contacted Lucy Lawrence at Primary School re: Harvest songs by children at the school for the market
- Discussed location of Halloween with Josh and with Stuart – they have now decided to host their event at the Great Western Hotel, Taunton.

Forthcoming Events 2025/26

27th September – Harvest Produce Market (Josh)
6th October – BINGO at BACH
6th November – Remembrance Service at MCP
14th November – Swap Event

Meetings, Events and Groups

1/8/26 Flower and Produce Show
3/8/26 HYPE Meeting
3/8/26 Pain Café
4/8/26 Agenda Run Through Meeting
5/8/26 Summer Youth Café
6/8/26 Team Meeting
9/8/26 Grand Opening Hyde Park Sports Ground
10/8/26 Meeting Bethan @BACH
10/8/26 Pain Café
11/8/26 WMPC Meeting
12/8/26 Summer Youth Café
13/8/26 Team Meeting
17/8/26 Pain Café
19/8/26 Summer Youth Café
24/8/26 Pain Café
26/8/26 Summer Youth Café
27/8/26 Meeting with She Skates (Charlotte)
27/8/26 Meeting with Stuart Goble, QLP Nominee

110/26 Somerset Council report from Cllr Cavill

Cllr Cavill reported on the following:

Somerset Council Forecasts £29 Million Overspend: Somerset Council is forecasting an overall overspend of £29.1 million for 2026/27, just three months into the financial year. The Council's Quarter 1 report describes the position as a "matter of significant concern" and says the current level of expenditure is not financially sustainable. The largest pressures are in Children, Families and Education, forecast to overspend by £14.6 million, and Adult Services and Housing, by £11.8 million. Around £29 million of the pressures are expected to be ongoing, potentially increasing the Council's budget gap for 2027/28 from £58 million to around £87 million if they cannot be addressed.

£7 Million Children's Services Transformation Programme Approved: Somerset Council's Executive has approved spending of up to £7 million on the "My World, My Tomorrow" children's services transformation programme, which will be delivered with Newton Consulting Ltd. The programme aims to reduce the number of children unnecessarily entering care, increase in-house fostering capacity, improve placement stability and reduce reliance on expensive residential placements. The Council estimates the programme could deliver £28.4 million in cashable financial benefits by 2031/32, with savings expected to contribute towards the Council's budget from 2027/28.

Ofsted Improvement Plan: Somerset Council has set out its draft improvement plan following the Ofsted inspection which downgraded Children's services from 'Good' to 'Requires Improvement' in three of the four areas inspected. Actions include increasing frontline capacity to reduce social worker workloads, introducing a new 20-day assessment process, improving management oversight and tracking children missing education more accurately. The Council will also take action to reduce the use of inappropriate or unregistered children's homes and increase the number of children able to live in suitable, stable homes.

Best Value Improvement Plan Not Endorsed by Scrutiny: Somerset Council's cross-party Corporate and Strategic Scrutiny Committee has refused to endorse the Council's proposed Improvement and Assurance Framework in response to the Government's Best Value Notice, saying further information, clarity and assurance are needed. Members said the framework lacked clear, measurable outcomes, milestones and timescales, leaving them unable to judge whether sufficient action is being taken to reduce this year's forecast overspend, rebuild reserves or deliver planned savings. The Committee also raised concerns about a lack of evidence that transformation is reducing demand or future costs in Children's Services, Adult Social Care and SEND, and asked for the framework to return regularly to Scrutiny so progress can be properly challenged and monitored.

Changes to Planning Decisions from 31st October: New Government rules governing which planning applications can be decided by planning committees will come into force on 31st October 2026. Smaller applications, including householder developments and most schemes of 1 to 9 homes on sites below 0.5 hectares, will have to be determined by planning officers rather than committees. For larger 'Schedule 2' applications, there will be a presumption of officer determination, with referral to committee only where statutory criteria are met and the nominated senior officer and committee member agree. The Council's Constitution will now need to be amended to reflect the new arrangements, with the changes due to be considered at the next Full Council meeting.

Healthier Eating Workshops for Community Groups: Local voluntary and community organisations can access 'Focusing on MORE' healthier eating workshops, developed jointly by Somerset Council Public Health and an NHS dietitian. The half-day

sessions provide practical, evidence-based advice on nutrition, gut health and supporting healthier eating in a positive and non-judgemental way. The workshops are open to staff and volunteers from voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations across Somerset, with shorter 30-minute online taster sessions also available. You can book a place on Eventbrite [HERE](#).

Help Somerset Find More Foster Carers: There are currently around 700 children in care in Somerset, and more local foster carers are needed to provide safe and stable homes while helping children remain close to their schools, families and communities.

Parish and town councils can help by promoting fostering through local newsletters, websites, social media and community noticeboards, and by encouraging local businesses to become Fostering Friendly employers. Residents interested in finding out more can attend informal 'Cuppa with a Carer' sessions, including upcoming events in Wedmore, Taunton, Burnham-on-Sea and Wells, or contact Fostering in Somerset on 0800 587 9900

Council Tax Reduction Consultation: Somerset Council is consulting on possible changes to its Council Tax Reduction Scheme for working-age residents from April 2027. More than 28,500 households currently receive support, costing just over £31m a year. The proposals are intended to provide greater support for some of the most vulnerable households while reducing support elsewhere so the overall cost of the scheme does not increase. Pensioners will not be affected by the proposed changes. The consultation runs until 28th September 2026. You can take part online via the Council's consultation portal:

<https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/comms/council-tax-reduction-consultation-2026/>

A discussion took place about Scrutiny not endorsing the Best Value Improvement Plan.

Cllr Gage requested an update about plans to reopen the children's home on Greenway.

111/26 Reports, including recent developments, matters to consider and decisions to be made:

a) Bathpool Flood Warden report: Mr Kevin Perry.

Mr K Perry reported on the following:

- August – rainfall at the end of the month - 60mm – second wettest August in the last 10 years – local streams reacted quite quickly – no problems – not had an impact on local reservoir levels still at 40 to 30%.
- Residents are expected to return to their property that was flooded in January next week – the residents have requested a supply of gel bags. Clerk reported that the PC has gel bags available.
- No progress to report on rebuilding the river bank that collapsed on Yew Tree Lane.
- Tone Catchment Flooding Meeting scheduled to take place on Monday at West Buckland Village Hall. An update on £50m Defra funding is expected to take place. Some Bathpool residents are attending the meeting.
- SRA site meeting taking place on Friday.
- Rainy season is coming, trying to arrange a review of resilience equipment recommended for each property. The equipment will be subsidised by 80%. Chair encouraged individuals to apply for climate resilience funding for the remainder.
- Next EA catch up scheduled for 13th October.
- Resilience Day planned for 31st October – Kevin will be attending.
- Hosepipe ban planned to continue for a while.

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 1797
- 145.2K views
- Posts added sharing news items that are added to the website.

Monkton Matters

- Page likes / followers now at 657
- 12 new articles added in July
- Articles on Monkton Matters being shared on Monkton Matters Facebook page to pull users to the website.
- 28.4K views
- Business directory has details of 30 businesses so far.

Community Fridge/Community Garden Facebook Page:

- Page likes /followers 1505
- 36.5K views

Maidenbrook Country Park Facebook Page

- Page likes/followers now at 1509
- 54.3K views

HYPE

- Page likes/followers – 37
- 740 views (significant increase)

Village News Contribution

- Developed by the Clerk's

Noticeboard Updates

- Jess updates and maintains the noticeboards

d) West Monkton Village Hall Management Committee; noticeboard / installation, consider donation to Men's Group.

Clerk to follow up steel leg posts for the noticeboards with the Lengthsman.

e) The Spital Trust: Cllr Ellis to report.

Cllr Ellis confirmed that there was nothing to report, a meeting is scheduled to take place next week.

f) Any other events at which WMPC was represented.

Cllr Cavill reported that he attended the CSMPC meeting last night when the pump in Mill Lane was discussed. Agreement is still awaited from Network Rail. Clerk to share contact details with CSMPC.

g) Consultations.

i. Somerset Connectivity and Integrated Transport Strategy (SCITS) consultation:

<https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/highways/b483a6dc/> (Deadline 11th September 2026)

Clerk to respond to the consultation suggesting improvements to the canal towpath between Somerset Boat Centre and Outwood and safety improvements for pedestrians crossing the road at the Somerset Boat Centre to get back onto the canal towpath.

Public Question Time

Clerk raised a query received from a member of the public in advance of the meeting about the large number of vehicle movements bringing what looks like contaminated soil through the village to Gotton Farm.

Cllr Gage reported one remaining pot hole near the telephone box that hasn't been repaired.

Cllr Haskins raised the road condition of Hyde Lane following the CSM road closures.

Cllr Haskins raised the Hyde Lane hedge and Bathpool bridge hedge – both overgrown. Clerk confirmed that both hedges have been reported to Somerset Council.

Cllr Munson raised the Mead Way hedge. Clerk confirmed that all homeowners have cut their hedges but overtime the hedge has grown out reducing the pavement width. One off cut of the hedge to be considered at the next meeting.

Clerk to direct member of the public to appropriate department at Somerset Council who deals with the required permits for soil transfer.

Clerk and Cllr Cavill to report.

Cllr Cavill to raise with Somerset Council.

Clerk to ask Lengthsman to cut the hedges.

Cllr Besley to obtain a quote from Mowgate to cut the hedge.

Clerk to arrange letters to be sent to homeowners advising of the intention to cut the hedge and request feedback prior to the next meeting.

Cllr Haskins raised that there is new graffiti on Dyers Lane. Cllr Chapman reported that there is also new graffiti along the path adjacent to the school and on bus stop across the road from the school.

Cllr Haskins reported that road signs are becoming obscured with overgrown vegetation.

Cllr Haskins reported that horses are in the entrance area to the sports pitches.

A member of the public raised concern about the number of Hinkley buses going through the village and that they seem to be increasing.

Cllr Chapman raised a concern from a member of the public about a gap in the knee high fencing in Furs Close and how a path has been created ruining the grass, which is being used by school children being dropped off in Furs Close. It was agreed to extend the fencing to cover the gap.

Item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Clerk to ask the volunteers if they can deal with the new graffiti.

Clerk to ask the Lengthsman to cut back any vegetation that he can. Remainder to be reported to Somerset Council.

Clerk to ask the bus operators again about using an alternative route.

112/26 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 remainder of the planning applications to avoid fettering his discretion.

48/26/0029: Variation of Condition No. 02 of application 48/23/0021 for relocation of the dwelling on Plot 3 with changes to the basement level and first floor at Uplands, Church Hill, West Monkton.

The Parish Council supports the granting of permission.

Dosters Lane Development; feedback from COWMS following transport assessment. Consider making a financial contribution towards the cost of the assessment.

It was resolved to make a £500 contribution towards the cost of the transport assessment. Proposed by Cllr Besley, seconded by Cllr Cavill and carried with a vote of 4 in favour and 5 abstentions. Clerk to confirm contribution and request that any future requests should be made in advance of any scopes for similar assessment being approved.

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

Noted.

113/26 Finance

a) Finance Report including (R):

i. Consideration of quotes including Poppy of Honour pavilion variation of planning consent plans / application costs, and Country Park ride on lawn mower.

Ride on lawn-mower for Country Park

An alternative ride on lawn mower, that a demonstration has been received, was discussed, including three alternative quotations. A discussion followed about the most suitable machine for the Country Park. It was agreed to request a quotation for a modification to the Ferris 500Z to add a steering wheel. Matter and quotes to be discussed again at the next meeting.

Poppy of Honour - Architectural redesign and development of the revised concept / variation of planning permission.

Reed Holland:

Having reviewed the brief, the proposals represent a very substantial departure from our original design, particularly in relation to the form of the pavilion, extensive glazing, revised foundation strategy and the requirement for the completed building to retain the appearance of a predominantly timber structure.

We would therefore propose to undertake a redesign of the pavilion for a fixed fee of £3,250 + VAT.

Our proposed scope of work would include:

- Review of the revised brief and the existing pavilion proposals.
- Development of a revised architectural concept incorporating a steel/timber structure and timber appearance.
- Consideration of the proposed 2.6m eaves height and roof arrangement, including the 450mm overhang and omission of conventional guttering.
- Development of the glazing arrangement to provide the required transparency through the pavilion while considering security and anti-vandal requirements.
- Consideration of the position and presentation of the Memorial, including options for mounting on a plinth.
- Review of the extent and location of interpretation/display boards including provision for QR-based information.
- Incorporation of the proposed polished concrete floor/overslab into the design.
- Consideration of CCTV, remotely operated shutters and their integration into the building.
- Review of the position of the sentinels and their relationship to the pavilion.
- Consideration of material selection and the ability for the scheme to be constructed/fabricated locally where practical.
- Preparation of revised plans, elevations and sections sufficient to communicate the redesigned scheme.
- Preparation of a 3D visual/images to illustrate the proposed appearance of the pavilion.
- One round of reasonable amendments following presentation of the revised design to the Parish.

The above fee relates to the architectural redesign and development of the revised concept. It does not include structural engineering design, specialist security/CCTV advice, detailed shutter or glazing design, Building Regulations information, construction/tender drawings, specifications, planning application fees or subsequent contract administration. These can be provided or coordinated as required once the Parish has approved the revised design.

We would also anticipate liaising with a structural engineer during the next stage, particularly in relation to the steel frame, foundations, suspended Memorial (if pursued) and the extent of glazing.

Any structural engineer's fees would be additional and agreed with the Parish before appointment.

We would be happy to proceed with the redesign following approval of the above fee and would then develop the revised scheme around the matters identified at the meeting.

Stone and Partners:

To provide a redesign of the current plans for a structure to house the Poppy of Honour at Maidenbrook Country Park.

I set out our services and costs as follows:

1. Preparation of full sketch scheme/design drawings to your agreement based on the briefing notes in your email dated 01/09/26 outlining your requirements for the new design.

(Please note this does not include preparation and submission of planning drawings and documents to Somerset Council).

£1,850.00 + vat

2. Principal Designer duties under CDM Regulations 2015 (for our stage of the work only) Included

The above figure excludes VAT and statutory fees (eg, Planning/Building Regs), OS Map download, structural engineer but includes disbursements (eg printing, postage and transport).

Lime Architecture and Construction:

Quote awaited

Resolution to accept quotation from Stone and Partners. Meeting to be arranged to discuss design.

Proposed by Cllr C Cronshaw, seconded by Cllr Chapman and agreed with all in favour

ii. Approval of 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 1st August – 31st August 2026:

See Receipts Report

Payments made 1st August – 31st August 2026:

See Payments Report

Payments to authorise:
See Payments to authorise report

Resolution to note receipts and payments in August 2026 and to authorise payments.
Proposed by Cllr D Cronshaw, seconded by Cllr Munson and agreed with all in favour.

Transfer between accounts / budget lines

Transfer £220.64 from Poppy of Honour account to PC Treasurer Account (income minus expenditure in August)

Transfer £204.00 from BACH Treasurer Account to PC Treasurer Account (for cleaning supplies and young person sponsorship items)

Resolution to make transfers. Proposed by Cllr Munson, seconded by Cllr Ellis and agreed with all in favour.

b) Consider application for grant funding for young person

An application for funding for school uniform was circulated in advance of the meeting and discussed.

It was resolved to grant £75.00 of funding for school uniform. Proposed by Cllr Gage, seconded by Cllr C Cronshaw and agreed with all in favour.

Clerk to review application form to enable a better breakdown of expenses / income.

c) Budgeting and Summary Report to 31st August 2026

The budgeting and summary report to 31st August was circulated in advance of the meeting and its contents noted.

It was agreed to schedule the Budget and Precept working group meeting for 17th November at 7pm. Clerk to circulate a meeting invitation.

114/26 Awards

a) Consider and approve Council of the Year NALC Award Submission

The draft award submission was circulated in advance of the meeting and shared on screen. Amendments were discussed and agreed. Clerk to submit the nomination prior to NALC.

b) Community awards; consider and approve process and nomination form.

The draft letter and nomination form was circulated in advance of the meeting and shared on screen. Amendments were agreed including:

- Removal of categories; instead asking for nominations for volunteers in the community who go above and beyond for the community.
- The nomination form to be amended to make the boxes bigger and removed the second box and the red highlighting.

Once the amendments have been made, letter and nomination form to be circulated to community groups as well as volunteers and shared on social media / Monkton Matters.

115/26 Projects

a) Hyde Park Sports Ground; progress update.

Clerk reported that the utility connections continue to be chased.

Clerk reported that the container for the rugby pitch was delivered onto site on 7th September.

The design for the sewerage connection has been received from Persimmon. As the end user, the Parish Council must submit an application to Wessex Water for the sewer connection. Clerk outlined the process and the cost of submitting the application.

The costs for administration and technical approval - £105.00

Connection by means of a Y junction or saddle per connection £502.00 + VAT.

Infrastructure charges

Sewerage infrastructure charges will also apply in most cases.

This is a one-off charge for first-time connections to the public sewerage network and contributes towards the cost of providing additional network capacity.

Current charges are:

- £1,340 standard charge
- £602.40 where a partial or controlled surface water discharge is proposed

- £134 where no surface water is discharged to our network

It was resolved to make the application and the costs of doing so were approved. It was noted that the application would not include any surface water into the network. Proposed by Cllr Besley, seconded by Cllr Munson and agreed with all in favour. Clerk to make the application.

Clerk reported that she had liaised with the contractor about raising the height of the Hyde Lane gate. The contractor recommended the replacement of the gate instead at a cost of £1200.00.

It was agreed not to proceed with this work at this time.

Clerk confirmed that a sports pitch committee meeting is scheduled to take place on 15th September at 9.30am when a detailed discussion of the pavilion design would take place and recommendations from the committee would be available to consider at the next PC meeting.

b) Poppy of Honour update.

Cllr C Cronshaw provided an update on fundraising. The last planned event for this year took place on Sunday. £14000 gross was raised at the events during 2026. Cllr C Cronshaw confirmed that she has received an enquiry from a business about making a £5000 donation.

Cllr C Cronshaw confirmed that she is continuing to make enquiries with businesses about sponsoring materials for the pavilion. Sponsorship for the roof tiles has been confirmed, Cornwall Glass have confirmed that they will provide the glass at a heavily discounted rate. Further enquiries are being made regarding the foundations and concrete and shutters.

Cllr D Cronshaw expressed thanks to Country Park volunteers Gordon and Ken and to Candy Sully for their support and assistance over the summer.

Cllr C Cronshaw also thanked Edge / Kevin Smith for the help with providing the card readers for all the events. It was agreed that a plaque would be added at the Poppy of Honour as an acknowledgement of the support.

Cllr Haskins and the PC took the opportunity to thank Cllr C Cronshaw and D Cronshaw for their continued efforts in fundraising and enabling the construction of a pavilion for the Poppy of Honour.

Cllr C Cronshaw confirmed that she is working on an events programme for 2027.

The meeting with the POH Committee is scheduled to take place on Thursday 17th September at 7.30pm. An agenda will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

c) MH2 update

Clerk reported that the updated documents are still awaited from the developer following the meeting on 5th August.

Clerk also reported that CSMPC have agreed to appoint Tim Taylor of Khift Limited to advise on the Section 106/CIL proposals and negotiations. CSMPC intend to ask the developer to cover these costs.

CSM PC would like to meet with WMPC once they have received legal advice, towards the end of October.

Clerk to reply to CSMPC to confirm that WMPC is ready to meet as soon as possible.

116/26 Assets

a) Country Park and Somerset Wood; update, feedback from the Dog Show and to note year 2 lottery project progress report.

Candy Sully, Volunteer Coordinator reported on:

- Somerset Smalls – training / talk with volunteers – liaising with them to arrange.
- Somerset Wildlife Trust – funding coppicing training and door mice tunnels.
- Starting mowing again as grass is growing after rainfall.
- Bin – in forest school – has been filled with raw onions.
- Taunton RA bench – awaiting response / quotation.
- Picnic benches to be moved from forest school to memorial area.
- Painting of red oxide taking place – more needed.
- Restoring of the beacon – debris from top needs to be moved out. Quote for scaffolding from alternative company to be obtained.
- Anti-social behaviour at the park – 40 youths in forest school – motorbikes around pond. Signage added.
- Wildlife code breaker board needs to be installed – Clerk to ask Parish Lengthsman to install.
- Overhead barrier – sign to be added this week.
- CP flag – needs putting it back up – new rope assembly required.
- Signs – caution re branches dropping – put in / take out as required being developed.

- Radiator installation needed.
- Key box installed in the container
- Josh – Newport catering will be storing some event items in the container.
- Surface material for hub needs moving from the top to the hub – Cllr Besley to do. Candy to liaise.
- BBC Radio Somerset – Pat (volunteer) is a finalist. Going on 20th September.
- Somerset Youth Outreach – young people doing some projects / DOE
- Thrive sponsored wheel event – 23rd September. Disabled toilet needed. Monday / Tuesday before 22nd – Cllr Haskins / Gage / Munson to arrange movement of toilet to Country Park.
- Homeless resident – there for a few weeks – moved off – back in forest school because of the wet weather. Talking to agencies about support.
- Pond – EA are doing some water tests possible floating penny wart – testing outcome awaited.
- Looking to reinstate bluebells in woodland area near Falklands area and add a bench – gathering prices.
- Cracking on with re-doing wildflower meadows.
- Rotary area sign in there – tidying up with some mulch – two trees need replacing after the hot weather.

Clerk provided a summary of the end of year 2 lottery progress report that was circulated in advance of the meeting. Clerk to submit the report.

Feedback from the dog show to be deferred until the next meeting.

b) Heathfield Gardens POS; update.

Cllr Chapman provided an update on behalf of the Management Company.

A directors meeting is scheduled for 15th September – residents are entitled to come along if they wish and ask questions. Going to appoint a contractor for tree works along the back of Saffin Drive at the meeting.

Contractors dealing with hedge cutting where they can and are currently doing the knee high fencing which will be completed in the next week.

Querying zip wire height from ground requirements with the company that adjusted it. Some concerns are being raised that it is too low.

Contractors have also cleared a metre inside the Heras fencing in area behind the school as no response was received from Persimmon about dealing with the brambles / vegetation that was growing into the pathway.

117/26 Environment

a) 20mph speed limit extension; update

Clerk reported that there was no update. Matter to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

118/26 Other matters for report only – items for discussion - no decision

a) Items for next meeting agenda - by Monday 14th September 2026 or 5th October 2026.

Noted.

b) Dates to note over the next 14 days

Noted.

119/26 Dates of forthcoming meetings:

Parish Council:

Second Tuesday in the month (Business focused meeting)

2026: 13th Oct, 10th Nov, 8th Dec.

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

2026: 22nd Sept, 27th Oct, 24th Nov.

Audit Working Party: 23rd October 2026 at 9.30am

Annual Parish Meeting: TBC March 2027 at 7pm

BACH Committee: 16th October 2026 at 10am

Budget and Precept Working Group: November 2026 at 7pm

Sports Pitch Committee: 15th September 2026 at 9.30am

Somerset Wood Joint Committee TBC

There being no further business to discussed, the meeting ended at 9.45pm



Signed Chairman:

Date: 22nd September 2026